

**Minutes of Final Business Meeting  
Southwestern Branch  
Peabody Hotel  
Little Rock, AR  
7 March 2012**

Members of the Southwestern Branch met on 7 March 2012 at the conclusion of the Joint Meeting of the Southeastern and Southwestern Branches in Little Rock, AR. All Executive Committee Members (\*) were present, including approximately 30 Branch Members:

- \*Allen Knutson, President
- \*Scott Bundy, Vice-President
- \*Jesus Esquivel, Secretary-Treasurer
- \*Bob Davis, Secretary-Treasurer-Elect
- \*Bart Drees, Branch representative to ESA Governing Board
- \*Tom Royer, Past-President

President Allen Knutson called the meeting to order and the following items were discussed:

1. Treasurer's Report: Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel reported that the Branch was financially sound with Checking and Savings account balances of \$15,299.20 and 13,089.99, respectively, totaling \$28,389.19 in available monies (as of 3 March 2012). Checking account balance after meeting charges was expected to reflect a profit from the Joint Meeting.
2. Secretary's Report: Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel previously circulated Secretary's Report detailing activities of the Executive Committee. Items below were approved during the 2012 Executive Committee meeting; additional items are reflected in the Meeting Minutes of the Executive Committee:
  - a. Branch Support of Mixer at ESA Meeting: Executive Committee received request from Phil Mulder and David Ragsdale for financial support of a mixer at the Annual Meeting(s) of the ESA. **A motion was made that the Executive Committee approve payment for 50% (not to exceed \$1,000) of charges in support of a Branch mixer beginning in Knoxville 2012, with the caveat that the support would be reviewed annually and University Department Heads propose a protocol for handling charges and payment ahead of Knoxville 2012. All members approved and the motion passed unanimously.**
  - b. Request from Phil Mulder and Scott Bundy for \$500 for new buzzer system for Linnaean Games: Phil Mulder and Scott Bundy, Member and Chair of Linnaean Games Committee, respectively, previously submitted a request that Executive Committee consider purchasing a "buzzer system" for the conduct of Linnaean Games during Branch meetings. **A motion was made and seconded that the Branch purchase a "buzzer system" with the added stipulation that the Chair of the Linnaean Games Committee would be the steward of the "buzzer system." The motion passed unanimously.**
  - c. Program Committee Report: Justin Talley, presenting for 2012 Program Co-Chair Sonja Swiger, indicated Confex system worked well during this first year, but suggested the need for improved method for solicitation of symposia for future Branch meetings. **A motion was made and seconded that the Executive Committee approve payment**



