

OFFICIAL MINUTES

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD

May 16, 1958

The regular meeting of the State Soil Conservation Board was held in its office, Temple, Texas beginning at 9:00 A.M., May 16, 1958.

Members present were: A. F. Leesch, Chairman, J. S. Sharp, J. C. Porter, S. J. Payne, and E. W. Wehman.

Others present were: A. C. Spencer and H. D. Davis<sup>key</sup> of the State Soil Conservation Board and W. T. Moon of the Soil Conservation Service.

The minutes of the March 24, 1958 meeting were read and approved.

After considerable discussion, the Board decided to change the following items of the budget request for the biennium beginning September 1, 1959 that were set up at the March 24 Board Meeting.

Item 7 - Raised seasonal and part-time help from \$1,350 to \$2,700 each year.

Item 8 - Lowered office travel from \$18,000 to \$17,000.

Item 9 - Included State Board Members in Supervisors travel fund and raised the amount from \$60,000 to \$64,000 each year.

These changes brought the total budget request to \$141,570 for each of the two years.

A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp to approve the budget with the above changes. The motion carried. (Copy of Budget Request attached)

The Board agreed to attach Item 11 to their Budget requesting an appropriation of \$628,800 for each of the two years of the biennium beginning September 1, 1959 for Soil Conservation Districts operations.

Having received a request from the sponsors of the Attoyac River Watershed application to amend the application to include an additional 14,336 acres, a motion was made by J. S. Sharp and seconded by J. C. Porter to amend the application as requested. The motion carried.

Having received favorable reports from preliminary surveys on the following watersheds,

a motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp to approve these watersheds:

1. Valley Creek -Runnels SCD #232 and Upper Clear Fork SCD #121.
2. Grassy Creek -Navasota SCD #440.
3. Beason-Cedar Creek -Navasota SCD #440

The motion carried.

Having received an unfavorable report from a preliminary survey on Deep Creek located in the Upper Colorado SCD #115, a motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp to finally disapprove this watershed. The motion carried.

S. J. Payne reported on a Public Hearing held in Dallam County on April 24 in relation to annexing additional territory to the Dallam County Soil Conservation District. A motion was made by S. J. Payne and seconded by E. W. Wehman for a Determination of Need and a Determination of Practicability and Feasibility for annexing additional territory to the Dallam County Soil Conservation District. The motion carried.

After having received petitions from the Nacogdoches-Rusk and Shelby-Panola Soil Conservation Districts, a motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp to hold public hearings in these districts on the proposition of dissolving the districts and re-organizing four districts on a county basis. Dates of hearings to be determined by the Executive Director and local people. The motion carried.

E. W. Wehman gave a report from the committee that was set up to study possible locations for the 1959 Annual Meeting of Supervisors. The committee recommended that the 1959 Annual Meeting be held in Abilene, Texas, January 7, 8, & 9, 1959. A motion was made by E. W. Wehman and seconded by J. C. Porter that the above place and dates recommended by the committee be approved for the 1959 Annual Meeting. The motion carried.

A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp that in the future, the Board determine the dates and place of the Annual Meetings far enough in advance so that the next years meeting dates and place could be announced at each years Annual Meeting. The motion carried.

A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by S. J. Payne to approve a request from the Supervisors of the El Paso-Hudspeth Soil Conservation District to change their zone boundaries. The motion carried.

A. F. Leesch discussed a meeting that he, A. C. Spencer and Garner Jones had with the Board of Water Engineers.

W. T. Moon stated that the regular planning party under Public Law 566 would be through planning Tehuacana Creek in August or September and that the Board needed to designate the next watersheds to be planned.

A motion recommending that Caney Creek in Fannin SCD and Plum Creek in Hay-Caldwell-Travis SCD be planned more or less concurrently by the regular party following work in Tehuacana Creek watershed was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by E. W. Wehman. This motion was made contingent upon satisfactory progress having been made in securing additional basic agreements above proposed structures and the application of land treatment measures in the watershed. The motion carried.

W. T. Moon suggested that the Board designate a watershed to be planned by the privately financed party under Public Law 566 due to the fact that Martinez Creek was the only one scheduled at the present time.

A motion was made by E. W. Wehman and seconded by S. J. Payne to recommend that the private financed party plan the East Keechi Creek watershed after completing Martinez Creek. The motion carried.

W. T. Moon stated that the Soil Conservation Service had made a re-study of the Tri-Bay watershed and had determined that the project would now be practicable and feasible due to the work that had been done by local people even though it was previously disapproved. The Board agreed to ask the local people to submit a new application.

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The State Board met with officials of the Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts at 11:30 A.M.

W. C. Howard, President of the Association, stated that a questionnaire had been mailed to all the Soil Conservation Districts in Texas in an attempt to determine the amount of funds needed annually for operation of districts.

H. B. Boswell stated that the association thought that presently requested appropriations should come under the rules and regulations set up in H. B. #444 and H. B. #163 as previously recommended by the State Soil Conservation Board. The Association asked the State Board to include an item in its Budget Request for an appropriation to the Soil Conservation Districts. The Board agreed to do this.

After considerable discussion, it was decided to ask the legislature to appropriate \$628,800 each year for the biennium beginning September 1, 1959.

The meeting recessed at 12:15 for lunch.

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A meeting of the State Board, Association of Soil Conservation Districts, the Soil Conservation Service & Extension Service was called to order by A. F. Leesch at 2:00 P. M.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss what information should be included in the Water Plan according to responsibilities given the State Board in Senate Bill # 1, Acts of the Fifty-fifth Legislature, First Called Session.

It was decided that the essential agricultural features of the Plan should be:

1. Soil resource areas of the state.
2. Land treatment needed in each major watershed.
3. Detailed upstream flood prevention plan in each major watershed.

It was agreed that it would be wise to follow the same general plan being used in Trinity Master Plan.

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The general meeting adjourned at 3:30 P. M. and the State Board resumed its regular meeting.



Jack Barton presented an outline as a guide to set up a teacher training program in the conservation of soil, water, plant, and wildlife resources. The Board agreed to study the outline and take some action at its next meeting.

A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by E. W. Wehman to elect S. J. Payne as Chairman of the Board by acclamation. The motion carried.

A motion was made by A. F. Leesch and seconded by J. C. Porter for E. W. Wehman to be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board by acclamation. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 P. M.

Harvey Davis  
Secretary

S. J. Payne  
Chairman

July 21, 1951  
Date