

# **TEXAS LAND & MINERAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

# **OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**

Volume 21, Number 4

4th Quarter 2021

#### THE THIRD SPECIAL SESSION ENDS AND ELECTION SEASON BEGINS

As mentioned in previous newsletters, this summer and fall were filled with back-to-back special sessions. On, October 19, 2021, the third and final special session of 2021 adjourned with rumors of a fourth special session to follow. To date, a fourth special session has not been called. There were ten items on the Governor's proclamation for the legislature to debate during the third called session. The most critical item was redistricting—the drawing of new maps for the US House of Representatives, Texas Senate, Texas House of Representatives and the State Board of Education based on the most recent Census data. All maps were signed by Governor Abbott and effective, but are now in litigation. The upcoming primary and general elections will be based on these maps.

Additionally, bills relating to interscholastic athletic competitions, higher education benefits for survivors of public servants, property tax exemptions, unlawful restraint of dogs, supplemental appropriations, and tuition revenue bonds passed during this special session. The items that did not pass are vaccine mandates, bail reform, and additional election fraud bills. Some of these issues were continued from previous special sessions.

Usually, the fall following the legislative session includes the release of interim charges for the committees to study prior to the next legislative session. As you may expect, the interim charges have not been released, but are expected in early 2022. Interim charges give insight and allow for any preparation and research on potential issues for the upcoming session to be completed. We will pass along any information of interim charges impacting land and mineral owners.

Since the passage of the new legislative maps this fall, the March 2022 primary election candidate filing dates have come and gone. Five Senators and 25 state representatives, including long-time committee chairmen and chairwomen, announced they would not seek reelection of their current seats. Some are seeking other offices and some are retiring from public service. These numbers do not account for any incumbents that are defeated in their primary or general elections. This means that the 2023 legislature will again see significant turnover in both chambers.

All statewide offices are on the 2022 ballot—including one Railroad Commissioner seat and a vacant Land Commissioner office. Wayne Christian is the Railroad Commission incumbent and he is seeking reelection. Land Commissioner George P. Bush is running for Attorney General. As a reminder, TLMA does not have a PAC or take a position in races. However, we can provide you biographies of the candidates at the appropriate time.

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jennifer Bremer

### TLMA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS NOMINATIONS

At the beginning of each 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, 2022**!

#### **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.

#### 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 2013 Russell Hayter 2014 John McFarland 2015 James L. Donnell, Sr. 2016 Trey Scott

2018 Carolyn Frost Keenan

2019 Russell Hayter

2020 George Tanner

# 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 2010 Rick Walker 2011 Randy Smith 2013 Jim McAllen 2014 Jimmy Broussard 2015 Tucker Bridwell 2016 Lica Pinkston 2018 John McFarland

2020 Tucker Bridwell

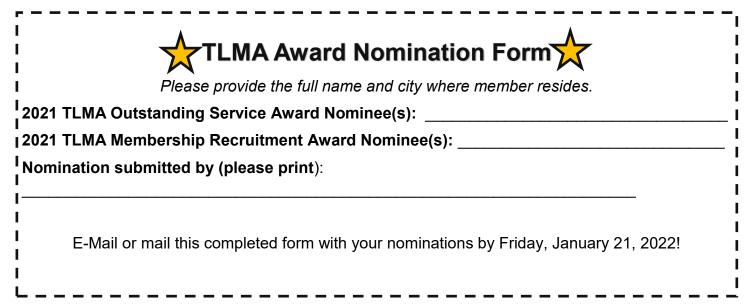
2019 Ford Frost

TLMA 4th Quarter

www.tlma.org

#### ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Please use the form below or visit our website to make your nominations for the TLMA Annual Awards. You may mail the form to 1005 Congress Ave., Suite 360, Austin, TX 78701 or email the form to info@tlma.org



# **UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST**

Friday, December 31—TLMA Offices Closed Tuesday, January 11, 2022—RRC Open Meeting Tuesday, January 25—RRC Open Meeting Tuesday, February 15—RRC Open Meeting Tuesday, March 8—RRC Open Meeting March 25-27—TSCRA Cattle Raisers Convention Tuesday, March 29—RRC Open Meeting Thursday, October 6, 2022—TLMA Statewide Member's Meeting



If you are aware of an event we should share with our membership, please email execdir@tlma.org.

