

Texas Chefs Association

Summer Board Meeting

August 10, 2019

The Pearl

South Padre Island, TX



I. Administrative

A. Call to Order: President Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC called the meeting to order at 830 am. He welcomed all to the Summer Board Meeting of the Texas Chefs Association.

B. Invocation: Len Pawelek, CEC performed the invocation

C. Roll Call, Sign In & Quorum: A quorum was present. Those in attendance were:

President	Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC
1 st Vice President	Len Pawelek, CEC
2 nd Vice President	Rick Neal, CEC
Chairman of the Board	Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC
AAC Chair	Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC
Community Outreach Chair	Larry Delgado
Austin Chapter	Robert Hale
Brazos Valley Chapter	Mark Torres
Chefs of the Coastal Bend	Dean Sprague, CEC
Concho Valley Chapter	Chad Lowry
Dallas Chapter	Gene Christiano, CEC
East Texas Chapter	Brett Keckeisen
Fort Worth Chapter	Heather Kurima
Heart of Texas Chapter	Anthony Gully
Houston Chapter	Reginald Martin, CEC, CCE
Rio Grande Valley Chapter	Dustin Stair, CEC
San Antonio Chapter	Sam Boisjoly
TCA Administrator	Sam Brewster

D. Sergeant at Arms: Len Pawelek, CEC was appointed as Sergeant at Arms.

E. Welcome & Introductions: Introductions of the Officers and Directors were performed.

F. Review of Minutes: Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC referenced the 2019 Winter Board Meeting minutes. Dean Sprague, CEC presented a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Brett Keckeisen and moved by the Board.

G. Review of Meeting Agenda: Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC requested additions to the meeting agenda under New Business. Heather Kurima proposed: I. Director's Wrap Session Update .

The agenda was approved as amended.

II. Officer Reports

A. Chairman of the Board: Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC had no grievances to report.

B. President: President Kelly thanked the members of the Board for attending the 2019 Summer Board Meeting. He thanked the Rio Grande Valley Chapter for hosting the State Convention. Cook recapped the TCA's presence with ACF this year, which included Chef Joanna Bryant competing at Regional and advancing to the National ACF competition for Educator of the Year. Additionally, Grayson College was recognized nationally, Debbie Bando-Duit, CEC, AAC was awarded the Good Taste Award and the TCA played a video to promote the 2020 ACF National Conference in Dallas. Chef Cook referenced the storage unit in San Antonio and expressed a desire to inventory the contents and decide what to keep in order to eliminate the monthly expense of renting the unit.

C. 1st Vice President: Len Pawelek, CEC referenced the status of the Finance Committee and stated no need to organize the committee due to the stability of financial reporting. Pawelek acknowledged one Chef Relief disbursement for the passing of Josef Meier. Chef Pawelek addressed progress with renewals for Culinary Vision Partners for 2019 and asked representatives of the Board to follow up with any companies they had relationships with. He emphasized the importance of retaining and recruiting new CVPs and also offering services to them.

D. 2nd Vice President: Rick Neal, CEC acknowledged NewChef for their assistance with the chef coats for the State Convention. Neal referenced new chapter development. The Red River Chapter has submitted their letter of intent to become the 14th Chapter of the Texas Chefs Association. The Panhandle Chapter (Lubbock) is still in the process of being recruited to join the TCA. Neal mentioned the possibility of a membership drive to increase membership numbers over the coming months.

E. State Culinary Student Ambassador: Lateisha Hayes was not present. Mark Schneider, CEC, AAC recommended a new Student Ambassador who will be more engaged. President Kelly stated that he will accept recommendations.

F. Certification Chair: Eva Barrios, CEC was not present but her Certification Report was included in the meeting handbook.

G. Social Media Chair: Heather Kurima referenced the TCA sizzle reel video and thanked Chapter Directors for submitting photos. Two versions of the video were produced; one for use on the TCA website to promote membership and the second to feature at the ACF Convention in Orlando to invite everyone to the 2020 ACF Convention in Dallas. The Board thanked Chef Kurima for her leadership on the project. Kurima discussed a more targeted and consistent social media approach and asked Chapter Directors to send content to her.

