

**TASN Board Meeting
October 5, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 10:30 by Doug Massey, President

Darin Crawford, Immediate Past President, delivered the thought of the day - The sun is always shining even on cloudy days. At night when the earth turns her face away from the sun it still shines so be patient and ready. You will see it again.

Holly Frias was assigned by Doug Massey, President to serve as the paige

17 members in attendance plus one guest Lena Wilson. Absent members: Vicky Clark Area 2 Rep, Veronica Villarreal Area 10 Rep. Reports were filed by all members unless noted.

Lena Wilson, TDA present as a guest

Approval of Minutes-Kasandra Davis, Education Chair and Norma Riojas, Area 6 Rep were assigned by Doug Massey, President to approve the Minutes.

Electronic Votes - None

Standing Rules were accepted with no changes

Added to Agenda- Item XIII - Candidates Slates New Business Action Items

Review of Financial Statements by Christie Lammers, Secretary/Treasurer

- August: Expenses \$1,276,802.61 Net Income \$5,695.96
- September: Expenses \$106,476.07, Net Income \$223,342.56

Financial statements filed for Audit

Report of Officers:

President Elect, Lacy Willey reported the Summer Conference 2024 will celebrate the 70th anniversary of TASN at San Antonio. The conference will have a 70's theme.

Vice President, Susan D'Amico reported preparing for PCS - Unleashing Potential and Growing Together with a Mardi Gras theme.

Secretary/Treasurer Christie Lammers reported hosting a Mangers Academy in Texarkana, and submitting Minutes for the last Board Meeting and Executive Committee/Finance Committee meetings.

Immediate Past President, Darin Crawford- reported serving as the Texas Delegate at SNA Conference and participating in PPL committee.

President, Doug Massey- reported continuing to work hard to improve member experience. Lacy Willey, President Elect and Karen Andrasi, Headquarters Executive Director and he are doing a book study "Creating Magic and Growing Together". He attended SNA and ANC in Denver.

Motions Adopted At This Meeting: (3)

- Darin Crawford, Immediate Past President filed a Motion for mileage reimbursement and meals for instructors traveling 149 miles and mileage reimbursement, meals and lodging for instructors traveling 150 miles to present at the TASN Administrative Academy. Lacy Willey, President Elect seconded the motion.
- Darin Crawford, Immediate Past President filed a Motion for approval of BCBS Silver S9M2CHC Plan for TASN staff medical insurance and United Health for Dental, Vision and Life Insurance. Increasing insurance premiums per staff member by \$42.66 for Medical and \$2.86 for Dental, Vision and Life policies. Lacy Willey, President Elect seconded the motion.
- Lacy Willey, President Elect filed a Motion to approve \$25,000.00 be added to the budget for technology improvements. ERC (Employee Retention Credit) has been secured to cover the technology expenses. Reserves will be utilized until ERC funding is deposited. Susan D'Amico, Vice President seconded the motion.

Headquarters Report by Karen Andrasi - There will be \$100,000.00 going into reserves the work from through ERC (Employee Retention Credit). Three Manager's Academies have been held since the last meeting. Two new Chapters have started since the last meeting.

Chair of Area Reps Report- Adam Whitten. Reported looking forward to an awesome year working with Chapters. Thanked the Board for letting him be off with family and health issues.

Reports of Area Representatives:

Area 3, Nancy Macias- Report has not been filled. Nothing to report.

Area 4, Tanya Davis- New to the position, nothing to report.

Area 5, Suellen Atteberry. Looking forward to growing membership by coordinating with John Ceballos, Membership Chair and Kasandra Davis, Education Chair.

Area 6, Norma Riojas Reports enjoying every meeting she attends learning and growing.

Area 7, Joy Peters Report has been filed and has nothing to add.

Area 12 Tina Brooks Reports working to get additional members from the Panhandle.

Report of Standing Committees

Education Chair, Kasandra Davis Completed two managers academy sessions in Kline and Texarkana. Fifty enrollees took the test and will graduate this summer. The largest group to date will be eligible to be recognized at TASN in San Antonio. Fifteen members attended the Administrative Academy at Corpus Christi this week.

Industry Chair, Duane Guidry- Tremendously excited about the committee. Set goal of 300 booths for conference 220 sold to date. Discussed reaching out to industry members about getting feedback and will report asap. Industry is hosting a under 40 professionals event at PCS for young professionals.

Membership Chair, John Ceballos- Reported he has joined TASN Conference Planning Committee and is excited to meet the needs of members to improve software to create a more streamlined way to manage certifications and memberships. Area Representatives and membership are working in conjunction to build on ideas for these processes.

