

**SIOSA Board of Directors Meeting  
Kobville Park, Decatur County  
June 18th, 2011**

**Present:** Gregg Pattison, Mark Erke, Casey Campbell, Jennifer Abraham, Bruce Nelson, Rollie Henkes

Casey opened the meeting at 5:02

Treasurer's Report

**Regular Account:**

Balance as of 5/19/11	\$6,840.32
<i>Credits:</i>	
5/31 - Interest	+\$0.07
<i>Debits:</i>	
5/19 - ck# 1038 - J. Abraham Printer ink cartridges	-\$57.84
6/3 - ck# 1039 - J. Abraham, May fee	<u>-\$400.00</u>
Balance as of 6/18/11	<b>\$6,382.55</b>

**Federal Account:**

Balance as of 5/19/11	\$1,156.96
<i>Credits:</i>	
5/31 - Interest	+\$0.12
5/23 FWS Transfer 312 CCO	+\$45,000.00
<i>Debits:</i>	
6/15 - ck# 1052 - Joel Kaeney (Oak savanna rest./honeysuckle control - Hillyard property, Decatur Co.)	<u>-\$1,590.00</u>
Balance as of 6/18/11	<b>\$44,567.00</b>

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Habitat and Restoration

Gregg summarized a report of Savanna Restoration Accomplishments for Winter-Spring 2010-2011 (see page 4). Gregg mentioned that he, Helga Offenburger, Dave Whittlesey, and Randy Goernt (the district forester) had gotten together and, although unofficial,

discussed a ranking system for the Stephens Forest BCA. A ranking system would be something that SIOSA can look at to help assess private lands.

When asked when SIOSA should begin planning restoration projects for the fall, Gregg stated that there are quite a few projects that are in the plans already. Those projects are in the process of being written between the Wild Turkey Federation, U.S.F.W.S., Helga Offenburger and Randy Goernt. Gregg stated how it is still important to sign more people up in the Decatur County area. Gregg also mentioned that as far as funding is concerned, there is a sufficient amount of contracts now in the works to satisfy the monies SIOSA currently holds as well as incoming funding for the near future. Casey asked if funding would be available for SIOSA in the future since our current budget was reduced from \$75,000 to \$35,000. Gregg stated that for the foreseeable future there is a good chance that co-operative funding will continue to aid SIOSA in it's efforts in the \$50-60,000 range.

Additional funding could also be secured by SIOSA as a 501c3 entity. Gregg suggested a number of sources that could be looked into in the near future (Doris Duke Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, state grants, fire-related grants through DNR to help get equipment to VFDs...).

#### Outreach Committee

Jen talked about the SIOSA 4-H Nature Club. There is a lot of interest from the kids to do some hiking at a nearby park. When asked how many kids were involved in the group and Jen replied that there were 5-6 kids that have joined-in consistently and there are another 4-5 kids whose parents have inquired and remain in contact with her about the group.

#### Old Business

The strategic plan outline that was edited by Jen and Gregg was tabled until the next meeting, with the possibility of there being more people at the following meeting to discuss the matter with.

Casey re-iterated the idea of recruiting and re-distributing SIOSAs members into sub-committees. Casey suggested that he could send out an email to our existing members and see if any interest lies there as far as sub-committee membership. Casey mentioned that perhaps a goal of having these sub-committees formed by November would be ideal, especially since people now are busy with their summer schedules.

Grants and grant writing was discussed and how SIOSA should seek out more/ alternative grant funding. Mark Depoy may be a possible candidate/resource to help SIOSA with grant writing.

The canoe trip was also discussed as an upcoming activity. Possible put-in on Highway 2 (3 or 4 miles west of the interstate) and end the trip in Davis City (roughly 2-3 hour trip). Mark suggested we talk to Allen Norman for parking in the pasture.

The fall burn workshop (mid-october) was discussed by the group. Gregg mentioned the possibility of doing the demonstration component of the workshop at Slip Bluff. It would

be ideal with the various small vegetation units that could be burned, not to mention the convenience of the new shower house and access. Presentation component of workshop could again be held at GU and the move to Slip Bluff for the demonstration.

### New Business

The group set the next board meeting for the 3rd Thursday of next month - the 21st of July.

On the research side of things, Gregg talked about an assessment strategy for SIOSA when judging savanna quality. Pauline Drobney, from the Neil Smith Refuge has consolidated a lot of the methodology for a savanna/woodlands "rapid assessment" and with the help of 4 interns will remedy the current process to make sure that it is clear, accurate and reliable. Pauline and her team will be looking at non-restored sites in our area (Clarke Co., Madison Co. and possibly Decatur Co.). The rapid assessment, once revised, will give SIOSA a great tool for a restoration ranking system. Gregg also made the point that using an assessment tool such as this, would help advance the science of restoration and justify our efforts.

Casey adjourned meeting at 5:28.

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Savanna Restoration Accomplishments for Winter-Spring 2010-2011

<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Cost/acre</u>	<u>Completed by</u>
<u>Decatur County</u>				
Tim Buckingham	45 acres	\$14,390	\$320	MWLR
John Orvis	15 acres	\$4725	\$315	Landowner/neighbors
Hillyard	15 acres	\$1590	\$106	Joel Keeney
Casey Campbell	7 acres	\$1875	\$268	INRC
Kobville Park	15 acres	\$2145	\$143	DCCB/MWLR
Jay Saxton	Incomplete			Landowner
John Adamson	7 acres (Not invoiced yet)			MWLR
<u>Clarke County</u>				
Michael Shay	85 acres	\$20,976	\$247	INRC
Walt Chapman	12 acres	\$1840	\$154	AWM
Gary Hutchison	(incomplete – trying “hack and squirt”)			AWM
Stephens Forest	43 acres	~\$4300	\$100	AWM (DNR funds)
Lamair	42 acres	\$14,469	\$345	INRC
<u>Lucas County</u>				
Jeff Richman	12 acres	\$3500	\$290	Landowner
<u>Ringgold County</u>				
Fifes Grove Park	6 acres	\$1500	\$250	MWLR
Carl Jerome	18 acres	\$4500	\$250	Landowner
<u>Taylor County</u>				
Sands Timber	8 acres	\$2300	\$288	TCCB
<u>Madison County</u>				
Chip Henrichs	16 acres	\$4400	\$275	Landowner

Orange = PFW funds  
 Green = SIOSA account  
 Blue = DNR funds  
 Red = NWTF grant (From FWS)