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2021 CTA Fall Meeting  
October 1, 2021  
Registration 8:30 am  
Call to Order 9:00 am

The CTA will be hosting the meeting virtually on Zoom - additional instructions and a link to the meeting will be distributed to current members via email.

Only members will be able to participate in the meeting so please renew your membership on the CTA website, if you have not done so already.



## President's Forum

I hope everyone is doing well, staying healthy, and had a good summer. As I sit here writing this update, students across the state have returned or are preparing to return to the classroom. Texas State University classes started back up August 23 and I am not sure I am prepared for the onslaught of students and being the father of a first-year college student. Hopefully our son will come visit his dad occasionally.

As I am writing this, the CTA Executive Committee decided to move the fall meeting to a virtual format. I know we all had hoped for an in-person meeting, but right now the number of Covid and RSV cases are skyrocketing across the state, and we decided that the health of our membership is more important than getting together as a group. The past year-and-a-half has been difficult for us all personally, professionally, and socially, and there is no point in rushing to get together in-person if it means illness or unnecessary additional stress for anyone in CTA. During our fall meeting, we will again discuss whether to hold our spring meeting in person or virtually. I hope that things will settle down to a level that we feel safe holding an in-person meeting.

The Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) met at the end of July and there are a couple things from that meeting I wanted to report on. The AAB has seen sev-



eral requests from local groups and governments seeking to move Confederate statues and memorials from courthouses to other locations. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) has provided guidance on these actions and from the requests before the AAB, it is clear that local citizens and governments are working together to preserve the statues and memorials in another location. Brad Jones reported that the number of antiquities permits issued by the THC was down slightly in the second quarter of 2021. Not sure if this is just cyclical or due to COVID, but from what I hear around the state, public development across the state is not slowing and CTA firms continue to be busy. The last thing from the AAB meeting are the projects at the Alamo relating to redevelopment of the site. The Alamo redevelopment has become a political topic across the state and I'm sure that is why Alamo-related antiquities permits come before the AAB and the THC.

Over the past 6 months or so we have had a few instances where someone has contacted CTA committee or board members posing as me requesting that person get gift cards or even send a CTA check to someone. These phishing scams are pretty common, and it probably was only a matter of time before someone used the publicly available information on the CTA website to try and scam us. Just know that the CTA leadership would not contact any members directly to ask for gift cards or money. To try and limit future scams, we have removed all email addresses from the public CTA website. If you need to contact anyone within the CTA, you can get their email address from the members' list within the members' only section of the CTA website. We are looking at some different options for providing contact information via the CTA website and I will update everyone as our plan progresses.

The fall meeting will have a full slate of agency and committee updates. A few highlights - The Membership Committee led by Katie Canavan has been working on a survey to assess the current state of Texas archeology. She and the group developing this survey will be provid-

ing an update. The Standards Committee will be providing updates on where they are with the latest standards updates (e.g., reporting, monitoring, and cemetery). The Multicultural Committee will update on progress toward a scholarship fund for historically underrepresented groups in Texas archeology.

The CTA continues to be committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive archeological community in Texas. We continue to discuss ways that we can increase training and employment opportunities for students and early career researchers from historically underrepresented groups. The CTA Multicultural Committee, led by Mary Jo Galindo, continues to develop the framework for field school scholarships aimed at supporting students from historically underrepresented groups. The committee has made great progress and we will likely kick off a fundraising effort for this scholarship soon. As reported in the spring meeting, CTA Past President Jon Lohse and I have been working to engage someone to provide diversity, equity, and inclusion training to the CTA membership. Through Jon's efforts, we will have Dr. Mia Carey provide a session entitled "Towards an Inclusive and Equitable Archaeology" during the afternoon session of the fall meeting. More information will be forthcoming about this opportunity and how the CTA membership can support this effort.

As we enter the second year of my term as CTA president, I feel like we have made some great strides under the looming presence of COVID and hope that we will be able to meet in person sometime during my tenure. As always, our committee volunteers continue putting in the time and effort to improving our standards, awards, and charting the path for the future. I want to thank everyone who volunteers and supports the CTA for all their efforts. You make our group strong and relevant. I have faith that the CTA will continue to be a leader in the state and across the country.

Todd Ahlman

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## Fall 2021 Meeting Agenda

**Registration - 8:30 am**

**Call to Order - 9:00 am**

**Approval of Minutes, Fall 2020 Meeting**

### Officers' Reports

President (Todd Ahlman)

Vice President (Polly Clark)

Past President (Jon Lohse)

Secretary (Scotty Moore)

Treasurer (Thomas Barrett)

Newsletter Editor (Tina Nielsen)

### Agency Reports

Texas Historical Commission

Texas Parks and Wildlife

Texas Department of Transportation

Texas Archeological Research Laboratory

Center for Archaeological Studies

Center for Archaeological Research

### Standing Committee Reports

Auditing (Mark Denton)

Budget Committee (Thomas Barrett)

CTA Communications (Catherine Jalbert)

Contractors (Catherine Jalbert)

Curation (Marybeth Tomka)

Governmental Affairs (Nesta Anderson and Duane Peter)

Membership (Katie Canavan)

Multicultural Relations (Mary Jo Galindo)

Nominating (Bill Martin)

Public Education (Todd Ahlman)

Standards and Guidelines Committee (Jodi Jacobson)

### Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership  
(Eric Schroeder)

Lost Cemeteries Task Force (Andi Burden)

CTA Financial Investment Search Committee (Eric Schroeder)

### Old Business

CTA's Investment in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

### New Business

Spring 2022 meeting update

New business from the floor?

**Meeting Adjourns - 12:00 pm**

### Afternoon Presentations - 1:30 pm

*Towards an Inclusive and Equitable Archaeology*  
by Dr. Mia Carey

**Note:** *Agenda is subject to change prior to the Meeting*

## Past President's Report

Hullo and Happy Fall, 2021 to you all!

In spite of all the quickly moving events these days I hope each of you is doing well, remaining healthy and safe, and having a good/decent/excellent 2021 so far. As of this writing I think it's not quite for certain whether we'll meet in person in October or remotely, but I think we'll know that answer very soon.

This year, as Past President I have done very little on behalf of your Council. As always, I'm ready to help out as needed or as asked. Most of what I have spent my time on has involved talking with Dr. Mia Carey, founder and President of Unearthing Our Past Consulting, LLC ([unearthingourpast.com](http://unearthingourpast.com)). Since finishing her dissertation, Dr. Carey has developed a consulting practice that works to help groups and programs come to terms with difficult topics such as race, racism and white privilege through archaeology, community outreach and engagement, and inclusion and equity training. We are delighted that she has agreed to provide such a training to our group; I think this will be scheduled for our afternoon time slot. I'm excited about the opportunity to be more thoughtful, mindful, and aware of diversity in our workplace and what I can do to help make Texas archeology a more welcoming, inclusive community.

This year I'm also the co-Chair of the Program Committee for the Texas Archeological Society meeting. If you're considering submitting a paper, please reach out if you have any questions. We're still accepting individual papers and session ideas and have plenty of room in the program. Please consider sharing your recent research findings with us.

Thank you all and "see" you soon.  
Jon Lohse



## Secretary's Report

Hello all,

I know that this has been another challenging year for everyone, and many organizations like ours were hoping that the light at the end of the tunnel was near before the COVID Delta variant began to spread. I would like to thank everyone for their patience, flexibility, and commitment to keep CTA's prominent position as the voice for archeological professionals in the state.

As we expected, membership is still slightly down, as it has been throughout the pandemic, but it is slowly on the rise! I'm happy to see that the number of people in the principal investigator category continues to increase and that the student member numbers have begun to rebound from their early 2021 nadir. One note: there are 15 members (not included in the table below) who are listed in the Wild Apricot system as having lapsed memberships or whose renewal is overdue. We'll be reaching out in the next several weeks to see if we can help get those folks up to date.



As always, if you have issues or suggestions for how we can make the CTA website, the membership application/renewal process, or any of the communication that you have with CTA better, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Thanks!  
Scotty

Membership Category	End-of-year 2019	End-of-year 2020	Spring Meeting 2021	August 2021 (active)
Contractor	48	50	49	51
Institutional	6	9	7	7
Principal Investigator	48	48	52	54
Professional Archeologist	92	78	67	78
Retiree	9	7	8	7
Student	24	13	9	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>209</b>

## Treasurer's Report

By: Thomas Barrett

First off, I hope all are well and stay healthy during this most recent surge. Since March, I have continued to get up to speed on the budget with the help of the former budget committee of Leslie Bush, Katie Canavan, Erin Phillips, and Maggie Moore, as well as ongoing support from the former treasurer, Eric Schroeder.

Second, I can report that the finances of the CTA are sound. As of August 27, 2021, our current account balances are as follows:

\$27,020.50	– Operations fund
\$30,931.16	– Investment fund
\$ 9,132.33	– Student grant fund
<u>\$67,083.99</u>	– Total CTA funds

All in-person CTA social functions have been cancelled – including this Fall's meeting – so again, these funds have remained unspent and can be carried forward.

## Newsletter Editor's Report

Hi Everyone-

I hope folks are staying safe and healthy, this is definitely a marathon and not a sprint. I was hoping to see everyone in person in October, but sounds like it might be a while longer still. We didn't have many submissions, so this newsletter is relatively brief. I do not have an exact due date for submissions yet but they will most likely be due mid to late February.

Take care all,  
Tina



Finally, the approved transfer of CTA Investment funds from the Bank of America money market account to Clear Rock Advisors, LLC has been initiated; however, the transfer is not yet complete as I am awaiting other officer's signatures on the legal documents. One issue I identified in my due diligence of the transfer was that Clear Rock requires we set up an online Schwab account (an account we could set up independently) but will still charge us a management fee. Either way, CTA will gain more return than what we currently had with BoA (i.e., \$3.50 last year).

In closing, I continue to gladly serve the Council and its members to maintain our organization's future and our shared appreciation of Texas' history.



## Communications Committee Report

Dear Members,

Well, here we are. This is my last newsletter update as Chair of the Communications Committee. And rather than provide you with a bunch of boring information about the website, I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce you to your new chair, Laura Clark (SWCA).

A few words from Laura:

Hello!!! My name is Laura Clark (formerly Laura Vilsack) and I have surprisingly lived in Texas for more than 25 years now! I acquired an undergraduate degree from the University of Houston and a master's degree from Texas State University, both focused on Anthropology/Archaeology. While I've worked and studied outside of Texas, I love exploring the Texas landscape, especially the southwest and western regions! Texas has many hidden archaeological gems which I continually record and protect through the environmental firm I work for (SWCA) and the studies I've conducted! I'm very excited to be a part of the CTA and share my excitement for archaeology, as well as help spread the word on news and events relating to archaeology so everyone can participate in and learn about the vast history within Texas!

It's been a pleasure to serve the CTA and I've appreciated working with both the Executive Committee and the general membership to make the website something we can all be proud of. And I'm excited to see what the future brings under Laura's ([laura.clark@swca.com](mailto:laura.clark@swca.com)) direction!

Take care,  
Catherine Jalbert

P.S. As co-chair of the SAA's Committee on Meeting Safety, I'm pleased to announce that the committee-member-led workshop "Exploring Power Dynamics, Responsibility, & Accountability in Archaeological Practice" will again be offered this fall as a two-part SAA Online Seminar (<https://www.saa.org/career-practice/online-seminars/seminar-details/2021/10/12/seminars/exploring-power-dynamics-responsibility-and-accountability-in-archaeological-practice-part-i>).

The seminar is free for SAA members and is eligible for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit through the Register of Professional Archaeologists.

## Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership Update

By: Eric Schroeder

Since the spring meeting, the TPLHPP has been active engaging private landowners and land conservation organizations on heritage preservation issues. Events attended since the spring include the Texas Land Conservation Conference and the Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Conference. In addition, we also visited with a private landowner regarding potential archeological deposits on her property in Brown County.

On April 14–16, we attended the Texas Land Conservation Conference, an annual event hosted by the Texas Land Trust Council (TLTC). The TLTC currently supports over 30 land trust organizations across the state that provide technical advice to private landowners for land and water conservation. These land trusts work with private landowners to develop a conservation easement, which the landowner then grants to the land trust. This qualifies the landowner for federal tax relief provided that the easement is structured to achieve at least one of the following conservation purposes:

- 1) Provides public outdoor recreation or education;
- 2) Protects natural habitats of fish, wildlife or plants;
- 3) Preserves open space for scenic enjoyment; or
- 4) Preserves historically important land or certified historic structures.

Currently through this easement mechanism, land trusts preserve over 1.8 million acres of farms, ranches, wetlands, wildlife habitat, urban parks, forests, watersheds, coastlines, and river corridors in Texas. This year the meeting was virtual, but we attended one of the regionally sponsored in-person socials held in Austin. This was the second year we attended this event and we have learned that most of the land trusts in the state focus their conservation efforts on item no. 2 listed above



**Exhibit at the Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Conference**

with only one (i.e., the Hill Country Conservancy) having ever consulted landowners on item no. 4. So, it is evident that there is a large learning curve to overcome or an expertise vacuum to fill with these land trust organizations regarding the preservation of heritage resources. My recommendation is that we continue to exhibit at these annual events (the next one is in Austin March 2–4, 2022) and consider becoming a partner of this organization. A partnership costs \$200 per year, and for this we receive a listing in their Partners Professional Index and reduced registration rates for their annual conference.

On July 23–25, we attended the Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Conference in Fort Worth. This is an annual event sponsored by the Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA). This is a trade organization for cattle raisers and represents over 17,000 beef cattle producers, ranching families, and businesses who operate on over 76 million acres of land, mainly in Texas and Oklahoma. There were over 5,000 conference registrants and we personally spoke with over 121



visitors at our exhibit booth. In addition, we also passed out 177 brochures at the event. One interesting thing I learned was that TSCRA has their own law enforcement arm, referred to as Special Rangers. Specifically, they investigate livestock crimes and other sorts of property theft on private lands. I recommend that we continue to attend and exhibit at these annual events as it seems to serve the largest population of private landowners in the state. The next conference is scheduled for March 25–27, 2022 in Fort Worth.

In early June, the anthropology department at the University of Texas contacted me regarding a landowner who requested assistance with possible historic graves on her property in Brown County. I contacted the landowner by phone, and she told me that there were several depressions and mounds on her property, and I asked her to send pictures of what she believed were mounds. In addition to sending me pictures, surprisingly she also sent me a copy of a GPR study that she commissioned of the mounded areas several years ago and it described the location of several subsurface anomalies.

After reviewing all the materials she provided, I conducted a record search that included the examination of historic aerial photographs and maps. I then reached out to several THC Stewards to see if they could meet with the landowner and conduct a site visit. Unfortunately, given the late notification no Stewards were available, so I set out that next weekend to investigate. I met the landowner on Saturday afternoon (June 12, 2021) and inspected the property. She showed me the mounds and they appeared to be several sets of sinuous berms that traversed the breadth of the 10-acre property. I suggested to the landowner that the mounds were more likely agricultural terraces built in historic times to curtail soil



**Meeting with Brown County landowner**

loss. I gave the landowner a copy of my record search report and we departed on good terms.

After meeting with the landowner, I drove 20 miles or so to Coleman, Texas. One of the Stewards I spoke with told me that a museum there had a phenomenal collection of aboriginal artifacts on display. I arrived at the Coleman Museum and Gallery at Heritage Hall and asked the docent about the collection. She took me upstairs to a 20 x 20-foot room where all four walls were lined with display frames full of projectile points dating from Paleoindian through Protohistoric times, and on the floor were a number of display cases containing pottery and perishable items. Here is a link to a news story on the collection. <https://www.bigcountryhomepage.com/news/main-news/arrowhead-collection-finds-new-home-in-coleman-museum/> Upon leaving, I provided my card and a pack of brochures to the docent.

<b>TPLHPP Events</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
Concho Valley Archeological Society Fair (Exhibit)	Sept 18, 2021	San Angelo, TX
Huntsville Lions Club (Presentation)	Sept 30, 2021	Huntsville, TX
Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show (Exhibit)	Nov 30–Dec 2, 2021	Amarillo, TX
Texas Land Conservation Conference (Exhibit, Presentation?)	March 2–4, 2022	Austin, TX
Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association	March 25–27, 2022	Fort Worth, TX

If you are interested in assisting with one of these events, please contact me at (512) 695-9084 or at [eric5chro-3d3r@gmail.com](mailto:eric5chro-3d3r@gmail.com). In addition, I have been receiving requests from a number of organizations for speakers. If you are interested in being a speaker, please let me know as well.

# Texas Beyond History - 20 Years Later

By: Emily McCuistion and Steve Black

[TexasBeyondHistory.net](http://TexasBeyondHistory.net) (TBH), the award-winning public education service of the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin, will soon notch two decades. How TBH has grown! The Virtual Museum of Texas' Cultural Heritage first went live on October 1, 2001, with 20 hard-won online exhibits plus content aimed at K–12 schoolchildren and teachers. TBH now has 80+ exhibits, much more K–12 content and lots of other features highlighting Texas' diverse archaeological and historical record.

Twenty years later, we at TBH are excited to be entering a new phase of growth and we need renewed help and support from our CTA partners and colleagues! We hereby proclaim that our 20th Anniversary Year will commence October 1, 2021. Over the next year and beyond we intend to add substantive new content by building on our traditional content models (e.g., “site exhibits,” “special exhibits” and “regional exhibit sets”), as well as creating new ways to feature content contributed by our colleagues. We will also be updating antiquated pages, renewing and expanding our partnerships, and plotting the next decade.

