



Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr.,
Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership
(TALL) Program

TALL XVIII
Session 3 – Austin / Sonora
January 20-26, 2025

State Government: Issues and Policies
“Leadership, Legislation, Laws”



TALL XIX - Session 3 - Austin, Texas

January 20-26, 2025

State Government: Issues and Policies “Leadership, Legislation, Laws”

Monday, January 20, 2025

Lodging: DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel

303 West 15th St., Austin, Texas | (512) 478-7000 | AustinSuites.DoubleTree.com

**Note: Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Hotel will store luggage if unable to check in early.
100% valet parking @ \$35 per day, per vehicle**

Attire..... Business Casual

Transportation.....Personal Vehicles

4:00 p.m. **Pecan Grove Farms and Nursery**
484 Berdoll Lane, Cedar Creek, TX 78612

(Located on Highway 71, exactly between Austin and Bastrop,
about 20 minutes from Downtown Austin, and about 15 minutes from Austin Bergstrom Airport)

Nursery & Orchard Tour

BBQ Dinner & Presentation

Southside BBQ

Hosted by:

Travis Britt, TALL XVI - Pecan Grove Farms and Nursery

Blair Krebs, TALL XVII – Texas Pecan Growers Association

9:00 p.m. Depart in personal vehicles for Hotel
DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel | 303 West 15th St., Austin, Texas

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

<p>Presiding Members..... David Cortez & Tim Akers Attire..... Business Transportation..... Walk</p>
--

- 6:30 a.m. **Breakfast in Houston Room paid by TALL**
- 7:30 a.m. Walk to Capitol Meeting Room: **Texas State Capitol Annex, Room E2.016**
Room courtesy of The Honorable Briscoe Cain, Texas House of Representatives

****Be in meeting room by 7:50am****

- 8:00 a.m. **“The issues facing America: Nationally and Internationally”**
Mr. Karl Rove, Political Consultant
- 8:45 a.m. Private Tour of Capitol **The Honorable Briscoe Cain,**
Texas House of Representatives District 128, TALL XIX
- 11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:15 a.m. **“Responsibilities and Duties of the Texas Attorney General and issues facing Texas”** **George Lane, Director of Government Relations,**
Office of the Texas Attorney General
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch at Capitol Cafeteria (on your own)

Convene in Texas State Capitol Annex, Room E2.016

Room courtesy of The Honorable Briscoe Cain, Texas House of Representatives

<p>Presiding Members: Hunter Potts & Liz Phillips</p>

- 1:30 p.m. **Responsibilities of State Comptroller and the State’s Revenue Projections**
The Honorable Glenn Hegar, State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
- 2:15 p.m. **Responsibilities and History of the Texas Land Office**
Chief Clerk Jennifer Jones, Texas Land Office
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. **“The Office of the Governor of the State of Texas”** **Mr. Robert Black,**
Chief of Staff - Office of the Governor
- 4:15 p.m. Adjourn
Free Evening

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

<p>Presiding Members..... Scotta Faulkenberry & McCrae McCormick Attire..... Business Transportation..... Walk</p>

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Houston Room paid by TALL**
- 7:45 a.m. Walk to Capitol Meeting Room: Texas State Capitol Annex, Room E2.016**

Room courtesy of The Honorable Briscoe Cain, Texas House of Representatives

- 8:00 a.m. The responsibilities of the Natural Resources Committee and the importance of water to Texas moving forward.....The Honorable Cody Harris**
Texas House of Representatives, District 8, TALL XV Alumnus
- 8:45 a.m. “The Challenges and Opportunities facing Texas Agriculture”**
The Honorable Mary González, Ph.D.
Texas House of Representatives, District 75 & TALL XVII
- 9:30 a.m. "Committee Memberships, Responsibilities as a State Senator and issues facing Texas” The Honorable Lois Kolkhorst, Texas State Senator**
District 18
- 10:15 a.m. Walk to Texas Ag Council meeting**

Location: Texas Association of Counties building 1210 San Antonio St, Austin, TX 78701

*Head west on Congress Ave toward W 11th St, turn left onto path, turn left onto W 13th St
turn left onto San Antonio St & Building will be on the right*

- 10:30 a.m. Texas Ag Council meeting**
- 11:20 a.m. TALL XVIII Cohort International Seminar to Brussels/Poland**
Jennifer Bremer, Executive Director –
Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association & TALL XVIII
The Honorable Daniel Alders-
Texas House of Representatives District 6, TALL XIX
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch - sponsored by Texas Ag Council**
- 1:15 p.m. Walk to Double Tree Guest Suites Hotel**
- 1:30 p.m. TALL Alumni Meeting – Houston Room**
Speaker.....Mr. Eric Opiela, Attorney, Fifth Generation
Texas Rancher, TALL IX Alumnus
Business Meeting.....Mr. Eric Turpen, TALL-A President
- 3:00 p.m. Tall Advisory Board Meeting (Board Members ONLY) – Longhorn Room**
- 5:45 p.m. Meet in hotel lobby and depart in personal vehicles for Reception**

<p>Dress: Business Transportation: Personal Vehicles</p>
--

“A Tribute to Texas Leadership” - TALL Alumni Reception

Austin Club, 110 East 9th Street, Austin, 512/477-9496.

Parking at 823 Congress Garage

Have your parking ticket validated at the reception by The Austin Club

6:00 p.m. Social

7:00 p.m. Program

Master of Ceremonies.....Jim Mazurkiewicz, Ph.D.
Professor & Leadership Program Director
Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr., TALL Program

Welcome Jennifer Thompson
Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer
Capital Farm Credit

Introduction of Keynote Speaker..... Rick Avery, Ph.D.
Director - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Keynote Address..... The Honorable K. Michael Conaway
Former US Congressman and Chair of the House of
Agriculture Committee

The Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr., Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership (TALL) Foundation 2024 Sponsor Recognition

Rick Avery, Ph.D., Director - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Mr. Marcus Hill, TALL Foundation President
Mr. Eric Turpen, TALL Alumni President

TALL Distinguished Alumnus Award Recipient

Mr. Mark Miller, TALL VII
CEO Texas Farm Credit &
Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. TALL Program Advisory Board Member

Presented by Eric Turpen, TALL Alumni President
Broker at Clift Land Brokers & Mayor-Littlefield, Texas

Texas Agricultural Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

Mr. Roddy Peeples
Former Owner of the Voice of Southwest Agriculture (VSA) Radio Network &
Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. TALL Program Advisory Board,
Honorary Vice President Emeritus

Presented by Marcus Hill, Chairman, TALL Advisory Board
Chairman & President at AgWorkers

Closing

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Presiding Members.....	Jaylen Wallace & Rache Hargrove
Attire.	Business
Transportation.....	Walk

6:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Houston Room paid by TALL

7:45 a.m. Walk to Capitol Meeting Room: Texas State Capitol Annex, Room E2.016

Room courtesy of The Honorable Briscoe Cain, Texas House of Representatives

8:30 a.m. “Duties and Responsibilities of the House Agriculture Committee”
The Honorable Briscoe Cain,
Texas House of Representatives District 128, TALL XIX

9:15 a.m. The responsibilities and duties of the Railroad Commission of Texas
Commissioner Jim Wright, Railroad Commission of Texas

Presiding.....	Rex Brandon & Thomas Hicklen
----------------	------------------------------

10:00 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Farm Bureau 101 Mr. Si Cook, Executive Director & COO
Texas Farm Bureau

11:15a.m. “The Texas Oil & Gas Industry, Mission/responsibilities of Texas Oil & Gas Association and the future of energy in Texas”
Texas Oil and Gas Association

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Capitol Cafeteria (*on your own*)

Room courtesy of The Honorable Briscoe Cain, Texas House of Representatives

Convene in Texas State Capitol Annex, Room E2.016

Presiding.....	Kody Cox & Briscoe Cain
----------------	-------------------------

1:30 p.m. “The Texas Animal Health Commission and potential threats to Texas Animal Agriculture” Dr. Jessica Monday,
Texas State Epidemiologist- TAHC

2:15 p.m. “TXDOT and the Growth of Texas as it relates to infrastructure”
Jessica Butler, Director of Engineering and Safety Operations- TXDOT

3:00 p.m. Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Duties & Responsibilities
David Eichler, Government Relations
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

3:45 p.m. Break

4:00 p.m. Homework Presentations

5:15 p.m. Break/ free time

5:45p.m. Walk to the Lt. Governor’s Reception Room

Presiding..... Tony Adkins & Cassidy Nemece

6:00 p.m. **Reception at the State Capitol, Lt. Governor’s Reception Room**

Location: Second Floor, Senate Chamber, Room 2E.16
East end of building and walk upstairs

*Lt. Governor’s Reception Room courtesy of
The Honorable Charles Schwertner, Texas State Senator, District 5*

*Refreshments and Hors d’Oeuvres sponsored by:
Texas Poultry Federation & Independent Cattle Raisers Association*

6:30 p.m. **Program**

“Insight into the Poultry & Beef Industries”

Mr. JC Essler - Texas Poultry Federation, Executive Vice President

**Mr. Cooper Little- Independent Cattlemen’s Association of Texas,
Executive Director**

9:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Friday, January 24, 2025

NOTE: Check out of hotel - be ready to leave immediately after TDA!

