



## PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

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# Texas Soil Profiles

### 2019 PSSAT Officers

**President** - Dr. Donald McGahan, Tarleton State Univ.

**President-Elect** - Laurie Kiniry

**Vice-President** - John "Cole" Patton, USDA-NRCS, Bryan

**Treasurer** - Travis Waiser, USDA-NRCS, Kerrville

**Editor** - Jon Brandt, TerrEval Consulting, Corpus Christi

**Past-President** - Carlos Villareal, USDA-NRCS, Temple

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### Minutes from the Professional Soil Scientists Association of Texas Annual Meeting February 6, 2019 - kindly provided by Amanda Bragg

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Carlos Villareal, PSSAT President, thanked everyone for coming.

Minutes from the previous year were approved with a motion from Lindsey Lange, second by Alan Stahnke, and a unanimous vote.

Amanda Bragg presented the scholarship update. 2 applications were received this year. Our scholarship winner is Jaime Pizano, a junior at Sam Houston State University.

Cristine Morgan pointed out that 5 previous scholarship winners were present.

Wayne Gabriel reported for the Ethics Committee. No issues occurred in 2018.

The Nominations committee referred to the nominations in the newsletter.

Dr. McGahan recognized new members: Ryan Ragdell from Nacogdoches and Kelsey Howgenauer, a visiting scholar from the Soil Health Institute.

Ed Janek reported for the Special committee for the Professional Geoscientists Sunset Review. The board decision was to extend for 6 years.

The bylaws reconstitution was approved unanimously. The change assigns the treasurer the duty of keeping records and corrects the date periods.

Travis Waiser provided his Treasurer's Report and encouraged us to recruit new members and thanked the sustaining members for their continued support. The IRS 190 was completed for 2019.

Jon Brandt was not present for the Webmaster Report, but was recognized for the tremendous improvement to the website. Volunteers for younger webmasters willing to learn WordPress were inquired about.

Jake Mowry suggested targeted ads or free advice. The Ask A Soil Scientist feature was discussed. A motion was made by Jake Mowry and seconded by Alan to keep it - the vote for it was unanimous. We were reminded to reply to every question.

Diana Bagnall volunteered Nicole Shigley to assist with the Website.

Jake Mowry said that AgriLife is working on a program called Ask the Expert.

A motion was made to create a website committee.

Nominations were opened. No additional nominations were received. The following officers were approved unanimously.

Treasurer - Travis Waiser  
President-Elect- Laurie Kiniry  
V.P. - Cole Patton  
Editor - Jon Brandt

The gavel was passed to Donald McGahan.

Cristine Morgan motioned to bring the business meeting to a close, seconded by Chance Robinson, and approved unanimously.

## Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG) - Call for Input

One of the speaker at next year's Soil Survey and Land Resource Workshop (Feb 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020) will be Becky Johnson, Chair of the TBPG. We're requesting input from members regarding the TBPG, to pass along to Ms. Johnson, so she might touch upon those issues when addressing the workshop. Please send any thoughts or suggestions you may have regarding the purpose and function of the Board, particularly as related to licensing, to Cole Patton ([vice\\_pres@pssat.org](mailto:vice_pres@pssat.org)). Thank you.

## Soils News

Researchers are looking at improving the integration of soil infiltration into land surface models (summary of paper from the Vadoze Zone Journal): <https://www.soils.org/discover-soils/story/scientists-call-for-infiltration-to-be-better-incorporated>

The Soil Health Institute has published reports generated from several mini-grants from the Manure and Soil Health (MaSH) Working Group. The reports can be found here: <https://soilhealthinstitute.org/soil-health-research/reports-reviews/>

## Call for Newsletter Articles

Please send articles, information, or photos that are suitable for future newsletters to: [editor@pssat.org](mailto:editor@pssat.org)

Thank you!