Among the woefully outdated web pages is [About TBH](#). Here is a start. Susan Dial is now Editor Emeritus and will serve as reviewer and occasional

contributor. Steve Black has returned for a final run as (unpaid) TBH Editor following his retirement from teaching at Texas State at the end of 2019, Steve's prime goal is to turn over the TBH reins to younger minds. Happily, Emily McCuistion (M.A. 2019, TxState) is now the TBH Assistant Editor (only paid staff member, ½ time) and she does most of the new content work. We expect that Assistant Professor Heather Smith of Texas State University will renew her TBH involvement. We will be seeking a worthy successor to TBH's Education Editor Emeritus, Carol Schlenk.

One of Emily's first projects was the [TBH Gallery](#) which made its debut in Fall 2020. The Gallery highlights the stories behind iconic artifacts and other physical materials illustrative of Texas' cultural heritage. This dynamic exhibit will continue to grow. If you or your team has



## TEXAS BEYOND HISTORY

THE VIRTUAL MUSEUM OF TEXAS' CULTURAL HERITAGE

<p><b>Site Explorer</b> Discover 13,500 years of Texas History</p>	<p><b>Special Exhibits</b> Unique and Thematic Displays</p>	<p><b>Spotlight</b> Special Collections and Research</p>
<p><b>Prehistoric Texas</b> Native Peoples in a Changing World</p>	<p><b>Dr. Dirt's KIDS SECTION</b> Resources for Fun and Learning</p>	<p><b>Teachers</b> Lessons and resources to help you teach about Texas</p> <p>Art   Math &amp; Science   Social Studies   Language Arts</p>
<p><b>TBH Gallery</b> Icons of Texas' Cultural Heritage</p>	<p><b>About</b></p> <p><b>Texas Beyond History (TBH)</b> is a public education service of the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin, in partnership with the Department of Anthropology at Texas State University and <b>these 15 partners</b>. Begun in 2001, it interprets and shares the results of archaeological and historical research on the cultural heritage of Texas with the citizens of Texas and the world. <b>More about TBH...</b></p>	

uncovered an artifact or feature that has a fascinating story to tell, the TBH Gallery might be the perfect place to reach a worldwide audience.

Over our 20th Anniversary Year (October 2021–October 2022) we will be on the lookout for new ideas and content! We have several exhibits in the works, to be unveiled this Fall/Winter. Moving forward, we are seeking new content sponsors, collaborators, and partners. Your project might find a public outreach home online as a featured site on the TBH Site Explorer (in-depth, multi-page exhibits), as an Ancient Place or Historic Encounter (shorter site pages in Prehistoric Texas), in the TBH Gallery, or as a Special Exhibit (the topical possibilities are many). In addition, TBH is seeking volunteer researchers to help refresh old exhibits with new data and perspectives. Please contact Steve ([sblack@utexas.edu](mailto:sblack@utexas.edu)) if you are interested in collaborating or sponsoring content.

Yes, we need CRM-sponsored content! Most long-time CTA members realize that TBH is an unfunded public education outreach program for TARL and UT-Austin; there has never been any direct funding apart from office space, administrative support, and technical assistance. While keeping a static website up is cheap, TBH strives to be a dynamic virtual museum and online publication. Happily, several CRM firms are sponsoring new content that will appear during our 20th Anniversary Year.

Texas Beyond History is proud to host accessible content presented for the public, yet information-rich for professionals and serious students of Texas’ cultural heritage. We would not have achieved our 20-year record of success without the collaboration of innumerable people and partner organizations, to whom we extend our sincere thanks. We look forward to continuing this journey with you into the TBH future!










TEXAS BEYOND HISTORY

SEARCH | DONATE

SITE EXPLORER SPECIAL EXHIBITS PREHISTORIC TEXAS GALLERY KIDS TEACHERS SPOTLIGHT

### TBH Gallery

[Gallery Home](#) [About](#) [TBH Gallery Home](#)

-  [Grinding Slab](#)
-  [Spiro Engraved](#)
-  [Sundial](#)
-  [Armband](#)
-  [Montell point](#)
-  [Coprolite](#)
-  [Rockport Black-on-Gray](#)
-  [Horse Branding Iron](#)
-  [Corner-tang knife](#)

## Spring 2021 CTA Meeting Minutes April 9, 2021

**Conducted via Zoom.**

**Total number of participants: 95 Maximum**

**Recording started - 9:01 am**

**Call to Order - 9:02 am**

**Meeting Moderator (Todd Ahlman):** Please keep yourself muted unless talking. You can use the raise-my-hand function or speak up if you want to speak. Everyone is probably well-versed in using Zoom by now.

### Approval of Minutes, Spring 2020 Meeting

Comments/corrections: None

Motion to approve: Missi Green

Seconded: Jodi Jacobson

Vote: Unanimous yes

Minutes approved

### Officers' Reports

**President (Todd Ahlman)** This year has been difficult for all of us. In addition to COVID, there was a lot going on in CRM archeology in Texas. There are a lot of things going on in the background. We've been working on diversity training. As COVID goes away, we can get back to our in-person meetings, trainings, etc. That's about all I have.

#### Vice President (Erin Phillips)

No social for the last year because of COVID. We will see if it is reasonable to have a social event in the Fall but definitely in the Spring (2022). Not much on my plate.

#### Past President (Jon Lohse)

Good morning, nice to see Zoom faces. I have been doing what I can to be supportive of Todd's administration. We have been talking about reaching out to bring training back online. In terms of the Fall TAS meeting, it is scheduled to be in person. The goal is to have virtual content and in-person presentations. Doug and Carolyn

Boyd (no relation!) will be giving presentations at the Wortham Theater. We are hoping to have as much in-person content as possible. Everyone understands that COVID is rapidly changing all the time, and policies change constantly. We have worked hard to be flexible. The HMNS will be the root location for the meeting. Hopefully we will have a great fall social. There is also some info on the Freedom Colony project, some info is on the CTA site. Please take a look. Gault School for Archeological Research - a documentary film project is under way. A lot has been done. Go to [gaultfilm.com](http://gaultfilm.com) to check it out. Mike Collins has had an important impact on my and others' careers.

