

Final Final Final

**Desert Tortoise Council,
Minutes of Annual Business Meeting**

**15 February 2013
Sam's Town, Las Vegas, Nevada**

The Annual Business Meeting was called to order by Daniel Pearson at 08:13 a.m. in the Virginia City room at Sam's Town, Las Vegas, Nevada. **Motions made, seconded, and approved are shown in bold red font.**

Attendees: Becky Jones, Tracy Bailey, Mike Bailey, Kristin Berry, Heidi McMaster, Bruce Palmer, Daniel Pearson, Maggie Fusari, Pete Woodman, Ed LaRue, and Mari Quillman. **Elsewhere:** Joe Probst was organizing the photo contest table. Glenn Stewart was not here due to a death in his family. **Guests:** There were approximately 12 Symposium attendees at the business meeting, who as members, participated in the votes described herein.

A. Introductions: Dan Pearson introduced the board and Mary Cohen to those in attendance.

B. Review Agenda: No new items were added to the agenda.

C. Audit Committee: The audit committee consists of Ray Butler, Joe Probst, and Mike Bailey, Council Treasurer. Ray reported that the audit was completed in 2012, and covered two years. The audit found a \$0.42 discrepancy. The committee was able to account for all expenditures. Given the rather large available funds, not in various accounts, the committee recommended that the board consider prudent ways of spending money. **Motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved by board members and others in attendance to accept the Audit Report (with minor modifications identified).**

D. Elections of Officers: As Corresponding Secretary, Tracy Bailey facilitated the elections. Ed LaRue was nominated as Recording Secretary, Mari Quillman as Membership Coordinator, and Joe Probst as Chairperson-elect at the 12 January 2013 board meeting and are considered in today's vote. Bruce Palmer asked if there were any new nominations, which there were none. **Given these nominations and no new nominations from the floor, Ed LaRue, Mari Quillman, and Joe Probst were unanimously elected to Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairperson-elect, respectively, as per the terms of office given in the Bylaws.**

E. Annual Reports:

1. Treasurer's Report: Mike Bailey indicated taxes were filed on time for 2012. Major expenditures were listed in the Treasurer's report that he distributed. There was an increase of approximately \$45,000. Overall total money is reported as \$275,247.91. Additional pages report banking summaries (2 pages), workshop summary (1 page), and present and past budgets (back to 2009).

2. Ecosystems Advisory Committee's (EAC) Report: Ed LaRue provided a brief overview of EAC's activities in 2012, which is the committee within the Council addressing conservation issues. In January 2013, the Council decided to provide comment letters to all board members (rather than the six serving on the committee) to ensure that such letters represented the entire board's view of a given issue. EAC reports are attached to all board minutes, which are posted on the webpage. We are covering all four states and both species (*G. agassizii* and *G. morafkai*).

3. Chairperson's Report: Dan Pearson will present his report as part of the Symposium this afternoon, so there was no formal presentation this morning.

4. Membership Committee: Mari Quillman, newly elected as the Membership Coordinator, reported that the Council just purchased a new computer, which was previously approved at the October board meeting. This computer will be used by Mari, for now, and future Membership Coordinators as they are elected.

5. Nominating Committee: Nominating Committee Chairperson Bruce Palmer talked about nominations (see Section D, above). Mari Quillman and Heidi McMaster were introduced as the newest board members, joining the board in 2012.

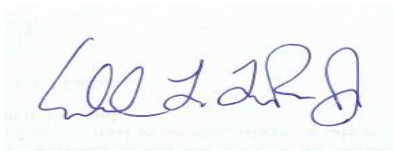
6. Awards Committee: In Glenn Stewart's absence, Becky Jones indicated there was a full slate of awardees for this year. Student papers still need to be judged, and the winning student paper will be awarded after the Symposium and later posted on the webpage.

F. Website Update: Mary Cohen is the new web master for the web site. She asked that all provide feedback to ensure the site is accurate and efficient. The web site is designed in HTML 5, which will be the upcoming standard in 2014.

G. Next Board Meeting: The next board meeting is scheduled for 1 June 2013 in Ontario, California at the Doubletree Hotel.

H. Adjourn to Opening the Symposium: Dan Pearson adjourned the Annual Business Meeting at 08:36 a.m.

Draft minutes were recorded, later distributed and modified with board member review and input, then respectfully submitted as this final version by Ed LaRue, Recording Secretary.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ed LaRue', is centered on a light blue rectangular background.