



TEXAS LAND & MINERAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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4th Quarter 2020

2020 ELECTION WRAP UP AND 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

On January 12, 2021, the Texas Legislature convened for the 87th Legislative session. For the second time in as many sessions, the Texas House of Representatives will elect a new Speaker. Representative Dade Phelan (R- Beaumont) appears to have emerged from the field, and he declared victory when he released a list of members who have pledged to vote for him once the legislature convenes. The Speaker's office is vital to our lobbying efforts for several reasons, but specifically because he determines the leadership and makeup of the committees in the House. On the other side of the Capitol, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick will lead the Senate and determine its committee leadership.

After all the media coverage and talk of a blue wave, not much changed in the political makeup of the legislature. Further, there still has not been a Democrat elected statewide since 1994. Republicans control both chambers of the state legislature and Texas is likely to remain a red state for at least the next couple of election cycles.

In the House, Democrats needed to flip nine seats and keep the ones they won in 2018 to take control of the lower chamber. After the dust settled, Republicans control by the same margin as the previous legislative session (83R – 67D) – one Democrat seat flipped, and one Republican seat flipped. Other than that, all seats remained with the same party.

On the Senate side, the Democrats expectedly gained one seat. Representative Roland Gutierrez (D) beat incumbent Senator Pete Flores (R). While this Republican loss does not change control of the Senate, it will likely have an interesting ripple effect on a rule for the upper chamber. Currently, a 3/5 majority vote is required to bring a bill to the Senate floor. After Gutierrez's victory, the Senate's make up is 18 Republicans and 13 Democrats, thus eliminating the Republican 3/5 majority. Unless the rules are changed, a unified front by the Democrats can block any legislation they do not like. Attention now turns to Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and whether he will move to change the Senate rules to only require a simple majority of the membership to bring a bill up for a vote.

The Texas Railroad Commission gained a new Commissioner as Republican Jim Wright defeated Democrat Chrysta Castaneda. This race received abnormal media coverage in the final weeks when Michael Bloomberg donated \$2.6 million to the Castaneda campaign. Despite the massive donation, Castaneda could not hold off the instate Republican strength. The three-member Commission has *(continued on page 7)*

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Jennifer Bremer

TLMA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS NOMINATIONS

At the beginning of the year, TLMA recognizes two of our dedicated members for their efforts—one for their service to TLMA and one for membership recruitment. Please use the form provided on the following page or email us your nominees by **January 21, 2021!**

TLMA Outstanding Service Award

The Outstanding Service Award was established to promote and underscore the association's continuing dedication to oilfield cleanup, protection of surface and groundwater, accurate royalty payments, and to encourage new drilling of the state's oil and gas resources. The Board of Directors will award the TLMA Outstanding Service Award to one member who provides outstanding service to TLMA.

The ideal candidate for the 2020 TLMA Outstanding Service Award is dedicated to reinstating a sense of fairness in the relationship between those that use the land and those who live on it, and has made an outstanding contribution to TLMA through active service.

TLMA Outstanding Membership Recruitment Award

The Membership Recruitment Award honors those who have taken an active role in introducing other land and mineral owners to TLMA and helping to bring new members to the association.

Previous award winners are:

Outstanding Service

2004 Doug Beveridge
2005 J. Evetts Haley
2006 George E. Tanner
2007 Renato Ramirez
2008 Carolyn Frost Keenan
2009 Roger Welder
2010 Mike Gillean
2012 Kim McTee
2013 Russell Hayter
2014 John McFarland
2015 James L. Donnell, Sr.
2016 Trey Scott
2018 Carolyn Frost Keenan
2019 Russell Hayter

Membership Recruitment

2005 Rod Litke
2006 Dr. John S. Baen &
Morgan Dunn O'Connor
2007 Carolyn Frost Keenan
2008 Billy K. Lemons
2009 Carol Holmes
2010 Rick Walker
2011 Randy Smith
2013 Jim McAllen
2014 Jimmy Broussard
2015 Tucker Bridwell
2016 Lica Pinkston
2018 John McFarland
2019 Ford Frost

ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Please use the form below to make your nominations for the TLMA Annual Awards.

TLMA Award Nomination Form

Please provide the full name and city where member resides.

