

**Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association**

**Wednesday November 28, 2018**

**Minutes for 2018 Annual Membership Meeting & Banquet**

**Youngblood's Cafe, Amarillo, TX**

President Kenneth Ewings welcomed the group and following the invocation by Eddy Riggins they helped themselves to the Fajita Bar.

Kenneth introduced the speaker for the evening: James Hunt, Farm Editor for Radio KGNC, Amarillo. Mr. Hunt described his journey from childhood in Belton, Texas to journalism and serving with legislators both at the state and national levels to his present position in Amarillo. He sees himself as a journalist trying to provide accurate information of interest to farmers and ranchers, as an advocate for agriculture. Another important aspect of his job is helping to educate the general public about the role of agriculture in everyone's life.

President Ewing called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting (which had earlier been approved by the Board of Directors) were referred to and available on the TAIA website.

Secretary-Treasurer David Lott presented the following financial report:

Regular Account

Income 2018 (thru November)	\$14,580
Expenses 2018 (thru November)	\$16,584
Net for year	-\$2,014

Scholarship Account

Income 2018 (thru November)	\$2,500
Expenses 2018 (thru November) stipends	\$5,000
Net for year	-\$2,500

November balances

Checking Account	\$100
Sweep Account	\$23,228

CD	\$32,973
Total	\$56,301

Scholarship checking	\$50
Sweep Account	\$4,053
CD	\$15,965
Total	\$20,068

**Total for all accounts: \$ 76,369**

He reported that the financial books had been previously reviewed by the audit committee, Kenneth Ewings and Layne Hardesty, and found to be in order.

Executive Secretary Kern Stutler reported on the membership status as follows

2018 Regular Memberships Paid	59
2018 Associate Memberships Paid	31
Total Membership	90

Scholarship Committee members Mark McCormick and Anthony Kingery gave the following scholarship status report:

Holt Bivens –TTU

Kaylee Ites – Texas A&M

Emily Wade – TTU

Macey Lange – Texas A&M

Nicholas Fulbright – Tarleton State University

Kodie Cooper – Tarleton State University

They announced the March 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 deadline for 2019 scholarship applications and noted that the application forms are available on the TAIA website.

It was also noted that the letter sent to members with their invoice for 2019 membership dues had a favorable response with about \$500 given for the scholarship.

TAIA sponsored or participated in several events during 2018 as follows:

Irrigation Technology Fair, Dec 12, 2017, Comanche, TX.

Texas Alliance for Water Conservation Water College, January 24, 2018, Lubbock, TX.

2018 High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show, Feb 7, Amarillo Civic Center; 98 attendees, 15 exhibitors.

4<sup>th</sup> Biennial North Texas – South Plains Water Conservation Symposium, February 27, 28, 2018, Amarillo Civic Center.

President Ewings announced that the Board of Directors had voted not to have the High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show in 2019.

Nomination Committee Chairman Farris Hightower presented the following slate of candidates:

VP Bobby De Leon to move up to President (Jain)

Secretary-Treasurer David Lott to Vice President (Fresno Valves)

Secretary-Treasurer –Eddy Riggins (Equipment Supply Co.)

East Region Representative – Jason Hester (Nelson)

South Region Representative– Greg Sokora continuing (NRCS)

At-Large Representative – Don Mooring (Valley)

Unanimous vote elected the entire slate.

Call for committee volunteers resulted in following:

Scholarship same as last year: Greg Sokora, Mark McCormick, and Anthony Kingery

Nominations - pending

Audit Kenneth Ewings and Layne Hardesty continuing

President Ewing introduced incoming resident, Bobby De Leon

President De Leon thanked outgoing president Ewing for his service during the past year and presented him with a plaque of appreciation.

In response to a call for other business, Farris Hightower suggested TAlA sponsor training sessions for members and others in an effort to have more certified irrigation designers. He offered Lindsay's facilities in Amarillo for a training site. Bobby will contact the Irrigation Association and possibly meet with them at the IA Show in December to discuss their program and possible cooperation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm