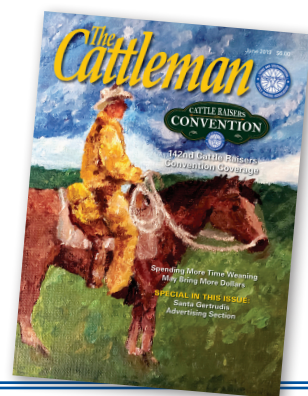


The Cattleman

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NEWS BRIEFS



TSCRA Statement on Death of Eminent Domain Legislation

Robert E. McKnight Jr., president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA), issued the following statement after SB 421, eminent domain reform, succumbed to a Texas House of Representatives deadline on May 27:

"For years, thousands of property owners across Texas have asked for real, meaningful eminent domain reform. We are disappointed that despite these pleas, eminent domain reform was not accomplished this legislative session.

"The author of SB 421, Senator Lois Kolkhorst, has been an outspoken champion for Texas property owners and deserves tremendous credit for her tireless work to protect our private property rights through the legislative process.

"SB 421 was the subject of intense negotiations in both the Texas Senate and House. That process yielded language that was largely acceptable to the stakeholders, but unfortunately, the language voted from the House Committee on Land and Resource Management was drafted by its chairman, Representative Tom Craddick, at the last minute with little to no input from us or other stakeholders. As a result, its contents would have harmed the very property owners it should have helped.

"The real victims in the process are the hardworking Texas property owners who remain saddled with an unfair eminent domain process that gives every advantage to condemnors. Those private, for-profit condemnors will continue to operate with zero accountability or transparency. The voice of Texas property owners was loud and consistent, but the oil and gas lobby and industry-backed lawmakers killed real reform.

"We would like to thank Sen. Kolkhorst again for her unwavering support, as well as Lt. Governor Dan Patrick who personally oversaw Senate negotiations, and the many other Senators and Representatives who supported our efforts. We look forward to continuing our fight to provide Texans with the fairness, transparency, and accountability they deserve when confronted with the taking of their property through eminent domain."



Attend the June Summer Meeting in Galveston

Meet us on the Texas coast at Moody Gardens in Galveston, June 13 to 15, for TSCRA's Summer Meeting! The Summer Meeting allows TSCRA members to become informed on industry issues by attending and participating in the meetings of our policy committees.

We get a lot of work done on behalf of the association, but we accomplish it in a relaxed atmosphere with a schedule that allows attendees the time to enjoy a part of the state they might not see very often.

Explore the Moody Gardens pyramids, catch a dinner and cruise on The Colonel paddlewheel boat, and enjoy everything historic Galveston has to offer! More information about Moody Gardens is available at moodygardens.com. Check tscra.org/summermeeting for a tentative schedule and more info.

Headquarters:
Moody Gardens
One Hope Boulevard,
Galveston, Texas 77554
Phone: 409-744-4673



 www.facebook.com/moodygardens/

 www.pinterest.com/MoodyGardens/

 www.instagram.com/moodygardens/

Cattle Raisers Insurance
cattleraisersinsurance.com

TSCRA
tscra.org

Law Enforcement
tscra.org, click on Theft & Law

Cattle Raisers Convention
cattleraisersconvention.com



BQA Tip: Branding

Branding of livestock is often done to help prevent cattle theft and as a form of individual identification. The size and placement of brands should be considered before branding cattle. If possible, brands (fire or freeze) should be placed in a manner to reduce the amount of hide that is not suitable for use in leather manufacturing. This includes placing brands on the forearm or the lower portion of the shoulder, on the hip towards the tailhead, and on the lower portion of the rear leg.

Are you a certified Texas Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) producer? Training is free and available online and at one-day in-person workshops. Visit texasbeefquality.com for more information.

Conviction, Sentence for Cattle Thief

Calby Clayton Hill, 46, of Roaring Springs, has been convicted for second-degree felony theft of livestock. The conviction comes after an investigation by TSCRA Special Ranger Dean Bohannon.

Bohannon initiated the investigation Dec. 5, 2018, after receiving a call from John Hindman, TSCRA's market inspector at the Floydada Livestock Auction. Hindman noticed something amiss with a load of cattle brought to the auction. Hill brought 34 head of cattle to the sale for his boss but checked in 12 head in his own name. Bohannon and Hindman spoke to the rancher, who confirmed their suspicions — the 12 head did not belong to Hill.

Bohannon also identified other livestock auctions where Hill had sold cattle since he began working at the ranch in 2016. Hill eventually confessed to selling or attempting to sell 84 head of cattle worth more than \$60,000. Before the investigation concluded, Bohannon was able to identify additional cattle stolen by Hill.

Hill was indicted on multiple counts of theft of livestock by a Motley County grand jury. The charges were enhanced to second-degree felonies because the crimes were

perpetrated against an elderly victim. Hill was arrested Feb. 13, booked into the Dickens County Jail and released on a \$110,000 bond. On May 3, a Motley County jury convicted Hill on one count of second-degree felony theft of livestock and handed down a sentence of five years in state prison. He was also ordered to pay almost \$5,000 in restitution and court costs.

TSCRA Crime Watch

► TSCRA Special Ranger Gary Baros, District 25 in South Texas, reports a black Angus bull missing from a property in eastern Guadalupe County. The bull is branded with a bar over 20 on the left hip and was last seen in January. Anyone with information on this case is urged to contact Special Ranger Baros at 361-293-7549.

► TSCRA Special Ranger Tommy Charbula, District 24 along the Gulf Coast, reports the theft of a tractor from a property near East Bernard in Fort Bend County. The 2007 Kubota model 5040, serial no. 10730, was last seen on May 11. Anyone with information is urged to contact Special Ranger Charbula at 361-782-5209.

TSCRA EVENT CALENDAR

You Are Welcome to Attend!

June 13-15: TSCRA Summer Meeting, Galveston

June 18: Ranching 101 – TSCRA, Fort Worth

July 9: Ranch Gathering, El Campo

July 10: Ranch Gathering, Navasota

July 11: Wichita Falls Cattlemen's Luncheon, Wichita Falls

July 11: Ranch Gathering, Franklin

July 16: Ranching 101 – TSCRA, Fort Worth

July 23: Ranch Gathering, Mobeetie

TSCRA Members – ask about discounts from the following partners!

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| American Hat Company Inc. | L&H Branding Irons |
| Anderson Bean Boot Company | Olathe Boot Co. |
| Cattle Raisers Insurance | Power Pipe and Tank Ltd. |
| CattleFax | Ranch House Designs Inc. |
| CattleMax Software | Rios of Mercedes |
| Dell | Staples Business Advantage |
| Ford Partner Recognition | Stay-Tuff Fence |
| Greeley Hat Works | Tru-Test Inc. |
| John Deere | Ultimate Wild |