

The Cattleman



June 2015 ★ tskra.org ★ 800-242-7820

NEWS BRIEFS

Leader Conference Held in Fort Worth

TSCRA LEADERS WERE IN FORT WORTH TO ATTEND A 2-DAY CONFERENCE AT ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS ON MAY 12 AND 13. THE ASSOCIATION'S newest leaders participated in an orientation and leader training event that included sessions on interacting with the media, promoting the beef industry to the public and how TSCRA operates behind-the-scenes.

Every year, TSCRA hosts the conference in order to familiarize newly-elected association leadership on TSCRA bylaws and organizational procedures, how issues and policies are developed and foster a better understanding of how TSCRA staff is here to assist them during their term. It also allows officers,



TSCRA Executive Vice President Eldon White discussed association policy guidelines during the leader conference in Fort Worth.



Daren Williams, NCBA, gave Leader Conference attendees some background information on the Dietary Guidelines recommendations.



Paul Burrough, National Finance Credit Corp. of Texas, talked about the economic factors influencing the beef industry.

veteran leaders and representatives to get the latest updates on important topics and issues facing the industry.

Attendees heard from guest speakers on a variety of issues, among them Paul Burrough, National Finance Credit Corp. of Texas, who gave an overview of the economic factors influencing cattle markets; Jason Skaggs, TSCRA executive director of government and public affairs, gave an update on current legislative activities at the Capitol in Austin; and Daren Williams, NCBA, discussed the suggested 2015 Dietary Guidelines. The conference also allows staff and leaders a chance to plan future association strategies.

You're Invited to a TSCRA Ranch Gathering This Summer

WE HAVE A FULL SLATE OF RANCH GATHERINGS PLANNED for this spring and summer across Texas and Oklahoma. Ranch gatherings are an excellent way for local ranchers, friends, family and guests to get together for an evening of fellowship, information and fun.

The events are free and include a complimentary beef dinner and presentations from industry leaders and TSCRA representatives, including your district's Special Ranger, who will give tips on how to prevent theft. If you would like to attend or host a ranch gathering, visit our Events Calendar at tskra.org to see if we're holding one in your area!

Attend Summer Meeting June 25-27 in Galveston

TSCRA WILL HOST THIS YEAR'S SUMMER MEETING at the Moody Gardens in Galveston June 25-27. Bring the family and enjoy all the island has to offer. The schedule has been modified to allow attendees to enjoy their time on the island and fish, play golf, or enjoy the beach.

Available activities will include the Aquarium and Rainforest Pyramids, special 3D and 4D FX theaters, Colonel Paddlewheel boat, Palm Beach, Schlitterbahn Waterpark, Galveston Historic Pleasure Pier, 1892 Bishop Palace Tour, fishing on the jetties, bay or deep sea excursions and golf.

For more information, go to tskra.org and click on the Summer Meeting button.



TSCRA Testifies Before State Committee on Landowner Rights



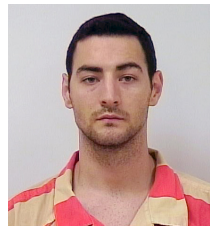
Leslie Kinsel testified before the House Land and Resource Management Committee on May 20.

LESLIE KINSEL, CHAIR OF THE TSCRA LEGISLATIVE AND TAX COMMITTEE, TESTIFIED May 20 regarding S.B. 474 in a House Land and Resource Management Committee Hearing at the Texas State Capitol. The bill is authored by state Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Dist. 18 - Brenham, and Representative Cindy Burkett, Dist. 113 - Garland.

In Kinsel's remarks to the committee members, she spoke about her first-hand experiences of dealing with the condemnation process and how costly litigation can be. She discussed how S.B. 474 would help level the playing field for landowners by requiring condemnors to pay the costs and fees incurred by landowners if the amount of damages awarded to the landowner is at least 20 percent greater than the initial amount the condemnor offered to pay.

Fairfax Man Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison for Cattle Theft

GARRETT MITCHELL GIBSON, 27, OF FAIRFAX, Okla., was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison on May 6 after pleading guilty to stealing 7 head of cattle from the Bledsoe Ranch near Ralston, Okla., in 2014. TSCRA Special Ranger Bart Perrier led the investigation with TSCRA Special Ranger John Cummings and Osage County Sheriff's Office Investigator Doug Elliot assisting.



According to Perrier, Gibson stole a total of 7 head of cows from the ranch on 3 occasions. The investigation revealed that the cattle were sold at 3 livestock markets in north Central Oklahoma. After the sales, the cattle had been transported out of the area and could not be recovered.

Gibson pleaded guilty to larceny of livestock and was ordered to serve at least 2 years in the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, with the remainder of the time served on probation. He is also required to pay \$20,000 in restitution.

"This case is a great example of TSCRA special rangers working with local authorities to seek justice for ranchers who have unfortunately been victims of cattle theft," said Perrier. "I encourage all ranchers to always brand and keep a close watch on their cattle. These precautions serve as the best defense against cattle theft."

TSCRA would like to thank the Osage County Sheriff's Department for their assistance with this investigation.

EDEN Offers Disaster Preparation and Recovery Information and Resources

WHETHER FROM FIRE, FLOOD, HURRICANES, SEVERE STORMS, OR snow, our area of the country offers the possibility of natural disasters year-round. Texas A&M AgriLife's Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) offers a full range of information for agriculture producers on disaster preparedness and recovery.

The available topics cover everything from how to prepare your ranch, home or property for the unexpected, to recovery and cleanup after a disaster. These valuable resources, databases, fact sheets, pamphlets, guides, ebooks, apps and more, are available free of charge at texashelp.tamu.edu.

TSCRA EVENT CALENDAR

You're welcome to attend!

June 9: TSCRA Ranch Gathering, Alpine

June 11: TSCRA Ranch Gathering, Paris

June 16: Ranching 101, Topic – Rancher Panel Discussion, Fort Worth

June 25-27: TSCRA Summer Meeting, Galveston

July 18: Ranch Rodeo, Levelland

July 21: Ranching 101, Topic – Genetics, EPDs and AI, Fort Worth

July 30: Beef Quality Assurance Training, Palestine

TSCRA members — ask about discounts from the following partners!