H. Community Outreach Chair: Larry Delgado referenced the MXLAN food festival that the RGV Chapter helped host in 2015. The McAllen Chamber of Commerce had engaged another group to run the event; however, Delgado stated that there is interest in bringing back the Texas Chefs Association and RGV Chapter. Delgado explained that this could be a great opportunity to raise funds and support the community. Delgado also expressed an interest in sending relief to the El Paso community in the wake of the shooting tragedy that took place. President Cook agreed and asked the Board to assist with identifying Chefs they know in the El Paso market.

I. American Academy of Chefs Chair: Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC announced 23 active TCA members in the ACF after the recent induction of Johnny Curet, CEC, AAC. There are currently 33 members at the appropriate certification level and several are working towards applying. Mitchell concluded by stating that the recent dinner at the Park City Club to honor Karl Haas, CEC, AAC, raised \$2,000, which was presented to the AAC in Orlando. President Cook acknowledged the recent losses of Josef Meier and Emilio Gonzalez and encouraged all to appreciate our elder members before they leave us.

III. New Business

A. Financial Report: Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC stated that the association is financially stable. Schneider addressed the balance sheet and explained that the irrelevant line items had been removed. Additionally, the funds from the Houston Chapter's escrow account had been distributed back to the Chapter. Schneider continued to review the 2019 Profit & Loss report, which showed a Net Income of 43,719.86. He reminded the Board that State Convention expenses had not yet been paid, so the Net Income number is a bit misleading. He expressed optimism that income and expense accounts were in line with budget expectations but encouraged Chapters to contribute \$500 to State Operating. To date, the following Chapters/individuals had contributed only \$1,600:

- Dallas - \$1,000
- Brazos Valley - \$300
- Houston Chapter - \$200
- Ewart Jones, CEC, AAC - \$100

Schneider proceeded to review the Restricted Accounts and the activity of each account to date. The Restricted Accounts had the following balances:

- Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC Competition Fund - \$2,177.62
- Bernard Urban Competition Fund - \$16,461.29
- Certification Reimbursement - \$7,606.95
- Chef Relief - \$33,605.27
- Jack Bretzke Education Fund - \$18,571.03
- State Convention Scholarship - \$13,765.22
- Willy Rosel Endowment - \$5,375.00

Reginald Martin, CEC inquired about the status of the Finance Committee, expressing concern that leaving the financial oversight to one Officer is not a best practice. Additionally, the Finance Committee could work to distribute funds available through the Restricted Accounts. Mark Torres agreed and stated that a Finance Committee would also serve to develop future TCA leaders. Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC explained that the Finance Committee had not been engaged but asked 1st Vice President, Len Pawelek, CEC to look into reforming the committee.

Schneider pointed out that the Patrick Mitchell Competition Fund and the Jack Bretzke Education Funds were not included in the allocation of Culinary Vision Partnership dollars and he proposed the following re-allocation:

- Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC Competition Fund – 15%

- Bernard Urban Competition Fund – 20%

- Certification Reimbursement – 20%

- Chef Relief – 20%

- Jack Bretzke Education Fund – 15%

- State Convention Scholarship – 10%

Reginald Martin, CEC presented a motion to approve the allocation structure for the Restricted Accounts. The motion was seconded by Rick Neal, CEC and approved by the Board. President Cook expressed the importance of communicating the availability of funds to members at the Chapter level. Robert Hale requested that the Restricted Account applications be placed in a more prominent position on the TCA website.

B. 2020 Budget: Mark Schneider, CEC, AAC addressed the 2020 budget proposal, which projected a loss of \$1,853.13. The Board discussed the impact of the 2020 ACF National Convention, which will lead to an abbreviated State Convention. After further discussion, Reginald Martin, CEC motioned to approve the proposed budget tentatively and revisit the matter in the fall, based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee and once more is known about the National Convention. Heather Kurima seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board. Robert Hale suggested an increase in CVP pricing or potentially creating a new category for top-level partners. The Board agreed and assigned the matter to the Finance Committee.

C. 2019 State Convention: Rio Grande Valley Chapter Director, Dustin Stair, CEC expressed appreciation to everyone for attending. Stair explained that he'd received great feedback from the Ice Breaker event and thanked those for participating in the Team Taco Challenge. Larry Delgado added comments about the Fishing Tournament and expressed his excitement for the strong attendance numbers. The Board thanked Chefs Stair and Delgado for their efforts to host the State Convention.

