**Tennessee Entomological Society Annual Business Meeting**

Virtual Webinar hosted by Tennessee State University - October 1, 2021

President Kaushayla Amarasekare called the Annual Business meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. CDT.

President Amarasekare asked Proclamation Chair Steve Hamilton to read the 2021 Tennessee Entomology Week Proclamation. Hamilton indicated that he had ordered three copies of the 2021 proclamation, signed by Governor Bill Lee (a copy for the annual meeting host institution, a copy for TES Historian Frank Hale and a copy for president Amarasekare). Hamilton then read the 2021 proclamation.

**Awards Committee:**

Chair Pat Parkman recognized Braden Huneycutt and announced that he will receive the Howard L. Bruer Award for his Middle Tennessee Science and Engineering Fair project, “A Magnetic Approach to Pest Control: Testing the Effects of Magnets on the Behavior of Harvester Ants (*Pogonomyrmex barbatus*), Common House Crickets (*Acheta domesticus*), and Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches (*Gromphadorhina portentosa*)”. Braden thanked the Tennessee Entomological Society for this recognition of his research.

Chair Parkman also recognized Frank Hale and announced that he had been nominated and approved by a vote of the Board of Directors to be the 2021 recipient of the Richard E. Caron Outstanding Entomologist Award. Hale stated that he was honored to receive the award and that he hoped to continue his participation in TES.

Chair Parkman reported the number of student paper competition presenters, thanked them and encouraged the students to continue to give good presentations at future meetings.

The winner of the Undergraduate student paper competition was: 1st place to Rachel Baxter. The winners of the M.S. graduate student paper competition were: 2nd place to Allyson Dekovich; and 1st place to Kassie Hollabaugh. The winners of the Ph.D. graduate student paper competition were: 2nd place to Matthew Longmire; 1st place to Swati Mishra. The first place winners will each receive a check from Treasurer Steve Powell for $200.00 and the second place winners will each receive a check for $100.00. All winners also will receive an award certificate and a TES t-shirt.

**Officer and Other Committee Reports**:

**Secretary:**

Secretary Steve Murphree reported that since there are no minutes of an Annual Business meeting held at the virtual 2020 TES Annual Meeting since that meeting was not held. Murphree did refer participants to the minutes from 2021 TES Board of Directors meetings that can be accessed at the Annual Conference link on the TES website.

**Treasurer**:

Treasurer Steve Powell was not present at the meeting. Board member Frank Hale reported that he had been and will be in touch with the treasurer towards obtaining a financial report. If Steve Powell chooses to step down from his position as Treasurer an election will be held at a later date.

**Auditing Committee**:

Committee Chair Clete Youmans reported that he and Frank Hale had not yet had the opportunity to look over the books but would plan to meet with treasurer Powell to do so later this year.

**Constitution Committee:**

Committee Chair Karla Addesso stated that the Constitution requires updating to meet modern standards including language to govern virtual meetings and votes. Anyone interested in assisting with updating the language of the Constitution should contact her.

**Insect Festival Committee:**

Chair Amy Dismukes was absent. No insect festival was held in association with the annual meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Jerome Grant said that he had missed having the opportunity to educate children at the insect festival. He expressed his hope that there will be an in-person meeting in 2022 that will include an insect festival.

**Local Arrangements:**

Chair Karla Addesso reported that, while the Board of Directors had hoped to hold the 2021 annual meeting at Tennessee State University’s Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center (NRC) in McMinnville, the university had decided that the meeting could not be held in-person due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Chair Addesso reported that the virtual webinar format for this year ran smoothly. A total of 61 people registered for the webinar, with 45 unique individuals attending on September 30th. Actual attendance for the Keynote speaker was higher due to several registered attendees watching together at the NRC. Forty-five unique logins were observed at the student paper competition on the afternoon of September 30th, but additional attendees were watching together at the NRC such that the attendance was closer to 50. Twenty-one people attended the business meeting on October 1st.

Addesso asked Board members for their opinion as to whether the 2022 TES Annual Meeting should be held in-person in McMinnville or at a different location. After discussion, there was consensus that the 2022 annual meeting should be held at the Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center in McMinnville. President Amarasekare thanked Karla Addesso and the other members of the local arrangements committee.

**Membership Committee**:

Chair Steve Murphree reported that he had prepared an updated email list of members of the Entomological Society of America in Tennessee who were not TES members and forwarded all TES Annual Meeting email correspondence to them. Murphree also encouraged those present to invite others interested in entomology to the 2022 annual meeting.

**Nominations Committee**:

Chair Karla Addesso put forward the following candidates for election: Steve Murphree for President (2021-2022) and Karen Vail for President-Elect and Program Chair (2021-2022). Karla Addesso for Secretary (2021-2022), Frank Hale for Historian (2021-2023), Amy Dismukes (2021-2023) for Member-at-Large. Editor Greg Wiggins has an additional year to his term. Chair Addesso also noted that the there was a possibility that the nominations committee would need to receive nominations for the office of treasurer, pending Frank Hale’s follow up with treasurer Steve Powell. Karla Addesso will be completing Steve Murphree’s term as Secretary. Addesso asked participants how the vote should occur in virtual format. Clete Youmans suggested an unmuted voice vote or a show of hands (video or hand symbol). There was consensus that a show of hands vote would occur. Chair Addesso moved to accept the Nominations Committee report; Steve Hamilton seconded the motion; the motion carried by hand vote on Zoom. Pat Parkman was elected later in the meeting to complete Karen Vail’s term as Member-at-Large (2021-2022). Clete Youmans made the motion and Frank Hale seconded. Parkman’s election was unanimous.