# DO YOU HAVE A TOPIC YOU WANT TO SEE COVERED IN THE NEWSLETTER?

# DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ON A LEGISLATIVE ISSUE?

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER THAT WOULD BE A GREAT MEMBER FOR TLMA THAT WE SHOULD SEND INFORMATION TO?

# WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SERVE YOU BETTER. EMAIL ANY QUESTIONS OR IDEAS TO INFO@TLMA.ORG!

#### 2021 TLMA STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING WRAP UP

Having only a virtual option to host the 2020 Statewide Member's Meeting opened opportunities for TLMA, but we missed seeing all of our members and the networking that happens between our members and supporters during our meeting. The Board and myself were very optimistic that we would be able to gather in-person, and even began planning an in-person event, but determined it would be best to host the event virtually again in 2021.

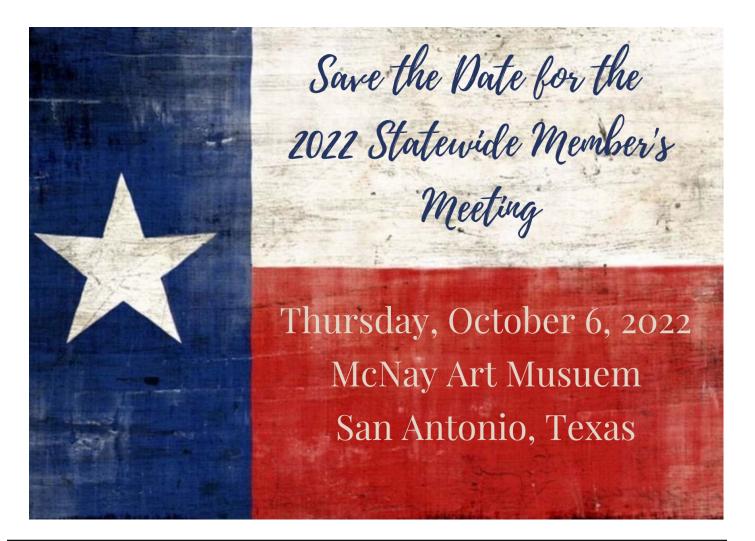
We quickly adjusted to a virtual meeting and had the most successful year to date! Our sponsors and members have continually stood by us as we adjusted and we are extremely grateful for that! You can view all sponsors on page 5 of this newsletter or on our website.

Each of our speakers—Jason Modglin, Bill Kingman, Jim Bradbury, and Billy Phenix—provided insightful, pertinent information to our attendees.

This year, the presentations and recordings are only available to those that registered for the meeting. If you registered and would like a copy, please email execdir@tlma.org.

Thank you again to our sponsors, attendees, and speakers for participating in the 2021 TLMA Statewide Member's Meeting. If you attended our meeting, we would greatly appreciate you completing the survey online. If you would like a printed copy, please email execdir@tlma.org.

#### We hope to see you in San Antonio for the 2022 Statewide Member's Meeting!



### 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 entites 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.)



#### AUTOMATIC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL OPTION

TLMA recently announced the option of an automatic renewal of your membership via credit card. We think this will streamline member renewals for a lot of people!

If you sign up for automatic renewal, you will **not** receive a separate notice (electronic or paper) that your credit card on file is going to be charged. You will only receive the 30 day reminder to renew your membership, however, your account will automatically be charge on your expiration date.

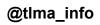
If you would like to know if you are signed up for automatic renewal or would like to sign up, email info@tlma.org.

# FOLLOW US!



Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association





## MINUTES FROM THE 2021 TLMA STATEWIDE MEMBERS MEETING

The TLMA held a business meeting on Thursday, October 7, 2021 via ZoomWebinar.

Chairman McTee opened the meeting at 1:32 p.m. Executive Director, Jennifer Bremer, thanked the list of sponsors. She then introduced the Board of Directors, District Representatives, Honorary Directors, and Advisory Directors and informed those in attendance that an election would take place at next year's meeting.