#### Secretary (Scotty Moore)

Good morning everyone. There are a couple of quick things on my end. First, membership numbers: as of this morning CTA membership included: 49 Contractor listings, 52 Principal Investigators, 67 Professional Archeologists, 9 Students, 8 Retirees, 7 Institutional (non-voting). That gives us a total membership of 192, which is actually a little above what we had this time last year but slightly below our high of 227 from a couple of years ago. I think we all fully expect numbers to come back up once we are back in the swing of things and have in-person meetings, presentations, and gatherings again. We have noticed that a non-trivial number of members changed their membership from PA to PI, and we appreciate that. As most of you know, the dividing line between those categories is permits: if you pull federal and/or state permits, then you qualify as a PI.

Second note, as I mentioned in the newsletter, following a request that Bill Martin made last year, I'd like to put together a list of all CTA officers and committee members over the history of our organization. Currently that information exists separately in newsletters, emails, letters, and other documents (including many that are curated at TARL), and in the minds of members. I have several Bankers boxes of documents that

I inherited from Amanda Castañeda and Julie Shipp before her, but I'd like to aggregate this information into a centralized database. So, to start this process, I'd appreciate it if you are or have been an officer or on a committee, if you could shoot me an email with your dates of service, that would great. Once I've got information for active members, I'll start working my way through inactive members. Part of the rationale for doing this is for posterity, but I'd like to provide a resource for everyone, but especially younger and/or newer members, to help facilitate a continuation of institutional knowledge within the organization. I think it would be good for people who are new to have a list of CTA experts that they can reach out to if that's helpful. Now, if anyone has their own ideas or suggestions for this task, please reach out to me. I'm happy to hear better/easier ways of doing things!

Finally, I wanted to make a request of any presenters today: if you are speaking off the cuff, I will of course transcribe what you are saying (and we are recording this meeting), but if you have prepared your statement, I'd really appreciate it if you would email me a copy that I can cut and paste into the minutes.

#### **Treasurer (Thomas Barrett)**

Hello and thank you. Apologies for some back and forth. To start out: the accounts: \$25,000+ in Operations, \$31,000 in Investment Fund, \$9000 for student grants/scholarships, almost \$66,000 total. There was a deficit in the budget due to the weird year, but the actual deficit is made up for by the fact that we didn't spend money on the scheduled social events.

We need direction on Investments. We didn't make very much on our money last year, so there are options - we could invest in Schwab. Still learning as I go.

Todd: We'll go over the budget in the Budget committee reporting.

#### **Newsletter Editor (Tina Nielsen)**

I'm going to try to get the newsletter out in a more timely manner. September 10 is the cut off for the next newsletter.

#### **Agency Reports**

##### **Texas Historical Commission (Brad Jones)**

THC, per Governor's order, has come up with our "opening plan". Targeting a May 3rd opening date. Less than 50% of the staff will be in the office.

In light of that, we're making no recommendations for changes to submission on materials. We will continue to go with COVID protocols at this time. One of the reasons for doing this is because electronic communication has been working for our staff. The new permitting system, etc. has forced us to look at our rules, especially those related to submissions. We are going to remove our requirement for CDs. Todd is on the AAB, which meets in July, so the CTA membership will get that information.

eTRAC / electronic permits - it has gone live; I hope that it is working well for you. We are stumbling through some early issues. The IT staff has been correcting things. I apologize for not submitting a manual, but we will have that and some online videos. If you have questions, please let your regional reviewer or Laney Fisher know.

Common issues: if your landowner is different from your sponsor, please put that info in there. We've had a number of permits that have gone out incorrectly, because if the landowner info is not entered, it will be automatically default to the sponsor info.

If you work with an agency that is not in the drop down menu, please leave the entry blank.

New abstract submittal page (it will be directly associated with eTRAC , not a separate system). Submittal paperwork will be reduced since you

won't have to re-enter project information in eTRAC. I wanted to show to you, but there are still some bugs to work out.

Online portal through eTRAC for shapefile submissions. It's not coming soon, but it is coming. Again, this creates an easier way to link the shapefiles to the project. You may get errors if the data you send has problems, so that bad geometry doesn't go into the Atlas.

We did recertify the THC facility for curation. If you are working on one of historic sites, you must use our curatorial facility. I am looking forward to reviewing the Witte Museum application. We are also looking for SMU to be able to act as a curatorial facility. I've been talking to UT-Tyler, which is also looking to get certified.

You may notice that Atlas lists the curatorial facilities, but it will soon list where collections are. We are improving the Held-in-Trust database. Sometime in the near future, you will be able to see exactly where collections are.

Quick reminders: THC does have some granting opportunities: Katherine Gilmore Grant for Historical Studies. No Texas Preservation Trust Fund Grant due to budget cuts; maybe next year.

Six to seven preservation scholars; we got funding. If you aren't aware this is a program that targets students working in Texas to come in for a six-week paid internship. We get people who may not be interested in archeology, but they come to see that it is important to what they want to do.

Go see our Texas Historical Commission Youtube. There is a bunch of great content there. There is a great new video about Women in Texas Archeology.

For those of you who don't know, Kay Hines was awarded the Tunnel Award. She is probably getting award fatigue!

### **Catherine Jalbert (Historic Sites)**

Sara will be on the call later to talk about TAS. At San Felipe, they hosted the Archeology 101 Academy. Those materials will be processed in the summer. At Werner Hogg, we have been working with Rice University Studies, which culminated in a great symposium. I can share the link for that work. At Levi Jordan - redevelopment of the site is under way. The Learning Center Complex ground breaking started last December. It will include archeology lab, visitor center, collections facility. I can attest that buildings are starting to appear. At Caddo Mounds, the new museum is under construction. Commission voted to acquire Palmetto Ranch and Socorro Mission; they are being assessed.

