

**PRESCRIBED BURNING BOARD MEETING**  
**January 22, 2014, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Stephen F. Austin Bldg, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**1700 N. Congress, Executive Conference Room**  
**Austin, Texas**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members in attendance:**

Dr. Butch Taylor  
Linda Campbell  
Rusty Ray  
Rich Gray  
Brian Hays  
Randy Rivera  
Justin Penick  
Rooter Brite  
Ronnie Kramer  
Don Petty  
Dr. Lynn Drawe

**TDA Staff in attendance:**

Stephen Dillon  
Jessica Escobar  
Travis Jez  
Lance Williams

**Guests:**

Ray Hinnant

The first item of business was the calling of the meeting of the Prescribed Burning Board (PBB) to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. by Chairman, Dr. Lynn Drawe, and recognizing that a quorum of members was found to be present.

The second item of business was approval of the minutes of the previous Board meeting held in Austin, Texas on October 31, 2013. A motion was made and seconded; the board unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

The third item of business was the discussion of the recommendations from the Rule Sub-Committee on rule changes to 4 TAC Chapters 225-229 presented by Dr. Butch Taylor. Dr. Taylor went through each rule recommendation which addressed each public comment submitted during the comment period. After discussing each recommendation, a motion was made and seconded to accept all the Rule Sub-Committee recommendations. Motion passed.

The fourth item discussed was adopting the rule changes to 4 TAC Chapters 225-229 as amended by the Rule Sub-Committee recommendations, which a motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

The next item of business was a report by the PBB Advisory Board (AB) presented by Ray Hinnant. Mr. Hinnant reported that the AB met and discussed the issue of commercial burn managers having difficulty obtaining insurance coverage. The AB addressed several items regarding the task including; obtaining actuary burn information

for insurance underwriters to use in assessing risk, limiting liability, reducing smoke liability and using fire suppression dollars to subsidize insurance premiums. The PBB discussed the AB report and ideas on determining ways to obtain actuarial data insurance companies could utilize as well as possible legislative changes. By motion, the PBB redirected the AB to investigate possible modifications to Chapters 75 and 84 of the Civil Practice and Remedies Code and report back at the next PBB meeting. Motion passed.

The sixth item was an update by Lance Williams, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rule change adding hazard mitigation as an exception for prescribed burning. Mr. Williams reported that the TCEQ Commission adopted the rule change without any changes.

Discussion of other business was then brought before the Board by Chairman Drawe who requested that discussion of recommending a replacement for the vacant private landowner position be addressed at the next meeting. Dr. Taylor also requested the PBB authorizing Ray Hinnant to approve webinar CFT's be put on the next agenda as well. A single motion was made for both requests to be put on the next agenda, motion passed.

Chairman Drawe next opened up the meeting for public comment to which no one presented any comments.

The PBB then took action on setting the date of the next meeting. A motion was made for June 12, 2014 as the date and time for the next meeting. Motion Passed.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned.