

Brownwood Birders Executive Board Meeting — Executive Summary

The Brownwood Birders Executive Board met on February 25, 2026 via Zoom, to review club operations, finances, upcoming events, and strategic considerations for the remainder of the year. The meeting focused on member engagement, program scheduling, and preparation for spring activities and officer elections.

Operational Updates

Routine business has continued smoothly, including decisions conducted via text regarding the ordering of club thank you cards and logo merchandise. Membership remains strong at 287, though some duplicate records were noted and will require cleanup. Volunteer support increased with a new offer to assist at club meetings. A transition is underway for the Facebook coordinator role as Amy moves into the secretary position, with a potential replacement identified.

Financial Status

The club remains in a solid financial position with a current balance of \$6,886.68. Approved charitable contributions for the fiscal year include a \$1,000 donation to Rescuing Ocala Wildlife and two \$500 donations to Orange County Audubon Environmental Center/Birding Park in Apopka and to the Avian Reconditioning Center.

Programs, Walks, and Field Trips

The March and April walk schedules were reviewed and confirmed, with a return to morning walks after the start of Daylight Saving Time. Weekly walks at various local locations are planned through mid April. An issue with inconsistent ID checks at some walk locations was discussed; the board will continue to monitor the situation before determining whether action is needed. The possibility of adding walks that are not on Tuesday and may be off-campus was discussed. A Carefree Birding Cruise is planned for March 16.

Meetings and Events

General meetings are scheduled monthly through December 2026 at the Lake Okahumpka Recreation Center, primarily on second Tuesdays, with noted exceptions. The March 3 and April 14 meetings were highlighted, with the April meeting also hosting officer elections. The Harry and the Natives luncheon will take place on April 14 at 11:00 AM, open to all members, with coordination and attendance estimates being handled in advance.

Merchandise and Outreach

Progress was reported on club merchandise. The logo has been submitted to a local apparel vendor, and shirt options and pricing were discussed. Minor logo adjustments may

be needed for embroidery. Merchandise sales will initially be handled through the store rather than at meetings.

Governance and Elections

Board members were asked to confirm their willingness to serve another year or suggest replacements, with an emphasis on staggered turnover rather than a full board replacement. Officer elections are scheduled for the April general meeting, though no new candidates from the general membership have yet come forward.

The meeting was adjourned.