**(\$1,100 during 2012) to Confex for the 2013 Branch meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

- d. Photo Salon for Southwestern Branch: Lauren Ward, Co-Chair of Insect Photo Salon Subcommittee for the Joint Branch meeting, reported substantial interest from Southwestern Branch members and suggested establishment of an Insect Photo Salon competition for the Branch. Incorporation of monetary award(s) for winning photographs was suggested to encourage further participation by Branch members – winners currently only receive a certificate. **A motion was made and seconded that the Southwestern Branch Student Affairs Committee organize an Insect Photo Salon, with Lauren Ward as Chair for the 2013 Branch meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**
  - e. Branch Endorsement of ESA Candidates for President: President Knutson reported that the Executive Committee did not approve of endorsing candidates. **A motion was made and seconded that there would be no endorsement for candidates outside the Southwestern Branch during 2012 elections. The motion passed unanimously. A second motion was made and seconded that the Executive Committee nominate Phil Mulder for Vice-President-Elect for ESA, pending acceptance of nomination by Dr. Mulder. The motion passed unanimously.**
3. Election for Secretary-Treasurer-Elect: Tom Royer reported Dr. Jerry Michels was elected as 2012-13 Secretary-Treasurer-Elect for Southwestern Branch. New nominations need to be submitted to Allen Knutson (Chair, 2012 Nominating Committee) by mid-May to conduct Branch election concurrently with elections for national offices. President Knutson to circulate call for nominations to Membership.
  4. Governing Board Representative Report: Bart Drees, Branch representative to ESA Governing Board, reported the following:
    - a. His term on the Board is expiring after the November 2012 Annual Meeting. **A motion was made and seconded to appoint Drees as chair of a committee to identify candidates to the office. The motion passed.** Candidates to be forwarded to Knutson for submission to ESA Central ahead of ESA elections (by June 1) so that online elections can be conducted concurrent to elections for other ESA offices. To date, Drs. Megha Parajulee and David Ragsdale have expressed interest in the office.
    - b. The Board approved \$60,000 to support travel to International Congress of Entomology and Linnaean Team travel to Annual Meetings. For the latter, briefs are to be submitted to John Heraty, Chair of Students and Young Professionals Committee, for review of cases on a hardship basis; complete protocol not in place yet.
    - c. Bart Drees, Chair of Certification Board Committee, indicated a replacement was needed for the Committee. **A motion was made and seconded to solicit and identify nominees for the Committee. The motion passed.** Nominees identified were Molly Keck and Ted Granovsky, and names were to be forwarded to Knutson for submission to ESA Central ahead of ESA elections (by June 1) so that online elections and voting by ACE and BCE members can be conducted concurrent to elections for other ESA offices.
  5. Southwestern Branch Representative to ESA Student Affairs Committee: Erin Jones, Chair of Branch Student Affairs Committee, indicated she had been nominated by the Committee to serve as Branch representative. **A motion was made and seconded that Erin Jones be appointed as Branch representative to the ESA Student Affairs Committee. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. Southwestern Branch Representative to ESA Committee on Education and Outreach: Current representative's term (Andrine Shufran) expires in November 2012, and need a replacement. Shufran expressed interest in continuing on the Committee. **A motion was made and seconded that Andrine Shufran be appointed as Branch representative to the ESA Committee on Education and Outreach. The motion passed unanimously.**
7. Revision of SOPs for Public Information Committee: Tom Royer, Chair of Public Information Committee, reported on proposed changes to By-laws and SOPs to said Committee. Membership was notified 30 days in advance of voting. **A motion was made and seconded to change the language in By-laws requiring "6 members" on the Committee to "at least 3 members from member institutions in the Branch." The motion passed unanimously.**
8. Revival of Youth Science Committee: President Allen Knutson and Dr. M.O. Way, Chair of Youth Sciences Committee, previously submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee requesting a vote on modification of the Standard Operating Procedures of the Youth Sciences Committee to focus more on entomology-related activities as well as incorporating a liaison from the Entomological Foundation to the Committee. **A motion was made and seconded to expand the focus of the Committee to include other entomology-related activities with additional language stipulating inclusion of a liaison from Entomological Foundation as part of the Committee. The motion passed unanimously.**
9. Branch Endorsement of ESA Candidates for President: President Knutson reported that the Executive Committee did not approve of endorsing candidates. **A motion was made and seconded that there would be no endorsement for candidates outside the Southwestern Branch during 2012 elections. The motion passed unanimously. A second motion was made and seconded that the Executive Committee nominate Phil Mulder for Vice-President-Elect for ESA, pending acceptance of nomination by Dr. Mulder. The motion passed unanimously.**
10. Committee Reports: Bulleted notations provided here; more detailed information provided in individual reports submitted by Committee Chairs:
  - a. Program Committee: Justin Talley
    - i. Southwestern Branch Members comprised 30% of attendees at the Joint Meeting;
    - ii. 87 total presentations; 52 papers and 35 posters.
  - b. Local Arrangements Committee: Scott Ludwig
    - i. Accommodations through Conference Direct, who contacted hotels for bids;
    - ii. As of 29 February, Meeting committed to 690 room nights;
    - iii. ESA Central provided support with online and onsite registrations;
    - iv. Joint efforts aided significantly in cost-sharing (e.g., Gus Lorenz solicited ca. \$25,000 from industry and host state provided ca. \$25,000 towards meeting expenses).
  - c. Audit Committee: Gary Puterka
    - i. Finance records for 2010-11 were received from Scott Bundy (Secretary-Treasurer, 2010-11); records were reviewed and found to agree with 2010-11 Treasurer's Report.
  - d. Awards & Honors Committee: Scott Armstrong
    - i. John H. Comstock Graduate Student Award recipient – Apurba Barman
    - ii. Percival Scientific Undergraduate Student Activity Award – Juan Macias

- iii. Co-sponsored Branch and Society of Southwestern Entomologists Undergraduate Student Award – Chris Powell
  - iv. IPM Team Award nominee – Dr. Patricia Pietrantonio
  - v. *Branch Representative* for National Competition in Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension – Dr. Chris Sansone
- e. Branch Archivist: Greg Cronholm
  - i. Larry Mitchell is the new Archivist at Texas A&M University
  - ii. Requesting Secretary-Treasurer print hardcopies of each electronic mail message sent out to Membership for submission to Archivist
- f. Insect Detection Committee: Mark Muegge (for Carol Sutherland)
  - i. See Committee Report.
- g. Insect Expo Committee: Tom Royer (for Andrine Shufran)
  - i. Expo not held during 2012.
  - ii. See Committee Report for additional issues such as suggested changes to SOPs and continued concerns (i.e., lack of student volunteers, cost, and communications between Committee Chair and Local Arrangements Committee) stemming from previous Insect Expo.
  - iii. Positive outlook for holding Insect Expo at 2013 Branch meeting.
- h. Linnaean Games Committee: Scott Bundy
  - i. Oklahoma State University, 1<sup>st</sup> place
  - ii. Texas A&M University Graduate Student Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> place
  - iii. In total, 5 teams competed: New Mexico State, Oklahoma State, Tarleton State, & Texas A&M (2 teams)
- i. Local Arrangements Committee: Scott Ludwig (Co-Chair with Rob Wiedenmann – Southeastern Branch Co-Chair)
  - i. See Committee Report for details on hotel/lodging arrangements, contributions from ESA Central Staff at registration, joint Society/industry group participation, budget, and listing of sponsors for the Joint Meeting.
- j. Membership Committee: Justin Talley
  - i. Branch members = 357 through Jan 2012; Total Branch Members for 2011 = 528
  - ii. ESA members = 4,585 through Jan 2012; Total ESA Members for 2011 = 6,357
- k. Public Information Committee: Tom Royer
  - i. Southeastern Branch representative (Fudd Graham) and ESA Central coordinated with local media
  - ii. Mark Muegge served as Branch photographer; Richard Levine also provided media services
- l. Site Selection: Jesus Esquivel
  - i. After review of previous 10 Branch meetings, identified San Antonio, TX, as leading candidate for 2014 Branch meeting. Alternative sites include Fort Worth and Corpus Christi
- m. Student Affairs Committee: Erin Jones
  - i. Following Branch re-alignment discussion, Committee suggested a survey to solicit student input on any future re-alignment
  - ii. Standard Operating Procedures need to be developed for Insect Photo Salon
  - iii. Melise Taylor, New Mexico State University, is incoming Committee Chair
- n. Student Research Paper/Poster Competition: Scott Armstrong (for Bonnie Pendleton)
  - i. See Committee report for outcomes.
- o. In Memoriam Committee: Jim Reinert

i. Individuals passing away included:

1. Robert Hoffmann
2. Grady Glenn
3. Eugene King
4. James R. Coppedge, Sr.
5. Marshall Wheeler

11. Scott Bundy assumes Presidency, recognizing and thanking Allen Knutson for his service as 2011-12 Branch President. President Bundy announced the 2013 Branch meeting would be held in Las Cruces, NM, likely during late February.

12. Tom Royer made motion to Adjourn and was seconded by Allen Knutson. Motion passed and Final Business meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Jesus F. Esquivel /s/  
Secretary-Treasurer, 2011-12