

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
March 16, 1978

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 16, 1978 at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room, 1006 First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Joe Antilley, Chairman
Frank Gray, Vice Chairman
Henry Turney, Member
Albert Roach, Member
E. W. Wehman, Sr., Member

Staff members present were:

A. C. Spencer, Executive Director
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director
James Moore, Hydrologist
Bob Buckley, Staff Services Assistant
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

George Marks, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service
Jerry Lee, Assistant State Conservationist for Operations, SCS
Dale Allen, Public Information Officer, SCS
J. B. Webster, Texas Forestry Association

Since each board member received by mail a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on February 16-17, 1978 and there being no changes suggested, on motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the minutes were approved without being read.

On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board approved the appointment of Charles Nemec, Jr. to the Matagorda County Soil and Water Conservation District contingent upon receipt of completed appointment papers.

On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved the following district director appointments:

Melvin H. Albright - Colorado SWCD # 333
Kenneth Lewis - Collin County SWCD # 535

Bob Buckley reported that instructions for preparation of the 1980 and 1981 budget have been received. The board was reminded that the district directors at the Annual Meeting in Lubbock passed a resolution asking that their per diem for district meetings be increased from \$10.00 to \$30.00 and that their mileage allowance to and from official board meetings be increased to the amount allowed State employees (18¢ per mile at the present time.) Since the allowable for directors mileage is specified by law it was decided by mutual consent that the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts be asked to prepare and sponsor enabling legislation and that the board would include the addition in one of its budget alternates.

The Board discussed the rate of per diem as set up in the soil conservation statutes for their services. On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board agreed to amend the statutes to read "up to and not to exceed \$100.00 per diem for each day, etc." from the previous wording of "not to exceed the sum of \$30.00 per diem for each day, etc." *

Matching fund requests from conservation districts in preparation for the budget have been received from 61 districts.

The Board agreed to hold a called meeting on April 20, 1978 at which time budget recommendations for fiscal years 1980 and 1981 will be considered.

After discussion pertaining to watershed planning, a motion was made by Henry Turney, seconded by E. W. Wehman, and passed to transfer \$30,000.00 from the Watershed Planning, Sedimentation & Erosion Control budget item to the Soil Conservation Service to defray planning costs for Public Law 566 flood prevention plans in Texas. This brings allocations to a total of \$100,000.00 for this purpose during this fiscal year.

James Moore reported that he had met with the group at A & M before finalization of the document on "Silvicultural Activities in Relation to Water Quality in Texas" prepared by the Forest Science Department

* see page 5 for explanation

at Texas A & M University under contract with the Texas Department of Water Resources. It presents the control strategy for silvicultural activity pursuant to PL 92-500, Section 208. Recommendations of our staff had been considered in the report. A letter from John Wood, representing the Silvicultural Advisory Committee, was read in which he recommended acceptance of the report stating the report parallels the philosophy incorporated by the Board on our document on agriculture. Jim Webster commended the Board for its work on the control strategy. On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Henry Turney, the Board authorized Mr. Spencer to inform the Texas Department of Water Resources of its acceptance of the document.

Mr. Spencer briefed the Board on Section 208 matters and reported guidelines were being developed for the implementation of the Culver amendment for which funds will be appropriated to carry out provisions of Section 208. Guidelines will be reviewed by various people. The State Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service will designate an administrative agency and a management agency. On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board agreed to ask for its designation as the management agency for the State of Texas to administer funds for implementation of the 208 program. The 208 plan must be approved by the Governor and problem areas designated before any funding is available. On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board authorized the Chairman and the Executive Director to attend any hearing and/or meeting in Washington or elsewhere relative to this program.

Mr. Spencer reported that Mr. Stubbs from the Classification office will review job classifications for our agency on March 21 and 22 prior to preparation of our budget for fiscal years 1980 and 81. Mr. Spencer has interviewed two applicants for the engineer's position and

three applicants for the Soil Conservationist's position.

James Moore briefed the board on results of the field examination on the Upper Bois d'arc and Lower Bois d'arc creeks watersheds located in Fannin County and the Upper Elm-Red Soil and Water Conservation District. Since the benefit-cost ratio is 1.2 to 1.0 on the Upper Bois d'arc creek watershed, on motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Henry Turney, the Board approved the Upper Bois d'arc watershed as feasible for planning and disapproved the Lower Bois d'arc creek watershed due to the unfavorable 0:.06 benefit-cost ratio.

John Millican discussed the prime lands suit filed by the Attorney General against the United States Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior.

John Millican inquired of the Board on the format of the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. For several years now the meeting has begun with a reception on Tuesday evening, followed by a general session on Wednesday morning, with area discussion sessions in the afternoon, a banquet in the evening and a business session on Thursday morning ending the meeting at noon. Since we have experienced well-attended sessions, the Board agreed not to change the format for the 1978 annual meeting.

The Board instructed the staff to investigate possible sites and facilities for the 1979 Annual meeting in an effort to select a site prior to the 1978 meeting.

George Marks discussed briefly the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (PL 95-192). A slide presentation of RCA was given by Jerry Lee and Dale Allen outlining implementation of the Act. Statewide meetings will be held in Stephenville and San Antonio on implementation of the Act most likely on May 16 and May 18, 1978.

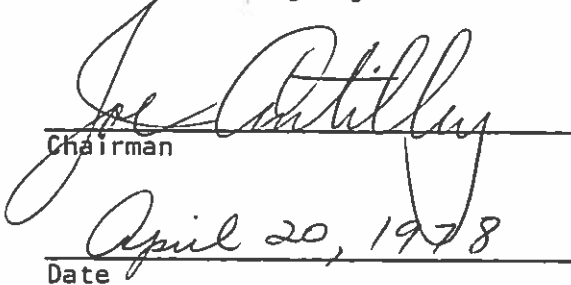
Mr. Antilley reported on the Natural Resources Council meeting held

recently. The council consists of agencies involved in administering programs of natural resources. The council under the chairmanship of the Governor is charged with the responsibility to study and evaluate natural resources programs. Mr. Antilley will serve on the Subcommittee on the Coastal Management Program representing our agency.

Mr. Spencer reported on Area meetings of District Directors held in February in the Panhandle section of the State as being informative and educational.

The Board will set the date of the May meeting in the called Board meeting on April 20, 1978. The regular meeting date is May 18, 1978.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.


Chairman
April 20, 1978
Date



Secretary

* The minutes were approved with the following correction:

page 2, paragraph 2

Voting "yes" on the motion were E. W. Wehman, Albert Roach, and Frank Gray. Voting "no" on the motion was Henry Turney.

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 March 16, 1978.

April 20, 1978
Date 
Executive Director