Highland Lakes Master Gardener Association
AgriLife Building, Burnet, Texas
General Meeting
April 9, 2026

Present: In person 44/ Guests 5/Via Zoom 24

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 2:04 by Kerry Nyquist, President.

Penny McCullogh introduced our speaker, Willard Horn. He presented "Welcome to the Dark Side."

Break at 3:10
Meeting called back to order at 3:30.

Kerry thanked Willard and announced that the presentation qualified for one hour of advanced training and one hour if you brought a snack.

March Meeting Minutes were approved with a name correction posted to the website.
March Financials were approved as emailed and posted online.

Brenda Goble provided the financial report for the month of March. The Lawn and Garden Show was a major success, with a gross income of $9,285. A breakdown included $1,935 from vendors, $2,737 from the silent auction (with another $40 pending), $2,649 from quilt donations (including a $1,000 anonymous donation), $1,873 from the certification class sale, and $91 from the donation jar. The budgeted expenses for the show were $4,000. Brenda reported the March ending bank balance is $79,242.71, with an additional $30,529 in the Edward Jones account, for a total of $100,139 in assets. A member requested that reports clarify funds earmarked for specific projects, such as the garden. Kerry confirmed the monthly reports do show this separation and the year-to-date budget report will be added to the website.

Kerry announced that the board approved a proposal to switch from spreadsheet-based accounting to QuickBooks. This will incur an unbudgeted annual cost of approximately $300-$350 but will provide better tools and continuity between treasurers. Brenda will be involved in setting up the new system. A discussion followed regarding the use of the association's substantial funds, particularly the $20,000 originally set aside for property purchase. Ideas included increasing scholarship amounts and establishing a new community garden in the Burnet area. Kerry advised that any new major project proposal should be formalized and submitted to the Projects Evaluation Team for review later in the year.

<u>Projects</u>
***Lawn and Garden Show* – Roxanne Dunegan announced that the date for next year's show in 2027 is already reserved. She recognized Connie Stein, Colleen Catlett, and Lorna Bernard for their job well done. A gift card was given as a token of appreciation to a key volunteer for their outstanding work during the event. Appreciation was extended to all volunteers and those who donated items for the silent auction.**

***Burnet County Fair* – Roxanne Dunegan shared that the show takes place on Friday, June 12th, and Saturday, June 13th, with volunteer opportunities available from Wednesday through Saturday to set up fair items.**

Middle School Greenhouse **– Carolyn Crouchet announced a final plant sale will be held on Friday, April 10th, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and again from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Thanks were given to everyone who donated pots and helped with the plants.**

The Garden **– David Waldo shared that the garden is fully planted and ready for the harvest season. Volunteers are urgently needed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:00 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Marble Falls, as some key volunteers will be unavailable for the next few months.**

King's Garden **– This project is also in need of more volunteers on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.**

Mustang ACE **– Julia McComas shared that the school garden project is going well but will conclude for the school year after three more classes. Those interested in volunteering in the future should contact Debbie Sayre or Julia McComas for information on the required background check.**

Green Thumb Presentations **– Willard will present "Effortless Watering While Away" on April 16th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Lakeshore Library. In May, tours of The Garden and King's Garden will be offered to the community.**

Burnet Nursing Home (The Oaks) **– A workday has taken place. Ann McClanahan, the project coordinator, will post more dates for future workdays.**

AgriLife Building **– Ryan Rowney announced he is coordinating work on the area around the building. On April 24th, ISF will assist with removing large rocks from a trench near the class boxes. The rocks are available for any members who want them. The plan is to add low-maintenance flowers around the pecan tree.**

Burnet Farmer's and Craft Market **– Patty Young thanked the people that have signed up to volunteer. The first market day is April 18th and will run until the week before Thanksgiving. An information board will be set up at the Master Gardener table to publicize AgriLife events.**

Kerry shared information about the Prairie Flower Garden Club in Bertram, which is holding a plant sale on May 8th and 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the community center.

Virginie Lamb thanked everyone for bringing snack. Carla Wills won the drawing this month and received some fennel plants.

Kerry announced the upcoming meeting schedule. The next meeting is on May 12th at 2:00 p.m., featuring Martel Luedecke and a presentation on photography as a conservation tool.

The June 2nd meeting will feature James Green. The September meeting date has been moved from the 8th to the 15th due to a scheduling conflict at the building.

Meeting Adjourned 4:29 p.m.
Minutes submitted by the Recording Secretary April Cothran