### **Texas Department of Transportation (Scott Pletka)**

Staff changes: since we last met, Barbara Hickman and John Budd retired, and Jason Barrett will be leaving in the coming months. We have hired: Brittany Gregory and Paul Manchin. I am still the best point of contact for inquiries. We don't have strict regional assignments anymore.

We intend to issue a couple project-specific contracts for data recovery. The issuance for the RFPs have been slowed by property acquisition. Be on the lookout.

For those of you who have projects that are not TxDOT but include TxDOT ROW, TxDOT is not involved. I encourage you coordinate directly with THC. We will not be a signatory.

If you are a PI for a TxDOT project, when you are submitting your permit application through eTRAC, please be sure to include the review document from your TxDOT reviewer. That way we won't get delayed.

### **Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (Jonathan Jarvis)**

We have a new director, Fred Valdez. We will be instituting some restructuring, some fairly

exciting stuff, including a central Texas field school. We do not have a date for reopening the library. Looks like the university will be back to normal in the fall. We will let you know as we have information.

### **Center for Archaeological Studies (Jodi Jacobson)**

Staff changes: Paul Manchin left us for TxDOT. We are working on hiring for that position. We will have news shortly. We have hired James Ramsey as a faunal expert and project archaeologist. We are continuing on in the Veteran's Commission. We are returning to normal. Procedures are still under the COVID restrictions. We are looking to have some cool public outreach projects.

Todd: Texas State will be open in the fall, probably all Texas Universities.

### **Center for Archaeological Research**

No report

### **Texas Parks and Wildlife (Robin Barnes)**

Our exciting news is that Waco Tanks is now a National Historic Landmark. Lower Pecos Canyonlands has expanded. Work at both state parks, inland fisheries, etc. has continued at a quick pace. We have been very busy. There will be a contract later this fall. Our Region IV cultural resources coordinator will be leaving, so we will be posting that job offer soon. Other positions will also be posted.

State Parks has some exciting projects going on, some may be previewed at the TAS meeting.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### **Auditing (Mark Denton)**

No report

### **Budget Committee (Tom Barrett)**

Membership has been lower than the historical average, but we are already above what I was expecting for next year. I carried over most fees,

I did reduce administrative fees, but the deficit does not reflect the unspent money allocated for social events. Todd, how do we proceed?

Todd: I'm not worried about the proposed budget.

Open the floor to questions:

Ron Ralph: Is there any way to remove money from professional development or public outreach?

Todd: Most of the money for public outreach is for the Landowner Outreach.

Erin Phillips: Since we haven't had a social in a long time, we wanted to spend more on the Spring social next year. We don't know what the cost of meat will be, for example.

Jon Lohse: Last year we had money allocated for Bayesian training (honorarium for the expert), but they weren't spent. To Ron's question: we have proposed a deficit-budget for several years.

Jodi: do we expect that we will need the full \$3,000 for the Fall Social?

Todd: It's my expectation that we will roll out the red carpet as soon as possible.

Jon: We try to keep that budget neutral: CRM firms provide sponsorships. Coming out of the pandemic, there is a lot of energy hoping to get back to in-person meetings. Earmarking funds would help make that more special.

Erin Phillips: Keep in mind that this is proposed budget for 2022. Todd: Good point.

Marybeth Tomka: Having a deficit-budget acknowledges that we don't know what's going to happen. As long as we record the things that will offset the deficit.

Motion to approve: John Lohse

Second: Missi Green

Vote: 1 no / 92 yes

Budget passes.

**CTA Communications (Catherine Jalbert)**

My report in the newsletter covers most of what I want to say. I have to do some reorganization of material on the Member's Page. I'll keep adding until October, when I will step down. Anyone interested in taking over should contact Todd and Catherine.

Jon: I really want to commend how much Catherine has done for bringing us into the 21st century. She did this all on her own time.

Catherine: Because TAS is moving to Wild Apricot, we will get 10% of their fees. We should talk about what to use that money for.

SAA Workshop - we are going to talk about bullying and structures of power. It's a \$5 fee that goes as a donation. It also counts as a continuing education credit. It's coming up this Tuesday. Look in the Newsletter for more information.

**Contractors (Catherine Jalbert)**

No report

**Curation (Marybeth Tomka)**

Shout out to the SHA Curation committee. They have been working on a dashboard for repositories, so that people can upload their curation information. In the next 6 months, you can upload your "5-10 collections that need love" for students to see for research potential.

**Governmental Affairs (Nesta Anderson and Duane Peter)**

Duane: Right now we are in a lull before the storm with the change of the administration. We are waiting to see what will happen. While we are in this lull, ACRA and other organizations are lobbying congress. Three main concerns: changes to NEPA, national monuments, and Infrastructure Bill. There will be continued efforts to streamline NEPA/NHPA regulations. We don't want these to become irrelevant. National Monuments have been an issue for quite some time. Right now, I think that the Supreme Court has indicated that

they might be willing to weigh in on this issue. I'm not encouraged about Congress moving forward; I'm not optimistic about it. NEPA regulatory changes are being challenged in court; Biden administration is also requesting a review. Some interest in passing legislation that would restore the Transportation Enhancement Program. ACRA has been talking with lawmakers about PPP loans that some companies took on. There is some question regarding whether that money could be credited back to the government when firms get federal contracts. SHA/SAA/ACRA all continuing congressional lobbying efforts.

Nesta: At the state level, it is a legislative year. This year I have noted bills that we want to track. There is a bill tracker site where you can enter in a bill number and track its progress.

Hispanic Heritage Committee. The interesting thing about this bill is that it has no companion bill, which makes it harder for it to pass. The bill allows money to be pulled from THC.

