

The State Soil Conservation Board met at Dublin, Texas, at 7:30 p.m., on December 6, 1954, with all members present. Others present were V. C. Marshall, Executive Director, O. F. Armstrong and A. C. Spencer, Field Planning Engineers, and Mr. W. R. Heizer, Work Unit Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Dublin.

The first order of business was a report by Mr. Marshall on a public hearing held November 30th on the proposition of the creation of a soil conservation district in that part of Maverick County not yet in a district. Mr. Marshall reported that only two landowners were present, together with the board members of the board of supervisors of the Maverick County Soil Conservation District. From discussion, it was determined that there are only about twenty resident landowners within the proposed district. No resident landowner was present at the hearing. Mr. Marshall suggested to the group that he doubted that the State Soil Conservation Board would grant an election, since there are not enough resident landowners to operate a district. Mr. Marshall adjourned the hearing until sometime in February, and suggested that the landowners submit a petition for annexation to the Maverick County Soil Conservation District. The hearing could then be held on both proposition at the same time.

Mr. Marshall reported that the county agent of Kinney County had resigned upon request of a large number of landowners interested in organizing a district in that area. Mr. Marshall reported that a petition has been received for annexation of that part of the W. T. Waggoner Estate not now included in a district. This area would be annexed to the Wilbarger-Wichita Soil Conservation District, No. 533. It was reported that a public hearing had been set for 1:30 p.m., January 5, 1955, at Electra, Texas. The attorney in fact for the estate has been notified to meet with the Board of supervisors of the Wilbarger Wichita Soil Conservation District at that time.

Mr. S. J. Payne, Board Member, presented the invitation of Lubbock, Texas for

the 1956 annual meeting of district supervisors. Mr. Payne stated that all organizations and groups are anxious for the meeting to be held there. Mr. O. F. Armstrong reported that a new colosseum has been completed, which would provide adequate space for exhibits and meeting rooms. The Board Members deferred action on this matter until their next regular meeting to be held in San Antonio, Texas, on January 19th.

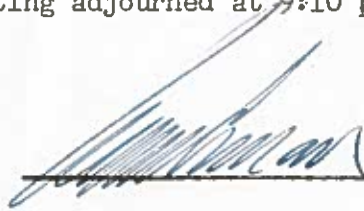
Mr. Arthur Leesch reviewed the general provisions of the seven bills to be presented by the Texas Water Resources Committee. He also reviewed the Constitutional Amendment and the enabling act. Mr. Leesch reported that he had attended a meeting of the Area Vice-Presidents of the Association of Texas Soil Conservation District Supervisors, and presented five major changes proposed at this meeting. These changes are as follows:

1. Protect riparian rights as have been deprived by the Courts
2. Provide for a 6 man elective commission rather than an appointive commission.
3. Exempt structures and practices from requirements of permit when primary purpose is Soil Conservation.
4. Continue the State Soil Conservation Board as the approving agency for small watershed flood detention projects.
5. Provide that water commission shall consider the needs of all water users before granting permits and rights to water impounded in structures partially financed with state money.

While no motion was made, the Board was in general agreement with the five changes proposed.

A petition for the organization of a soil conservation district in Orange, County, Texas, to be known as the Lower Sabine-Neches Soil Conservation District was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. J. P. Martin, seconded by Mr. C. M. Caraway, that a public hearing be held on this petition at the court house in Orange, Texas, 2:30 p.m., January 7, 1955.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.



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Approved:

1-19-55

A. C. Spencer

Secretary