|  |
| --- |
| 2021-2022 Officers  Past President: Kaushalya Amarasekare (2021-2022)  President: Steven Murphree (2021-2022)  President-Elect: Karen Vail (2021-2022)  Secretary: Karla Addesso (2021-2022)  Historian: Frank Hale (2021-2026)  Member at Large: Amy Dismukes (2021-2023)  Member at Large: Pat Parkman (2021-2022)  Editor: Greg Wiggins (2020-2022)  Treasurer: Steve Powell (TBD)  In 2022, the following positions will be up for election: President-Elect (serves 3 years as Elect, President and Past-President), Secretary (2022-2025) Editor (2022-2025), Member-at-Large (2022-2024). |

**Predictions/Evaluations**: Chair Steve Powell was not in attendance. Committee member Jason Oliver reported that he had not been in touch with Chair Powell, but reported that Tennessee Imported Fire Ant Quarantine line had expanded in 2021. Oliver also reported that there had been tupelo borer damage at a nursery south of McMinnville and has the potential to damage nursery stock. The tupelo borer is native to U.S. but this was a new state record for Tennessee. Karla Addesso asked for comments from participants about other pests in the state. Addesso and Clete Youmans commented on the outbreak of fall armyworm in 2021. Frank Hale predicted that the spotted lanternfly would soon be reported in Tennessee.

**Program Committee**:

President-Elect and Program Chair Steve Murphree complimented the keynote speaker, Cindy Perkovich, on her presentation and thanked those who had presented papers in the Thursday afternoon paper sessions. Murphree also recognized president Kayshalya Amarasekare, past-president Karla Addesso and editor Greg Wiggins for their assistance in planning and implementing the virtual 2021 TES annual meeting.

**Publications/Editorial Committee**: Chair Greg Wiggins was absent and no report was given. Kaushalya Amarasekare reported that Wiggins had submitted the 2020 issue of *The Firefly* for the website. Karla Addesso recommended that Steve Murphree forward all 2021 abstracts to Greg Wiggins to be included in the 2021 issue of *The Firefly*. Murphree said he would work with Wiggins to collect any missing abstracts.

**Publicity Committee:**

Chair Karen Vail was thanked by Kaushalya Amarasekare for updating the website promptly during the year. Karla Addesso reported that the TES website will be moving to a new server and that TES can have more control over its content. She indicated that MidPhase, Inc., which is currently used by the Tennessee Academy of Science, is being considered. She stated that she would be looking for someone with whom TES can contract to develop the new website. Karen Vail will check to see when the website expires on the University of Tennessee’s Sharepoint server and indicated that she has a contact who can download all TES files before that date. Karla Addesso requested the files be uploaded to Dropbox, etc. Karen Vail asked who is at administrative level on the TES Facebook page. Karla Addesso said that she and Amy Dismukes had administrative access but asked for the help of other members who often use social media since regular postings are key to the success of Facebook and other social media communication.

**2022 Committee Appointments:**

President Kaushalya Amarasekare directed appointments for 2022 committees. Since Karen Vail had been elected as President-Elect, a volunteer was requested to serve the remainder of her term as Member-at-Large. Pat Parkman volunteered. Steve Hamilton moved that Pat Parkman serve a Member-at-Large; Frank Hale seconded the motion; the motion carried by hand vote. Since it had been decided that the 2022 in-person meeting would be held in McMinnville, it was agreed that the members of the 2021 Local Arrangements committee (Karla Addesso, Cindy Perkovich, Kripa Dhakal and Asmita Gautam) would continue for 2022. Since Steve Murphree will serve as the 2022 TES president, it was agreed that he and Frank Hale would co-chair the Membership committee. Karla Addesso said she would provide the 2021 virtual meeting attendee email list to Murphree and Hale. For the Publicity committee, it was decided that Karen Vail will chair and Karla Addesso will work with her towards the website transition. Cindy Perkovich, Kassie Hollabaugh and Aubrey Morrison, who has a degree in public relations, agreed to help improve the social media TES presence. Frank Hale challenged students to join TES committees. Addesso said that she will plan a meeting of the 2021-2022 Publicity committee in November.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Updated Committees 2021-2022**  **Auditing**  Clete Youmans, Chair  Frank Hale  **Awards**  Pat Parkman, Chair  Kaushalya Amarasekare  Karen Vail  Jennifer Tsuruda  **Constitution**  Karla Addesso, Co-Chair  Jason Oliver, Co-Chair  **Insect Festiva**l  Amy Dismukes, Chair  Frank Hale  Jerome Grant  **Local Arrangements**  Karla Addesso, Chair  Cindy Perkovich  Kripa Dhakal  Asmita Gautam  **Membership**  Frank Hale, co-Chair  Steve Murphree, co-Chair | **Nominations**  Kaushalya Amarasekare, Chair  Steve Murphree  **Predictions/Evaluations**  Steve Powell, Chair  Jason Oliver  Scott Stewart  **Proclamation**  Steve Hamilton, Chair  **Program**  Karen Vail, Chair  Steve Murphree  **Publications/Editorial**  Greg Wiggins, Chair  Steve Powell  **Publicity**  Karla Addesso, co-Chair  Karen Vail, co-Chair  Cindy Perkovich  Aubree Morrison  Kassie Hollabaugh |

**Adjournment**:

Incoming President Steve Murphree asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Following a motion by Karla Addesso and a second to the motion by Steve Hamilton, President Murphree adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m., CDT

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Murphree and Karla Addesso