African-American Heritage Commission. This one is Senate Bill 1636/ House Bill 2707, so has a companion. This bill requires that every quarter the commission would have the ability to review Section 106 process for sites that impact African American groups.

Brad Jones - I'm not sure if you are familiar with the Genocide Commission, these would work similarly. They would be attached to THC, but not really part of us.

Bill for state agencies to develop a joint curatorial facility. It fell flat before, but it would be one in several ways to improve our curatorial situation.

Several bills that propose to recognize state-level Native American groups. I don't know what the status of this is. Nesta: no companion bill at this time. I hope it stays quiet. Brad: We were not consulted in crafting this. Most of the time we don't know that these bills are showing up



until they do. We are still worried about our budget, which was cut for COVID. Todd: I know our universities will take a budget hit too.

### **Membership (Katie Canavan)**

Unfortunately, we received 0 applications for student grants. We are going to revisit our university/college list and make a second push to let students know. We also talked about opening it up to offset field school costs. We are extending the deadline. They are \$1,200 each.

We are also looking to update the roles/responsibilities of the committee. We will be meeting later this month. We will be talking about better ways of communicating to the membership and public outreach. We are thinking about a new logo; we will hold a logo contest.

We want to get demographic information and opinions about agencies, regulatory bodies, and how we can all do better. There is a lot to do! When the survey hits your inboxes, please fill it out! Todd: A couple of follow-ups. We have been talking about the Contractors List; thanks to Catherine, it is fully automated, so the Contractor's Committee may get rolled into the Membership Committee. Also, we don't define the membership time period in the bylaws. Katie and the group will look to see if changes need to be made. We will push again on the Student Grant. Eric Schroeder reminded me that we suggested renaming the grant after Mike Quigg. If that is something that we want to do, and there is support for that then we might need a motion.

**Motion:** Marybeth - Let's name it J. Michael Quigg Student Research Grant

**Second:** Doug Boyd

**Discussion:** which name do we want to use? J. Michael Quigg.

**Vote:** Unanimous yes. Motion passes.

### **Multicultural Relations (Mary Jo Galindo)**

**Multicultural Scholarship Initiative:** The CTA Multicultural Scholarship Initiative committee

met in October, November, January, and February. Sixteen members include:

Marie Archambeault

Nadya Prociuk

Jorge Garcia-Herreros

Anastasia Walhovd

Emily Dylla

Nesta Anderson

Pat Mercado-Allinger

Annie Riegert Cummings

Jodi Jacobson

Mary Jo Galindo, Multicultural Committee chair

Raelynn Butler, Muscogee Creek Nation

Turner Hunt, Muscogee Creek Nation

Emman Spain, Muscogee Creek Nation

Katie Canavan, Membership Committee

Chair

Bill Martin, Nominating Committee Chair

Todd Ahlman, CTA president

We have developed a draft of the mission and vision statements, along with requirements for applicants, and are currently working on an application form and the evaluation matrix. Future activities include developing promotional materials to facilitate fundraising throughout the CRM community.

**NAFSS:** CTA contributes financially to the TAS Native American Field School Scholarship fund, so here's an update on those activities:

On March 18, I emailed Native American Field School Scholarship information and forms (attached) to 59 Chiefs, Presidents, and THPOs of the 28 Tribal Nations who have an interest in Texas.

I received an almost immediate response from Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr. of the Cherokee Nation who had his Chief of Staff, Corey Bunch, call me and ask questions, especially about the suitability for children. He said he would get the information out and see if anyone was interested.

Osage THPO, Dr. Andrea Hunter, thanked us for the offer but replied that they have their traditional ceremonial dances during that week.

Caddo Nation President, Terri Parton, said she would get the information out to their tribal membership and see if anyone responded.

Margie Murrow of the Comanche Nation cultural preservation department thanked us for the offer and said she and her staff were interested.

Delaware Nation Historic Preservation Director, Erin Thompson-Paden, also thanked us for the offer and said she would get the information out and see if anyone was interested.

United Keetowwah Band of Cherokee Indians THPO, Whitney Warrior, replied that six of her department staff would like to attend and submitted their forms. The NAFSS sub-committee voted to approve an exception to the two-per-tribe rule and award six scholarships to the UKB Cherokee Nation.

I also sent NAFSS information and forms to 36 individuals in 21 Tribal Nations whose contact info was collected at four Austin Powwows between 2016 and 2019. These people identified with the Apache, Blackfoot, Caddo, Cherokee, Choctaw, Comanche, Dakota, Kickapoo, Lakota, Lipan Apache, Mandan, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Navaho, Ogala Sioux, Pipil, Ponca, Sioux, Taino, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, Tonkawa, and the United Houma Nation of Louisiana.

If we were able to raise \$2,500, that produces enough for 1 scholarship. If we get \$5,000 then we would have two scholarships at \$2,500 each.

#### **Nominating (Bill Martin)**

Vice-President is up for re-election. Erin is willing to serve again.

Todd: Are there any nominations from the floor?

Zack Overfield: Polly Clark is willing to serve.  
Erin Phillips: if Polly is willing to serve, I will step down.

Todd: It sounds like we only have one nominee.

Motion: vote for Polly Clark for VP

Any discussion: none.

Polly Clark is voted in by acclamation.

#### **Public Education (Todd Ahlman)**

No report

#### **Standards and Guidelines Committee (Jodi Jacobson)**

Got comments back from THC regarding Cemetery Guidelines for survey. We just started a Cemetery Best Practices committee, they are taking it to the next level (testing/data recovery standards).

Amy isn't here today (it is her birthday).

We will have one new business item for monitoring standards.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

##### **Texas Private Lands Heritage Preservation Partnership (Eric Schroeder via email)**

Check out report in the newsletter for the updates.

##### **Lost Cemeteries Task Force (Andrea Burden, via emailed report)**

The Lost Cemeteries Task Force has been working with the THC to enhance the existing state cemeteries database by volunteering, alongside members of the public, to adopt priority counties where growth is at its highest rate. I've been assigned Waller County as the first guinea pig to work out the kinks for the rest of the committee and with Jenny's help, all is going smoothly. If all goes well, I anticipate more members of the task force will take on similar activities in the months to come.