**Presiding Members..... Nicholas Slough & Ethan Westfall
Attire..... Business**

7:10 a.m. **Depart the Double Tree Hotel and walk to the Texas Department of Agriculture**

1700 Congress Ave. # 11, Austin, TX 78701

Head west on W 12th St | Slight right | Turn left toward Colorado St |
Turn left toward Colorado St | Turn right onto Colorado St | Turn right onto W 18th St |
Destination will be on the right

The main entrance to the building is located on the East side of the Stephen F. Austin Building

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast at TDA**

Sponsored by the Texas Association of Dairymen

Darren Turley, Executive Director – Texas Association of Dairymen

8:30 a.m. **Texas Department of Agriculture**

The Honorable Sid Miller, Texas Ag Commissioner

Terry Keel, Deputy Texas Ag Commissioner

Dan Hunter, Assistant Commissioner for Water and Rural Affairs

Maddison Jaureguito, Director of Communications

9:00 a.m. **Photo with Texas Ag Commissioner Sid Miller**

9:10 a.m. **Continue TDA Program**

Lena Wilson, Assistant Commissioner, Food and Nutrition

Philip Wright, Administrator for Regulatory Affairs

**Karen Reichel, Administrator for Trade and Business Development,
TALLVIII**

Richard De Los Santos, Director for Produce Safety and Livestock, TALL IX

Lindsay Baerwald, Director for Marketing & Outreach & TALL XIX

10:00 a.m. Depart TDA for the Double Tree Hotel
MAKE SURE YOU HAVE CHECKED OUT OF HOTEL

10:30 a.m. Depart Austin for Fredericksburg, Texas
Arch Ray Resort
4160 US-290, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Presiding..... David Derry & Mike Atkinson

12:30 p.m. Fredericksburg Lunch & Program
Sponsored by Traé Ottmers, Capital Farm Credit- Hill Country
Fredericksburg and Gillespie County
Wine Industry / Ag Tourism / Economic Development
Trae Ottmers, RVP of Sales- Capital Farm Credit & TALL X
Don Weinheimer, Gillespie County Commissioner Precinct 4

2:00 p.m. Depart in personal vehicles for Sonora

West Texas Session Agenda

Presiding..... Michael Cochran & Gage Morris
Transportation..... Personal Vehicle

Quality Inn
311 Highway 277 N, Sonora, TX 76950

4:30 p.m. Arrive, check in to hotel and freshen up

5:30 p.m. Visit Old Sonora Icehouse Ranch Museum | **202 Water Ave, Sonora, TX 76950**

6:30 p.m. Dinner at Sonora's Historic Train Depot | **450 East Mulberry, Sonora, TX 76950**
Keynote speaker - Mr. Bob Malone, President & CEO, Sonora Bank

9:00 p.m. Depart for hotel

Saturday, January 25, 2025

Presiding Members..... Darci Luensmann & Ross Vinson
Transportation..... Bus

7:00 a.m. Load bus for travel to Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station

7:30 a.m. Chuck wagon Cowboy Breakfast @ Research Station

8:30 a.m. **Welcome & History of Sonora Research Station**
Dr. Doug Tolleson, Associate Professor

9:00 a.m. **Water conservation Hill Country / Edwards Plateau Region**
Meredith Allen, General Manager at Sutton Co. UWCD

9:45 a.m. Break

Presiding Members..... Lindsay Baerwald & David Cortez

10:00 a.m. **Predation in Edwards Plateau and Hill Country**
Cory Wilson, Wildlife Services, District supervisor

10:45 a.m. **Preservation of Southwest Texas Wildlife** **Stan Cottle, Director**
Sam Epperson, President

Presiding Members..... Liz Phillips & Rex Brandon

- 11:00 a.m. **Diversity in Agriculture Dr. Erika Campbell, Owner- High Cross Vineyard**
- 11:20 a.m. **Oil & Gas David Wallace, Owner, Rancho Bronco Vineyard**
- 12:00 p.m. Chuck Wagon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. **Tour facilities: Information on Breeds of Sheep & Goats
Discussion & Tour of Prescribed Burn sites, Grazing Management research
project Dr. Tolleson & Dr. Erika Campbell**
- 2:15 p.m. Travel back to motel in Sonora to freshen up

Presiding..... McCrae McCormick & Kody Cox

- 3:00 p.m. Tour Rancho Bronco Winery/Vineyard
Vines and Wines in the Edwards Plateau

John Rivenburgh, President Texas Wine Growers Association
David Wallace, Rancho Bronco Vineyard/Winery Owner
- 4:15 p.m. Freshen Up at Motel
- 5:15 p.m. Travel to X Bar Ranch

Presiding.....Chase Hampton & Ross Vinson

- 6:00 p.m. **Tour X Bar Ranch Facilities Stan Meador, Founder/Owner & TALL VIII**
- 6:30 p.m. Meet and Greet
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner and Program
Keynote Speaker
Gen. (Ret) Ronnie D. Hawkins Jr., President, Angelo State University
- 10:00 p.m. Return to hotel

Sunday, January 26, 2025
Check Out of Hotel & Adjourn

Signature SESSION Sponsors

“Tribute to Texas Leadership” Reception



AUSTIN Session Sponsors

Lt. Governor reception room:

Texas poultry federation

&

Independent Cattle Raisers Association

General session lunch sponsor:

Texas Ag Council

General session breakfast sponsor:

Texas Association of Dairymen

West Texas session sponsors

Traé Ottmers, Capital Farm Credit- Hill Country

San Angelo Area foundation

Jim perry

First National Bank of Eldorado