



TEXAS & SOUTHWESTERN CATTLE RAISERS ASSOCIATION

Committee Interest Packet

Policy Committee Function

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association policy committees are responsible for identifying, studying and prioritizing issues and opportunities which affect members and the cattle industry; being part of the development of policy positions that guide legislative, regulatory, research, education and other actions and activities of TSCRA.

Overall Responsibilities

1. Be aware of new developments, trends, emerging challenges, legislation, regulations and/or legal issues in the committee's area of responsibility.
2. Inform the committee members of all sides of the issues by inviting speakers to committee meetings and through other communications.
3. Provide an opportunity for open discussion among the committee members in the creation of policy resolutions or other committee recommendations to the Board of Directors and membership.
4. Formulate policy resolutions that are passed on to the Resolutions Committee for further consideration.
5. Assist the Resolutions Committee, Board of Directors and members in understanding proposed policy positions.
6. Once policy is adopted, assist the leadership and staff in implementing and/or accomplishing the policy.
7. Assist the leadership and staff in communicating accomplishments to the membership and industry.

Cattle Health & Well-Being

TSCRA Staff Liaison: Peyton Schumann, Interim Executive Director of Government Relations

Committee Description & Purpose

Cattle Health & Well-Being develops policy on issues pertaining to animal care, domestic and foreign disease threats, cattle health research and drugs. They examine laws and regulations relating to animal health pharmaceutical products and accepted livestock management practices, study and report on the availability of large animal veterinarians and assess and report on federal and state animal disease traceability efforts. The committee works closely with the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), USDA's Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS) and other state and federal agencies to bridge the gap between governance and the producer level as it relates to cattle health. Additionally, the committee keeps membership advised of useful technologies, techniques and scientific findings.

Parasite Subcommittee

TSCRA Staff Liaison: Peyton Schumann, Interim Executive Director of Government Relations

Subcommittee Description & Purpose

The subcommittee is to support the broader goals of the Cattle Health & Well-Being Committee by focusing specifically on external pests and parasites that threaten livestock health and productivity. This subcommittee is charged with monitoring and addressing emerging and ongoing threats such as cattle fever ticks and New World screwworm through science-based prevention, control and eradication efforts, while ensuring landowner and producer perspectives inform relevant state and federal policy decisions.



Marketing & Transportation

TSCRA Staff Liaison: Peyton Schumann, Interim Executive Director of Government Relations

Committee Description & Purpose

Marketing & Transportation develops policy on issues related to price discovery, cattle market price reporting, grading, beef labeling, transportation and structure for the cattle industry. The committee analyzes impacts of international trade agreements and negotiations and their impact on the cattle industry. They coordinate TSCRA's involvement with the Texas Beef Quality Producer (TBQP) and National Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) programs. They encourage adoption of best marketing practices and inform members of marketing alternatives. They work closely with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and Economic Research Service (ERS). Additionally, they interact with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and other state and federal agencies as issues arise.

Property Rights & Tax

TSCRA Staff Liaison: Peyton Schumann, Interim Executive Director of Government Relations

Committee Description & Purpose

The Property Rights & Tax develops policy on issues related to property rights and tax issues. They study federal and state fiscal and banking laws and regulations, identify areas of concern and reform with the federal legal immigration system and assess state theft and trespass laws and make recommendations for changes, if necessary. Additionally, they monitor eminent domain and other property right issues and make recommendations for changes to laws and/or regulations. The committee works closely with regulatory agencies such as the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC), the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller), the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the U.S. Department of Treasury and any other state and federal agencies that are needed regarding laws and regulations that impact private land owners and cattle raisers.

Natural Resources & Wildlife

TSCRA Staff Liaison: Peyton Schumann, Interim Executive Director of Government Relations

Committee Description & Purpose

Natural Resources & Wildlife develops policy on issues related to natural resources, endangered species and predator management. They identify and promote practices for conserving and improving natural resources, monitor scientific advancements in controlling brush and other invasive vegetation and disseminate information on new techniques and practices to members. The committee works closely with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and other state and federal agencies regarding laws and regulations that impact TSCRA members.

Water Subcommittee

TSCRA Staff Liaison: Peyton Schumann, Interim Executive Director of Government Relations

Committee Description & Purpose

The Water Subcommittee is engaged on issues related to water regulations, groundwater conservation districts and aquifer health through collaborations with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and other state and federal agencies for issues related to water depletion and ownership.