2020 TLMA Outstanding Service Award Nominee(s):

2020 TLMA Membership Recruitment Award Nominee(s):

Nomination submitted by (please print):

E-Mail this completed form to TLMA with your nominations to info@tlma.org by January 21, 2021!

UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

Tuesday, January 12, 2021—87th Legislative Session Begins

Tuesday, January 26, 2021—RRC Open Meeting

Tuesday, February 9, 2021—RRC Open Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2021—RRC Open Meeting

Tuesday, March 9, 2021—RRC Open Meeting

As the Legislative session progresses, you will receive email notifications on when committee hearings of interest occur and post them to the calendar on the website.



2020 TLMA STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING WRAP UP

Planning the 2020 TLMA Statewide Members Meeting, provided it's challenges, just as the rest of the year did. Switching from an in-person meeting to a virtual meeting was not an easy decision for the Board to make, but was the right decision for the times. It was unfortunate that we didn't have the opportunity to see you all in person, but we hope that having a virtual meeting will provide new opportunities for our members to participate in future events. We are hopeful that we will be able to have in-person meetings in 2021.

Thank you very much to all who participated in the meeting and especially to our speakers, sponsors, and exhibitors who made the necessary adjustments to ensure a successful meeting! I hope that you thought it went as well as we did.

The sponsors and exhibitors are listed throughout the newsletter and on the website. I hope that you will continue to support our supporters if you are ever in need of any of their services. Many of them have been long time supporters of our Association!

If you would like to see the presentations, the slide decks and the recordings are available on the website. You can download and print the slide decks. If you need the presenters contact information, please email me. I am happy to provide that to you.

Thank you again for helping make the 2020 Meeting a successful one! We look forward to seeing everyone in the coming year!

UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season!

As I reflect back on last year, it was nothing short of challenging. The past year was much slower than I could have imagined other than planning the virtual Statewide Member's Meeting. When we should have been attending interim legislative hearings to prepare for the upcoming legislative session, we were watching the very few hearings that happened from the comfort of our home. One of the things I truly enjoy about my job is the people and interactions we have at hearings. I have really missed that and am looking forward to seeing everyone around the Capitol very soon!



That being said, I am very excited for the 87th legislative session that will be one of the most unique I've experienced. Please do not forget to make sure your email is up to date and subscribed to our email ALERTS. TLMA will again be using that system when we need your help contacting legislators regarding bills. Please note that we send ALERTS for both good and bad bills for mineral owners. We will need your help on both fronts. The email system will also be our primary channel of information distribution as session happens. Because session moves so quickly, especially at the end, it is the most efficient way for us to get you information.

Thank you all for your participation and support of our efforts. I hope that you all will continue to reach out to me with any issues you are aware of.

I wish you all a very prosperous 2021.

Jennifer

TLMA CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

The TLMA Membership approved a corporate membership and we are **NOW ACCEPTING** members. We are fortunate to have developed great partnerships with businesses that provide services to our members and we look forward to having them as members now.

Corporate membership benefits include:

- Advertising opportunities
- Discounted exhibitor spaces at our meetings; and
- Option to provide newsletter content

If you are interested in learning more details about the corporate membership or would like to receive an application, please contact Jennifer Bremer at execdir@tlma.org.

(All corporate memberships must be approved by the Board of Directors.)



OPTION FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTIFICATIONS VIA EMAIL ONLY

With the unveiling of the new website last year, TLMA is working to make our processes more efficient. This is just a reminder that you have the option to receive your renewal notification via email only. This means that you will not receive the paper notices.

All members receive an electronic invoice and will continue to do so. The default setting is to additionally receive paper copies. If you would like to **ONLY** receive the **ELECTRONIC** invoice, please go to your member profile, under "Invoice Type" select "Emailed".

You can also view and pay all of your invoices under your membership profile.

FOLLOW US!



**Texas Land & Mineral Owners
Association**



@tlma_info

MINUTES FROM THE TLMA STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING

The TLMA held a business meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020 via ZoomWebinar.

Chairman McTee opened the meeting at 11:03 a.m. and thanked the list of sponsors and exhibitors.

