

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD
OCTOBER 27-29, 1964

The State Soil Conservation Board met in regular session on October 27, 1964, at 3:30 p.m. in the Grayson Hotel, Sherman, Texas.

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

Others present were: Harvey D. Davis, Executive Director, and J. M. Norton, Engineer of the staff, and C. W. Graham, Deputy State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, George Moore, Servis Equipment Company, and Supervisors James Bauer, Refugio, R. J. Bruni, Laredo, Gerald J. McBride, Realitos, Amado Garcia, Jr., San Diego, W. F. Botard, Alice, R. Carrillo, Benevides.

Mr. George Moore discussed the equipment display and arrangements at the State Meeting with the State Board and made some recommendations after which he excused himself.

The Board received representatives from Hotels, Chambers of Commerce, and others, in behalf of an invitation to the Board to hold the 1966 State Meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors at their respective cities. The Board heard Mr. Paul Ligon, Driskell Hotel, Corpus Christi. The Supervisors listed above expressed their enthusiasm and interest in hosting the meeting in Corpus. Mr. Westmoreland of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce together with Mr. Boleyn invited the Board to Bryan and College Station. Mr. Silas Byrd and Mr. Stuart Coleman of Brownwood reviewed their commitment for the 1965 meeting to be held in Brownwood in October. Mr. Bob Casper, Hotel Galvez, Galveston, presented information and invited the Board to Galveston in 1966. Mr. Ligon Smith presented an invitation in behalf of the Adolphus Hotel, Dallas. Mr. Houston, Hotel Texas, gave information and

invited the Board to Fort Worth. Mr. Fred Brown, representing the Six Flags Inn presented an invitation to the Board to hold the 1966 meeting there.

The minutes of the meeting of September 3-4, 1964, in Wichita Falls, Texas, were read and approved on motion by J. C. Porter, seconded by J. S. Sharp.

The minutes of the meeting of October 15, 1964, at Temple, Texas were read and approved on motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by J. Frank Gray.

A new watershed application for assistance under Public Law 566 on the Comal River Basin was reviewed for the Board. On motion by J. C. Porter, seconded by J. S. Sharp, the Board disapproved the application pending a field examination to determine the economic feasibility.

Norton discussed the interest by local sponsors for planning the Ash Slough watershed and of the possibility of developing a work plan while planning Choctaw Creek and utilizing data and information developed and on hand from previous studies.

The Board recessed at 7:30 p.m. to attend the activities of the Annual Statewide Meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors.

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The State Soil Conservation Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m. on October 29, 1964, in the Grayson Hotel to continue and complete their regular board meeting.

Board Members present were: E. W. Wehman, Chairman, J. C. Porter, A. F. Leesch, and J. Frank Gray.

Others present were: Harvey Davis, J. M. Norton, and A. W. Dalrymple, of the staff, and C. W. Graham, Soil Conservation Service.

Mr. Graham discussed the current status of watershed planning in Texas. He further discussed the possibility of planning Upper and Lower Sweetwater Creek watersheds jointly with Oklahoma. The estimated costs for planning the two watersheds is \$120,000. It was suggested that if the two States could put up \$30,000 each for

planning, there might be a possibility of securing matching funds of \$60,000 from Federal appropriations. Harvey Davis reported that Oklahoma has not taken any action on the 50-50 division of planning costs as had previously been agreed upon by our Board but will have their meeting next week at which time they will consider the planning of Sweetwater Creek. Mr. Graham thought that if the Board wanted to pursue the idea of securing Federal funds, a request should be made not later than January 1, 1965. After considerable discussion, on motion by J. C. Porter, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board decided that Oklahoma should be contacted in regard to the proposition of furnishing their \$30,000 and notifying this Board by December 1, 1964, and Texas would put up their \$30,000 and a request would be submitted to the Soil Conservation Service for \$60,000 to complete the planning of Sweetwater Creek. It was determined that the State Boards would need to know by the end of February, 1965, if the \$60,000 of Federal funds would be available, otherwise, State funds would have to be obligated on some other watersheds.

Mr. Graham stated that the Chicota Creek watershed was having some troubles in providing their trust fund for planning. The lack of available watershed groups expressing an interest in providing trust funds for planning was discussed by the Board. There has been an indication of interest from sponsors of the McClellan Creek, Cuero, and Farmers Creek watersheds.

The need for holding tours and hearings on some of the feasible watersheds which might be considered for planning priority was discussed. Those watersheds include the Dell City watersheds, Upper Navasota River watershed, and the Cuero watershed. The Board approved setting up a tour and hearing on the Dell City watersheds during the first part of December, with Mr. Wehman and Mr. Leesch representing the Board, and to check on the Cuero watershed for an early date for a tour and hearing.

Mr. Davis discussed a letter of invitation from Austin relative to the State Meeting for 1966. He further stated that representatives from that City had pledged they could handle the 1965 meeting should it be impractical to hold it in Brownwood. The Board advised and authorized Harvey Davis to check on the facilities at Brownwood for adequacy and make a report to the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Porter led a discussion on relations of the State Board, Soil Conservation Districts, and the Soil Conservation Service relative to working relations with personnel and programs. He suggested that such problems be reconciled as rapidly as possible and for the staff members to be extremely careful relative to relation problems. Mr. Davis was directed to discuss the various aspects of this situation in the next staff meeting and to emphasize the seriousness of some of the problems. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary

December 11, 1964

Date