

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
OCTOBER 11, 1966

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met in regular session in the Directors Room, Stephen F. Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas, at 11:45 a.m., October 11, 1966.

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

State Board staff members present were: Harvey Davis, Executive Director, S. E. Jones, Assistant Executive Director and Field Representative, O. F. Armstrong, L. F. Stewart and A. W. Dalrymple.

Other present: Gus Ellis, Chairman, Convention Committee, College Station-Bryan Chamber of Commerce, Joe Ferreri, Owner, Ramada Inn, College Station, Freddy Walters, City National Bank, Bryan, John Hutchison, Director, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A & M University, H. N. Smith, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Temple, Clyde W. Graham, Deputy State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Temple and L. J. Lann, Assistant State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Temple.

Mr. A. F. Leesch called the meeting to order and asked Mr. John Hutchison, Director, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A & M University to present their invitation and to give the Board a summary of the facilities that would be available in the College Station-Bryan area for holding of the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors in 1968.

Mr. Hutchison extended a most gracious invitation to the Board from himself, Gen. Earl Rudder, President of the Texas A & M University System and Dr. R. E. Patterson, Dean of Agriculture of Texas A & M University, for the Board to consider the College Station-Bryan area as a meeting place. Mr. Hutchison, also read a

letter of invitation from the Brazos-Robertson Soil and Water Conservation District.

Joe Ferreri presented to the Board the information in regards to banquet facilities, meeting rooms, and housing facilities, stating that approximately 440 rooms could be counted on for the meeting, with facilities to handle 800 banquet style and many more could be handled auditorium style, and that meeting rooms with capacities of 40 to 200 could be set up for area discussion meetings.

The meeting recessed at 12:40 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

The minutes of the Board meeting of September 8, 1966 were read and approved.

Harvey Davis advised the Board that the Hamilton County Commissioners Court had approved the work plan on Pecan Creek. The court did not approve this plan at the field level review which is customary.

Harvey Davis reviewed the agenda for the Area Discussion meetings to be held on October 12 in connection with the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors.

Harvey Davis also reviewed the proposed By-Law changes of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the proposed legislation to amend the state laws regarding Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors.

New watershed applications were reviewed for the Board on China Creek, Chiltipin and San Patricio watersheds. On a motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, these three applications were disapproved pending additional information to determine feasibility.

Correspondence on the Dell Valley watersheds was reviewed wherein the sponsors advised the Board of severe damages suffered in a recent flood and a request for an early planning priority. No action was taken since all planning facilities were presently tied up.

Mr. H. N. Smith advised the Board that Clyde Graham would become the Head of the Watershed Planning Division, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C., on November 6, 1966, and that L. J. Lann was being promoted to assistant State Conservationist for Watershed Planning and would be meeting with the Board in the future as Clyde Graham had been doing. The Board expressed its appreciation to Mr. Graham for the superior service he had performed in Texas and the cooperative manner in which he had worked with the Board in addition to complimenting him on his promotion. The Board also welcomed Mr. L. J. Lann.

Correspondence was reviewed from the Swisher County and Hale County Soil and Water Conservation Districts requesting the Board to advise them if it would be legal for them to serve as the official local agency for water depletion in irrigation wells for Internal Revenue purposes. The Board took no action due to lack of information.

Harvey Davis reported that two Soil and Water Conservation Districts had entered into an agreement with the Continental Casualty Insurance Company under which the Districts were collecting Membership Fees from cooperators thereby qualifying for some sort of group insurance. In addition to Membership fees, the Districts are being paid an Administrative Fee of 5% on original premiums for something. The Board agreed to authorize Harvey Davis to ask for an Attorney General's opinion on the legality of this arrangement and also authorized a letter to be released to all Districts asking them not to enter such an agreement until official legal information could be obtained.

A petition to transfer territory from the San Diego-Agua Dulce Soil and Water Conservation District to the Agua Poquita Soil and Water Conservation District was reviewed. After determining that the petition was in order, a motion was made by Frank Gray and seconded by E. W. Wehman to hold a Public Hearing on the proposed transfer. The motion carried.

A petition to annex the T. J. Waggoner Estate to the Wilbarger-Wichita Soil and Water Conservation District was presented. On a motion by Frank Gray, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board authorized a Public Hearing on this proposition.

Harvey Davis reported that he had requested \$9,760.00 for the newly created Canadian River Soil and Water Conservation District to be included in the State Board's budget. On a motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board ratified this request.

On a motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board changed its regular meetings from the third Wednesday in each odd month to the third Thursday in each odd month. The next Board meeting to be November 17, 1966.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. so that the Board Members and Staff could participate in and supervise activities of the Annual Statewide meeting of District Supervisors on October 11, 12 and 13, 1966.

*E. W. Wehman*  
Chairman

*L. E. Jones*  
Secretary

*November 17, 1966*  
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on October 11, 1966.

*November 17, 1966*  
Date

*Harvey Davis*  
Executive Director