Jennifer Bremer presented the Executive Director's report. She presented TLMA's mission, financial report from 2020, the services provided to members, and the activities TLMA participated in over the last year.

There being no other business, the business meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

### UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TLMA Members—

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and were able to spend time with those you love and doing things that bring you joy.

Following the regular legislative session, we went into a marathon of special sessions to tackle various priorities of Governor Greg Abbott and ending with passing the redistricting maps due to the delay of Census information. We continue to monitor the implementation of all laws passed during the regular and special sessions, as well as pending litigation, especially those from Winter Storm Uri.



There are a few newer issues that TLMA is also monitoring the development of—including carbon sequestration. I am working diligently to become more educated on this issue and how it impacts our members.

We are working on a very exciting project to launch next year that I can't wait to announce!

This next year, I will spend more time on the road at various events trying to increase our membership and educating potential members about TLMA and the issues we advocate for. I cannot stress how important it is for each of our members to encourage their friends and family to join—even those that are not directly involved in the management of the land or minerals, but may be one day.

Thank you all for your participation and support of our efforts in 2021. I hope

that you all will continue to reach out to me with any issues you are aware of or information you would like TLMA to distribute.

I wish you a prosperous next year and look forward to all that 2022 will bring!

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# DO YOU NEED TO GET A COPY OF A DIVISION ORDER? HERE'S HOW!

#### By Matt Autry, Director of Land and Project Management at Valor Mineral Management

Division Orders are arguably one of the most pertinent legal records for mineral royalty owners. In most cases, a single well will have multiple owners. Therefore, it is imperative to have an accurate and updated division of interest for producing wells.

A Division Order will include the owner's decimal interest (net revenue interest (NRI)), type of interest (ex: royalty, mineral or working interest), the producing property's name (legal description and/or well name and number) and the owner's name.

The Division Order is sent from the operating company to the owners of an interest in the producing well. They are *created* once the title has been confirmed, a well has been drilled and production has begun. However, a Division Order is generally *received* by a mineral royalty owner through the mail, often months after well completion. Therefore, you should not be expecting a Division Order on a well that is not yet complete.

Once a mineral owner receives a Division Order, they must review it, sign it, and send it back to the operating company. It is vital that the mineral royalty owner review it closely and ensure all information is accurate. Do not sign and return the Division Order unless you are confident it is accurate, and you are satisfied with all information outlined. If information is not accurate, you must contact the company who issued the Division Order. We recommend making a copy of all Division Orders you receive for your records and have a good digital document management system. It is also important to know that in most cases owners will not receive royalty payment until they have signed and returned a Division Order.

If you know you should have received a Division Order but have not, there are a few things you can do to help expedite and rectify the issue.

- Contact your Operator (this information can often be found online)
- Contact the Purchaser of the oil and natural gas
- Contact a Mineral Management company or other professional

When you contact the Operator, ask to speak to a division order analyst. Division Order Analysts are responsible for maintaining the company's pay decks and ensuring that the ownership information is correctly maintained in the operator's system. Most operators have an email on their website for owner relations, start by sending an email to this email address and including your name, address, and owner number. Provide them any recorded documentation that you have from the appropriate county clerk where the properties are located. If you recently inherited the mineral rights, then provide them with the former owner's name, address, and social security number along with any estate documents (probated will, letters testamentary, affidavit of heirship). Making sure that you provide the correct and full data to the operators will make the process easier and more efficient for them to transfer the royal-ty interests. If for some reason you are unable to reach the division order analyst after trying to contact them via phone and email, consider composing a letter and include all the information above and mailing it to them certified with the USPS.

If you find yourself not able to keep up with your Division Orders or want to add another set of eyes to reviewing all information, there are companies and professionals who can assist.

#### About Matt Autry:

Matt Autry is the Director of Land and Project Management at Valor Mineral Management, a company that provides complete owner relations outsourcing and division order maintenance. He has worked as a landman and mineral rights owner for 15 years and has valuable experience in all aspects of the oil and gas industry.



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



Don't forget!

If your contact information

# 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				nanges, be sure to upuate
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Email Address				our membership account
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Referred by				

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