Meeting Minutes
TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
May 24, 2007

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on May 24, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. at the Fredonia Hotel, 200 N. Fredonia Street, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Board members present were:

Aubrey Russell, Chairman
Jerry Nichols, Vice Chairman
Reed Stewart, Member
José Dodier, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
John O'Connor, Program Supervisor
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor
Carter Miska, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Barbara Stephenson, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Joe Freeman, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
John Foster, NPS Team Leader
Lee Munz, NPS SWCD Liaison
T.J. Helton, NPS Grant Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, NPS Watershed Coordinator
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Dawn Heitman, HR Coordinator
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Others present were:

Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Al Schmidt, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Rebecca Hackney, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Tonoher Johnson, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Teresa Reese, Bedias Creek Soil & Water Conservation District
Kenda Mahaffey, Bedias Creek Soil & Water Conservation District
George A. Delfeld, Bedias Creek Soil & Water Conservation District
Worth Whitehead, Rusk Soil & Water Conservation District
Floyd A. Watson, Shelby Soil & Water Conservation District
Ray Grant, Shelby Soil & Water Conservation District
Janet Ritter, Shelby Soil & Water Conservation District
Kyle Daily, Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel

Chairman Russell called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. Jerry Nichols welcomed those present and Chairman Russell welcomed Barry Mahler as the newly elected Board Member from Area V.

AGENDA ITEM 1. Comments from Agencies and Guests

Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service announced that Dom Gohmert had been selected as the new State Conservationist for Texas. He also reported: final allocation was received on March 27th, no Congressional earmarks, no new funds for watersheds, no CRP signup, TSP, amended TSP agreement with State Board, EQIP, WHIP, civil rights reviews, 2007 Farm Bill, GRP and hirings.

Bill Thomas, Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts invited everyone to attend the State Meeting in October and voiced his appreciation for the State Board's assistance during the legislative session.

AGENDA ITEM 2. Minutes from the March 7, 2007 Board Meeting

Chairman Russell called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2007 Board Meeting as emailed. Mr. Dodier moved that the minutes be accepted with the three corrections noted. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Russell called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2007 closed session as emailed. Mr. Dodier moved that the minutes be accepted as emailed. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 3. District Director Appointments

Ms. Davis presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications. Mr. Nichols moved the appointments be approved. Mr. Jacobs seconded and the following appointments were unanimously approved:

Hayes Mitchell West, Highland #210, Zone 5, Replace Gene West
Rosann Zwonetschek, Kendall #216, Zone 3, Replace Kenneth Nickel
Johnny Sawyer, Llano County #233, Zone 4, Replace John Little
Susie Carter, Hays County #351, Zone 1, Replace Daniel Heideman
Albert Garcia, Jim Wells County #355, Zone 4, Replace George A. Frank, Jr.
Charles T. (Tommy) VanDeaver, Red River County #423, Zone 5, Replace Charles L. VanDeaver
Greg Dietrich, Harris County #442, Zone 5, Replace Eugene Murphy
Larry Justin Mitchell, Wood #444, Zone 4, Replace Don Jarred
James M. Raughton, Haskell #546, Zone 5, Replace Willie Buerger

AGENDA ITEM 4. Review and Approve Requests for Waiver as per §523.6(e)(2)(B)(E), TAC

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the requests for waiver from Rio Blanco, Willacy and Wood SWCDs be approved as presented. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5. Review and Approve Requests for Supplemental Cost-Share Assistance Funds

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Stewart moved the requests for supplemental cost-share funds be approved as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6. Review and Approve Cost-Share Allocation for the Upper Colorado SWCD #115

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the allocation of $21,052.00 for cost-share and administration for Upper Colorado SWCD be approved as presented. Mr. Stewart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7. Approval of Statewide Water Quality Management Plan Cost Share Requests

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board. Mr. Nichols moved the Board approve the requests for statewide cost-share funds as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8. Reallocate FY 07 General Revenue Brush Control Funds

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board. Mr. Stewart moved the Board approve the reallocation of $87,169.00 for FY 07 General Revenue from the Oak Creek, Lake Ballinger, and Lake Champion Projects to Twin Buttes Watershed Project in the amount of $27,528.60, Pedernales in the amount of $18,168.95, Hubbard Creek in the amount of $18,195.25, Pecos/Upper Colorado in the amount of $5,276.20 and Webb County in the amount of $18,000.00. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9. Approve Request to Exceed Transfer Limitation for Capital Budget Expenditures

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved the Board approve the request to exceed transfer limitation for capital budget expenditures as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10. Approval of TSSWCB Policy on TMDLs

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the Board approve the TSSWCB Policy on Total Maximum Daily Loads as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 11. Re-adoption, Revision or Repeal of Chapter 520 – Elections (Sections 520.1-520.6)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved the Board approve the re-adoption of the rule with the amendment as presented. Mr. Ward seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 12. Propose New Rule on District Meetings and Internal Controls

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the rule be adopted for publication in the *Texas Register* for review and comment. Mr. Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 13. 2007 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the following for the 2007 Annual State Meeting: legislators will be invited to the Committee of 100 Meeting and the Get Acquainted Reception; he will check on the availability of the motivational speaker for Monday night and Kenda Mahaffey will sing the National Anthem.

AGENDA ITEM 14. Future State Meeting Sites for 2008/2009

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved the Board designate Galveston as the meeting site for the 2008 Annual State Meeting. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board decided to discuss meeting sites for 2009 at a later date and instructed Mr. Davis to check into Arlington as a possibility.

AGENDA ITEM 15. Election of Officers

Chairman Russell called for nominations for Chairman of the Board. Mr. Stewart nominated Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. Dodier. Mr. Mahler moved that Mr. Nichols be approved by acclamation seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Russell then called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Russell nominated Mr. Stewart seconded by Mr. Dodier. Mr. Mahler moved that Mr. Stewart be approved by acclamation seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 17. NASCA Report

Mr. Davis reported that Christa Jones has been named the new Executive Director of NASCA.

AGENDA ITEM 18. Conservation Awards Program

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19. NACD Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20. Fall National Watershed Conference O&M/Sponsor Responsibility Training Session

Mr. Davis stated the training session will be held in the North Central Texas area in September. He will notify the Board when arrangements have been finalized.

AGENDA ITEM 21. Coastal Coordination Council Report

Mr. Dodier reported that the next Council meeting will be held June 21st in Galveston. He also stated funding is less than expected, from $60 million down to $48 million. Texas coastal counties will receive approximately $7 million each.

AGENDA ITEM 22. Human Resources Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 23. Public Information/Education Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 24. Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25. Brush Control Program Update

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 26. Poultry Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27. Clean Water Act, Section 319 Grant Program

Mr. Helton reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28. Watershed Protection Plan Program

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29. Adams and Cow Bayou TMDL

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30. Total Maximum Daily Load Program

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31. Bacteria TMDL Task Force

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board.

AGENDA ITEM 32. Set Date of Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting date was set as July 18 & 19, 2007 in Temple.

Chairman Nichols called the meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Chairman

Secretary

7/19/07
Date

7/19/07
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on May 23 & 24, 2007.

7/19/07
Date

Executive Director