D. 2020 ACF National Convention: President Cook referenced the 2020 ACF National Convention, which will take place at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas on July 19 – 23rd. Cook announced that the TCA State Convention will likely take place at the Anatole on July 18th and will feature a working breakfast with a General Session and an Awards Luncheon. He asked the Dallas Chapter to explore obtaining space for TCA events. He also explained his desire to obtain complimentary parking for local members. Cook explained that members of the ACF National office would be conducting a site visit in the fall, which will give the TCA more direction on their responsibility as the host Chapter. President Cook announced a change in the ACF's competition format. Going forward, both Regional and National competitions will take place at the Annual Convention, which will allow a more equitable experience for contestants. Cook also proposed a hospitality area for ACF attendees arriving on the first night, who are not attending the AAC dinner. President Cook also discussed identifying a location for the "Meal of the Century" dinner event. Monthly planning conference calls will begin taking place in October to discuss TCA involvement at the 2020 ACF Convention.

E. Culinary Vision Partner Report: Len Pawelek reviewed the 2019 CVP Partners as follows:

Platinum	Texas Beef Council	\$6,000.00
Platinum	Ben E. Keith	\$6,000.00
Platinum	Sysco Corp.	\$6,000.00
Gold	Texas Gulf Shrimp	\$3,000.00
Silver	Boiron Americas	\$1,200.00
Silver	FreshPoint Dallas	\$1,200.00
Silver	Gordon Food Service	\$1,200.00
Bronze	Seafood Supply	\$600.00
Bronze	Nespresso	\$600.00

E. Chapter Contributions: Mark Schneider, CEC, AAC reminded Chapter Directors to tithe \$500 to the TCA operating account. He encouraged additional contributions for the Restricted Accounts.

G. Legal Discussion: President Cook announced that the legal matter had been resolved and the TCA recouped all costs associated with the issue.

H. Chapter & State Awards: The Heart of Texas Chapter and the Dallas Chapter were recognized for submitting applications for the Isaac Pina Award.

I. Director's Rap Session Review: Heather Kurima recapped the Director's session as well as recent Director conference calls that take place every four to six weeks. She expressed the Chapter Director's desire for the state to identify two to three charitable initiatives that each sub-chapter can support. The goal is for these initiatives to galvanize the membership and improve engagement, alignment and community outreach. The Board discussed the challenges of dictating organizations from the state-level to Chapters who might already be involved with a local charity. Chef Kurima also discussed a task force to better define "member value" for TCA members at the sub-chapter level. Reginald Martin, CEC explained the need to define best practices for Chapter Directors as well as the need to update the Chapter Director Handbook.

IV. New Chapter Development

A. Panhandle Chapter: President Cook explained that the Panhandle Chapter is still be recruited and he hoped to be ready for a vote at the Winter Board Meeting.

B. Red River Chapter: The Red River Chapter had submitted the proper documentation and met the requirements to be ratified as a Chapter. Mark Schneider, CEC, AAC presented a motion to ratify the Red River Chapter. The motion was seconded by Rick Neal, CEC and approved by the Board. President Cook stated that he will make an announcement to the membership at the General Session.

V. Nominations & Elections

A. Honorary Members: Rick Neal, CEC presented a motion to nominate Steve Pool for honorary membership. Gene Christiano, CEC seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.

B. State Officer Elections: The nominations of Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC for President and Len Pawelek, CEC for 2nd Vice President were uncontested. There were no nominations for Secretary/Treasurer.

C. Isaac Pina Award: Voting was conducted for the Isaac Pina Chapter Award.

V. State Convention:

2020 – Dallas Chapter

2021 – East Texas Chapter

2022 – Fort Worth Chapter

VI. Roundtable/Adjournment

President Cook announced that the winner of the National Pastry Chef competition was a Military member and he expressed a desire to pursue Military members in the Texas market. He proposed the idea of appointing a chairperson to chair a Military Committee. Cook also mentioned that he was evaluating the current committee chairs and would assign several new chairpersons for his second term. He concluded by thanking the Texas Beef Council and Go Texan for their donations and contributions to the 2019 ACF Convention.

Larry Delgado requested \$1,500 to design and produce a new Chef Relief lapel pin to sell at the 2020 ACF Convention. The Board agreed on the idea but decided to table the amount until the 2020 budget is finalized.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 am was presented by Rick Neal, CEC, seconded by Reginald Martin, CEC and approved by the Board.

Approved by:

Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC
Secretary/Treasurer

Date