Organizational Affairs Chair, Michael Francis Reported Reinstatement of Chapters and reinstating his own Chapter in his district.

Public Policy & Legislative Chair, Jennifer Miller Reported setting a goal for attendance for LAC and developing a plan to solicit more attendance by members.

Special Reports- Lena Wilson, TDA Updates- Reported more information would be shared later about meals post covid: lunch participation numbers are increasing, breakfast numbers are declining and summer meals are decreasing in participation. Summer participation decline is expected to be due to non congregate waiver going away. Lena reported a national audit of all programs concerned with summer programs due to non compliance. TDA anticipates changes in how oversight is provided.

CACFP- starts after the school day ends. Third party provider in Houston serving 1100 sites is being terminated for non compliance. Districts can expect tighter restrictions on third parties providing after school meals. Several terminations of third party providers as a result of continued non compliance have been initiated. Suspended operators' appeal rights can take up to 60 days. The provider must notify the sites once termination notice is given and can continue to operate until final appeal is over.

Last week Financial Management reviewed payments on hold due to TEA staffing changes. \$2.2 million in claims are on hold at TEA. Resolution is expected next week no later than Thursday.

Final Rule Program Integrity had less than 10 responses from districts. The Integrity Rule determines oversight of programs. This Rule provided a framework for a 5 year review cycle for management companies. Texas has concerns for FSM company non compliance. TDA stressed the importance of districts and state professional organizations responding to Rules. The Final

Rule contains language for punitive findings. USDA can fine the states. The states can fine districts for unresolved non compliance issues. Language for fines within the Rule are associated with meal patterns and milk. The benefits of the Rule are audits of the same review items will be able to use outside auditors to eliminate redundancy in the review process.

Annual procurement training is a focus of TDA. The number one findings tied to procurement was determined to be related to the need for increase in training.

Districts are encouraged to implement the Self Certification for Simple Threshold process with TEA and TDA on jot form in TXUNPS.

CEP threshold has been lowered to 25%, however without multiplier changes this will not benefit CN programs.

Districts should change POS systems to offer reduced students free breakfast.

WEB EMC training is available and districts are encouraged to take the training. Refreshers are encouraged in December and January. Benefits of the system include immediate communication and reporting mechanisms

Districts are encouraged to apply for local foods to school grants to use for local farmers- foodgrant@texasagriculture.gov

Supply Chain Assistance is still available for districts. \$50 million was distributed in round 3, \$137.4 million will be distributed in round 4. There is a Jot form allowing denial of funds available on TXUNPS. TDA encouraged districts not wanting the funding to utilize the jot form.

Equipment grants do not preclude procurement. Capital expenditure plans are managed by a team of 3 new staff members. The team is receiving 150 Capital Expenditure Requests a week. Districts should make sure PO are not entered before Capital Expenditure request approval or cost will be disallowable. Mrs. Wilson encouraged members to email her directly if team is not responding quickly

Grant opportunities are available. Go to e=website if interested.

Feedback from Megacon for recognition for Farm Fresh and other accomplishments has resulted in increased acknowledgment and recognition.

ESC and TDA partnership \$13 million per year to fund ESC. The ESC will have new accountability for training and technical assistance. ESC staff must spend 50% of time on site in school districts providing training and technical assistance.

TDA is going to a 5 year review cycle. Risk assessment must be completed. Districts with high risk activities will have a review more than once every 5 years.

TDA has the ability to provide funds out of Federal CN grants to provide sponsorships up to \$20,000.00 a year based on procurement rule terms. TDA staff can train at state conferences. Training will focus on manager and employee level staff. TDA cannot be charged a registration fee if sponsorship is provided. TDA is prepared to offer this service in June. Classes will tie to deficiencies during AR.

Self Certification is open until Oct 31, 2023. Districts must apply for the certification. Certification is not available to individual departments to apply.

Unfinished Business- None

Slate of Candidates approved by the Nominating Committee

Vice President – John Ceballos and Joy Peters
Education Chair- Kasandra Davis
Membership Chair – Brenda Rodriguez
Chair of Area Representatives – Kimberly Blankenship
Area 4 Representative – Tanya Davis
Area 6 Representative – Norma Riojas
Area 10 Representative – Ramona Love
Area 12 Representative – Tina Brooks

Chair of Area Reps Kim Blankenship discrepancy with nominating committee updating handbook. Kim Blankenship accepted for the slate.

Karen Andrasi, Headquarters Executive Director reported the Nominating Committee will review the Nominating Handbook and send it to Headquarters by January for review.

Doug Massey, President adjourned the meeting at 11:47 am.