

Official Minutes
State Soil Conservation Board Meeting
January 11, 1961
Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, Texas

The State Soil Conservation Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. on January 11, 1961 by Chairman J. C. Porter.

Other members present were J. Frank Gray and A. F. Leesch.

Others present were: A. C. Spencer, Executive Director of the State Soil Conservation Board; J. M. Norton, Water Planning Engineer, State Soil Conservation Board; A. T. Vandiver, Chairman, Dalworth Soil Conservation District; S. J. Payne, former member of the State Soil Conservation Board; Clyde W. Graham, Assistant State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service; Frank Hamm, former supervisor of the Dalworth Soil Conservation District; Bob Armstrong, Northwest Insurance Company; Ray Bullock, supervisor of the Harris Soil Conservation District and Cliff Ewing, Sales Manager, Shamrock-Hilton Hotel, Houston, Texas.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Cliff Ewing, Sales Manager for the Shamrock-Hilton Hotel, invited the Board to select Houston and the Shamrock-Hilton Hotel as the site for the January 1963 Annual State Meeting. Mr. Ewing stated that special room rates could be made available and that ample meeting and exhibit space could be had. The entire meeting could be held under one roof. It was pointed out to Mr. Ewing that exhibit and meeting space has never been paid for and that his hotel would have to meet this condition if his bid is to be seriously considered. Ray Bullock seconded Mr. Ewing's bid. They were told that a selection will not be made until next fall and that prior to the time the 1963 site is selected the Board will meet in Houston and inspect the facilities and go over other details.

New applications for watershed protection and flood prevention projects were received and disapproved pending field examination on motion by A. F. Leesch and seconded by J. Frank Gray on the following watersheds in Starr County Soil Conservation District: Los Olmos Creek, Sandia Creek, Rio Grande Creek, Los Villarreales Creek, and El Quiote Creek.

Field Examinations to determine economic feasibility were reviewed on McClellan Creek and Lower Waller County watersheds by Norton. These watersheds were approved as being economically feasible for planning on motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by J. Frank Gray.

Reports of field examinations on Beals Creek in the Martin-Howard Soil Conservation District, Madera Canyon and Cherry Canyon watersheds in the Toyah-Limpia Soil Conservation District, were reviewed and noted as having an unfavorable benefit-cost ratio.

The West Coloma Creek watershed in the Calhoun-Victoria Soil Conservation District was reviewed. According to present information the local people elected to proceed with the drainage project without assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Preventinn Program.

Mustang Creek watershed application in the Wharton County Soil Conservation District was reviewed and discussed in the light of not being properly sponsored as well as the need for a county-wide drainage survey requested by local interest to determine needs.

The above applications were disapproved on motion by A. F. Leesch and seconded by J. Frank Gray.

Clyde Graham reported on the present status and progress in watershed planning. Several plans have been recently completed and are in the process of review, namely; Lower Plum Creek, Camp Rice Arroyo, Macho Arroyo, Madden Arroyo and Upper Las Moras Creek. Field work is complete on the Northeast Tributaries of

Leon Watershed and the work plan is being prepared. Watersheds now being planned are Kent Creek, Salado Creek(San Antonio), Elm Creek (Temple), East Bay Bayou, and Big Creek (Bryan). Valley Creek (Ballinger) will follow Salado Creek in planning by Trust Fund Party if corrective legislation is completed. Bitter-Oaks-John Mann-Polecat Creeks watershed is in process of clearing legal boundaries and completing financial arrangements for Trust Fund planning.

Clyde Graham reported on accomplishments and progress sponsoring organizations have made in meeting criteria for planning operations and in providing readiness for such planning in the six watersheds which were recommended by the State Soil Conservation Board for planning priority on June 15, 1960.

On a motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board recommended Pine Creek watershed (Paris), North Texas Soil Conservation District #415, for number 1 priority, and Upper Bosque River watershed (Stephenville), Hamilton-Coryell Soil Conservation District #506 as number 2 priority for planning, following Big Creek at Bryan.

Frank Gray reported on the public hearings for the dissolution and re-organization of the Duck Creek Soil Conservation District #101, as being favorable with no opposition, at both Post and Spur, Texas. On motion by Frank Gray, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board made a determination of need for the dissolution of the Duck Creek Soil Conservation District.

On motion by Frank Gray, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board made a determination of need for the organization of the Duck Creek Soil Conservation District #157 and the Garza County Soil Conservation District #158.

A. C. Spencer reported on the completion of a "Working Agreement" between the State Soil Conservation Board and the Texas Highway Department which will provide for cooperative effort between the agencies for better understanding and solution of mutual problems. The agreement is intended to provide the channels of contact

and exchange of information between the Texas State Soil Conservation Board, local Soil Conservation Districts, the Soil Conservation Service, and the Texas Highway Department, to implement working relations and to coordinate respective programs. It was expressed by all as a very needed and worthwhile achievement. On a motion by Frank Gray, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board approved the agreement.

On a motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board approved and authorized A. C. Spencer to participate in the National Water Research Symposium in Washington, D. C., March 28,29, 1961.

The Annual Meeting of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts to be held in Memphis, Tennessee, February 5-9, 1961 was discussed. On motion by Frank Gray, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board approved the attendance of A. C. Spencer and two Board members, to be determined later.

A. C. Spencer reported on the status of the current budget request to the State Legislature as being reviewed but indefinite at this time. Job-classified positions for the State Soil Conservation Board were set up somewhat lower than requested but final action is pending.

A. F. Leesch reported on the meeting of the Governor's Water Committee and the recommendations and resolutions passed by the Committee.

A. C. Spencer reported on Committee work and program for presentation of Soil Surveys by local Soil Conservation Districts to public and interested parties. On motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by Frank Gray, it was approved that the State Soil Conservation Board would assist in the future programing and presentation of Soil Surveys.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.



Chairman



Secretary

Date