Mrs. McTee reviewed the proposed by-law changes and announced the outcome of the vote that was completed by mail. The revisions were approved by the following vote: 201 – yes; 1 – no; 3 – abstained.

Mrs. McTee then recognized recently retired Chairman of the Board, Carolyn Frost Keenan and thanked her for her service.

Chairman McTee presented the slate of directors. Mrs. McTee announced the outcome of the vote, also conducted by mail: 199 – yes; 0 – no; 6 – abstained.

Chairman McTee presented the District Representatives slate. Mrs. McTee announced the outcome of the vote, also conducted by mail: 197 – yes; 2 – no; 6 – abstained.

Executive Director, Jennifer Bremer, presented the Executive Director's report. She presented TLMA's mission, financial report from 2018 and 2019, the services provided to members, and the activities TLMA participated in over the past two years.

There being no other business, the business meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

HOW TO KNOW WHAT BILLS TLMA IS TRACKING

With the legislative session beginning, it is important to know that TLMA tracks many more bills and issues than we are able to write about in the newsletter. The newsletter is a highlight of the most significant bills as session progresses—whether that be because of the impact they could have or the likelihood that they become law.

On the TLMA website, there is a legislative session page. There you can find all of the bills that TLMA follows and their current status. The PDF report will be updated weekly. However, the beginning of session it will not look like bills are progressing and we will just be adding bills. The Texas Constitution prohibits a bill from being heard on the floor of a chamber prior to the 60th day of legislative session.

TLMA tracks all issues that may impact land and mineral owners. A short list of this is eminent domain, inactive wells, Railroad Commission budget, environmental issues, property tax changes, water bills, and real estate document bills.

The page also contains links to the TLMA ALERTS, committee members and more. Please use the page as you would like. If you have any questions or believe there is a bill we should be following, please reach out to Jennifer Bremer at execdir@tlma.org.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!—REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Just as we did starting in 2018, TLMA is asking members to submit the number of surface and mineral acres they own. This information will be used to convey the impact of our membership to legislators and other policymakers. While we have approximately 900 members, we believe that the surface and mineral acres represented by our members is far larger than we could estimate.

Important things to know about your information:

- It will be completely confidential and only used in a total number presented to legislators.
- It does not have to be the exact number. Rounding and estimates are appreciated.
- It will be deleted after being entered into the main spreadsheet.
- Giving us the counties will allow us to know what legislative districts we have members in. Many of our members are absentee owners and do not live on the property, so the mailing addresses we have do not give an accurate representation. We will not keep count of number of members in each county. We would just like to know if we have someone with assets there.

There are 4 options to submit this information.

1. Fill out the form below and mail to 1005 Congress Avenue, Ste. 360, Austin, TX 78701
2. Call the TLMA office at 512-479-500
3. Email info@tlma.org
4. Fill out the form on your member profile on the TLMA website

Mineral Acres Owned/Managed _____	Surface Acres Owned/Managed _____
Counties represented:	

2020 ELECTION WRAP UP & 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONT.

been wholly republican for over 25 years. Each Commissioner is elected to six-year, staggered terms so that one Commissioner is up for reelection every two years. The Chairman is elected by the Commissioners. Commissioner Christi Craddick was elected Chairman of the Railroad Commission in November.

Thus far, the number of bills that have been filed has not been impacted due to the pandemic. As of early January, there are almost 1,400 bills filed. What bills make it through the session and whether or not they are primarily tied to the pandemic will come to light as the session progresses.

Please know the Capitol has specific rules to account for the pandemic. If you would like to visit the Capitol, you will need to look into the State Preservation Board's guidelines.



Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association
1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 360
Austin, TX 78701



TLMA Membership Information Form

☐ I would like to join TLMA ☐ I am a member, please update my contact info

Please return to: TLMA, 1005 Congress Ave., Suite 360, Austin, TX 78701

Name _____

Organization/Ranch Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Referred by _____

Don't forget!

If your contact information changes, be sure to update TLMA and avoid delays in receiving your newsletters, renewal notices, and other correspondence.

To change your address or any other membership information, contact Robbie Quemer at (512) 479-5000, mail in this form, or log in to your membership account online at www.tlma.org.

Find more information, join TLMA, or renew your membership online at www.tlma.org