

**Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
Southwestern Branch
Peabody Hotel
Little Rock, AR
4 March 2012**

The Executive Committee of the Southwestern Branch met on 4 March 2012 ahead of the Joint Meeting of the Southeastern and Southwestern Branches in Little Rock, AR. All Executive Committee Members (*) were present, including:

- *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
- Grayson Brown, ESA President
- David Gammel, ESA Executive Director
- Scott Ludwig, Local Arrangements Co-Chair
- Eric Rebek, 2011 Program Chair
- Justin Talley, 2011 Program Chair (reporting for Sonja Swiger – 2012 Program Co-Chair).

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

Old Business:

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.
2. Transition of Southwestern Branch Website Hosting by ESA Central: President Knutson reported the transition of the Southwestern Branch website to the ESA Central site was complete. Also, Allen Dean was identified as the steward of two remaining bases for the Southwestern Branch's Taquenewhap Award, and was suggested that Grant Kinzer be approached regarding production of 2 more busts for the Award.
3. Election for Secretary-Treasurer-Elect: Tom Royer reported Dr. Jerry Michels was elected as 2012-13 Secretary-Treasurer-Elect for Southwestern Branch. Ludwig suggested making Biographical sketches available to Membership before voting. President Knutson (Chair, Nominating Committee) noted that the Nominating Committee SOPs need to be modified to reflect change in voting cycle/timing (i.e., Branch elections held concurrent to elections for ESA national offices).

New Business:

4. Nominations for Governing Board Representative: Bart Drees, Branch representative to ESA Governing Board, reported his term on the Board was 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.



5. Nominations for ESA Certification Board: 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 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.
6. Southwestern Branch Representative to ESA Student Affairs Committee: Term for current representative, Lisa Overall, expires in November 2012. New representative to be identified at Final Business Meeting. ESA President Brown suggested student representatives to come from alternating universities.
7. 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 and she was to be identified as a continuing representative; to be nominated and voted upon at the Final Business meeting.
8. 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.**
9. Revision of SOP 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. This change was to be voted upon by the Membership at Final Business meeting.
10. 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 accept the proposed changes to SOPs with additional language to include a liaison from Entomological Foundation as part of the Committee. The motion passed unanimously.**
11. 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.
12. 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.

13. 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.**
14. 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.**
15. Resolutions Committee: Resolutions were requested prior to the Branch meeting, yet none were received.
16. 2012 Southwestern Branch Election for Secretary-Treasurer-Elect: David Gammel indicated Branch elections could be handled concurrently with elections for other ESA national / section offices. Slate of nominees need to be at ESA Central by June 1.
17. Re-alignment of Southeastern and Southwestern Branches: Re-alignment of Branches was broached and it was announced that David Ragsdale, Texas A&M University Department Head and Southwestern Branch Member, would be hosting a discussion forum open to members of both Branches to receive input on potential re-alignment.

Respectfully submitted,

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