**Ad Hoc Curation**

Met twice via Zoom. Very productive meeting. One statement prior to the formal presentation. SHA just published their conversations about curation ethics. There is a difference between ethics and a code of conduct (the latter may have legal ramifications).

**Break (10:46 am-10:51 am)**

**Old Business****Alan Slade-Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey**

Tina: we did a short presentation on this last meeting. I will get the forms for this project up on the website soon.

**CTA's Investment in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

Texas is very diverse; we need to improve representation in our community and in archeology. There are also things that we don't think about: like how we speak, micro-aggressions. We don't want to drive them from the field.

**Curation Ethics Statement (presentation by Amy Reid)**

Last fall the curation committee proposed the development of an ethics statement

Proposed addition: "Members shall promote and follow best practices in the curation of archeological collections in accordance with all state and federal regulations."

**Misunderstandings:**

- We are not suggesting that curation be required when it is not required by law
- We support and agree with well thought out and documented discard policies
- We support records-only curation for no collect projects and report-only curation for negative finds projects
- We encourage our fellow members to advocate curation with their clients. When regulations do

not apply, a choice must be made.

- Ethics are by definition not to be mandated, but rather provided as a set of principles to guide our actions beyond what the law tells us is required.
- This definition runs against how the membership agreement statement works. Since the proposed guideline is not mandating curation, this change may not be necessary but something to consider.
- There is still a path forward
- At a minimum, an eighth guideline for curation should be added to the Ethics statement.
- It should help guide the tone of ethics

**Discussion:**

Marybeth: is it a recommendation from the committee that we adopt both the preamble and ethics statement

Motion: Jon Lohse: I move that we accept preamble and the ethics statement

Tom Barrett: seconded

Voting: Universal yes by membership

**New Business****E. Mott Davis Award**

Bolivar Archeological Project (Doug Boyd/ Cox|McLain Environmental Consulting)

Doug - the community outreach was a very important part of this project. We did handouts for visitors and Roadside Chat information and regularly updated it. North Texas group donated time. We did oral history interviews with the descendent communities. Tom Cook was an African-American who came to Texas in 1861. After Emancipation, he ends up in Denton County. Many members of this family still live in the area. We did interviews with many of them. Howard Clark didn't even know about his ancestor but has now enrolled in blacksmithing courses. We'll get more details in the next newsletter.

**Fall 2021 meeting**

TAS is planning to be in person in the fall. We as a group need to decide whether we want to have

our fall meeting in person. If there are concerns about holding an in-person meeting, we could also look at ways to have a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting.

Jodi: looks like there will be a lot to present for standards/guidelines. I don't want to limit access, so I recommend that we have some form of virtual access moving forward.

Jorge Garcia-Herreros: it has really been helpful to have Zoom meetings so that we can always attend, no matter where the meeting is.

Sarah Chesney: I'm attending this meeting on I-10. We came to the same realization at TAS. The advantage of having Zoom access is clear. There are several CTA members on TAS; we can keep you updated on TAS' plans.

Catherine Jalbert: Maybe divide the event into virtual/Zoom for business meetings and then have in-person presentations, workshops, etc.

Katherine Turner-Pearson: lots of organizations have combo meetings that are held live but have virtual components.

Jodi Jacobson: there are various ways to do it. It will need to be set up with aforethought so that people who attend virtually can hear all of the discussion.

Ron Ralph: for the business of the CTA, we need a motion to discuss.

Motion: vote to have live meeting in person with virtual component in fall meeting  
Second: Ron

Discussion: Jon Lohse: asking for clarification on what you are asking for? Rachel Feit: live simultaneous transmittal of in-person event to Zoom attendees. I've attended multiple conferences that do this.

Kristi (via chat): would there be an extra cost.  
Arlo McKee: do any of our preferred Spring meeting locations have the bandwidth to accommodate this type of approach? Todd: We'll look into that later.

Jodi: I have been a speaker in virtual classes, and it is hard to hear students. We would need microphones for everyone.

Arlo: this might incur costs. We have some unexpected money coming from Wild Apricot.  
Todd: We'll look into this. Jon: We would need to work with TAS to figure out the costs. Maggie Moore: we will have to account for this moving forward. One year we were charged several hundred dollars for AV support. I don't think that should be a factor to prevent us.

Rachel: I think we can budget this moving forward.

Maggie: Perhaps a member could donate equipment or even wi-fi hotspot.

Todd: these are all things to explore.

Vote: Unanimous yes

**Ken Lawrence-TAS Geoarchaeology Academy**  
TAS Geoarchaeology 201 Academy - Spring 2022  
McNeill Ranch (Victoria County). Two separate sessions over a 4-day weekend. We want to incorporate a suite of OSL and C14 dates. We are running into obstacles with rules at TAS. We are looking for some up-front funds to pay for chronometrics and logistics. Multiple exposures with instructors working with rotating groups.

We are looking for donations. A \$500 donation would reserve a spot for a member of your staff. A total of 50 participants. The main issue is funding.

Becky: The \$500 donation would pay for staff, but they would still need to be a TAS member.

**Ron: We call them co-sponsorships!**

**Scotty: is it going to be first come, first serve or applications? Ken: first come, first serve. We can't technically open reservations until the Fall. This is a proof of concept.**

**New business from the floor?**

**Jodi: Standards and Guidelines monitoring guidelines. Is there interest? Todd: this is a good idea.**

**Volunteers: Emily Dylla, Scotty Moore, David Yelacic, Phillip Washington, Heath Bentley, Amy Reid**

**If you are volunteering, please send me an email so that I can create a list.**

**Both City of San Antonio archeologists are interested in rejoining so they could join the committee.**

**Motion to adjourn: Tina**

**Second: Missi**

**Meeting Adjourns (11:52 am)**

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