

Official Minutes  
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
March 15, 1989

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, March 15, 1989, at 8:00 a.m. in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Chairman  
Fred Squyres, Vice Chairman  
Joe Antilley, Member  
Hermon Petty, Member  
Larry McCasland, Member

Staff members present were:

Robert G. Buckley, Executive Director  
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director  
James Moore, Engineer  
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist  
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist  
Jay Kuykendall, Planner  
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Clyde Hale, Pres., Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Dists.  
S. W. Dorrell, Director, Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Dists.  
Harvey Davis, former State Board Executive Director  
Dr. Allen Jones, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station  
Dr. Bill Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service  
Dr. Clarence Richardson, Agriculture Research Service  
Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board  
Tom Milligan, Consultant for the Texas Water Development Board  
Wes Oneth, Soil Conservation Service  
Dale Fischgrabe, Soil Conservation Service  
Gary Westmoreland, Soil Conservation Service  
James Abbott, Soil Conservation Service  
Joe Dial, Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee, Gulf of Mexico Program

Chairman Schendel called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Larry McCasland, the minutes of the January 18, 1989 and February 14, 1989 meetings were approved as mailed to each Board member.

John Millican reviewed information on appointees for district directors for consideration and recommended they be approved. On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board approved the following district directors:

J. Robert Hanvey, Jr. - Hall-Childress SWCD #109  
Stephen A. Stoy - Nueces-Frio-Sabinal SWCD #221  
Paul Tanksley - Big Bend SWCD #227  
Douglas Buchholz - Eldorado Divide SWCD #247  
James Gregory - Bedias Creek SWCD #428  
P. M. Gerald, Jr. - Hamilton-Coryell SWCD #506

Bob Buckley provided a checklist of districts whose audits have been approved or corrections have been received to make the audits complete.

Mr. Buckley advised the Board that \$17,170.78 in Technical Assistance Funds and \$1,432.38 in Subchapter H Funds had been released by several soil and water conservation districts to be reallocated to other SWCDs. On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Joe Antilley, the funds were reallocated according to the list recommended by the staff. (See attachment.) Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Larry McCasland abstaining.

Mr. Buckley presented a letter to the Board from Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation District #250 requesting that they be allowed to cost share wages paid to students with Pan American University to be claimed on Technical Assistance Reimbursement requests. Hermon Petty made the motion to grant the waiver to the Hidalgo SWCD, seconded by Joe Antilley, Motion carried.

Mr. Petty asked to look at the salary cap placed on Technical Assistance because districts were losing trained employees because of the lack of ability to give raises. Fred Squyres made the motion to instruct the staff to draft rule changes to allow the wages paid an employee to equal those paid to a GS5 federal employee. Hermon Petty seconded. Mr. Squyres, Mr. Petty and Mr. McCasland voted for the motion and Joe Antilley opposed because of lack of background, facts and figures. Proposed amendments to the Technical Assistance Program rules are to be presented to the Board at its next meeting.

James Moore briefed the Board on the status of the Nonpoint Source Management Program. He reviewed revisions that were being made to the management program report for submission to the Environmental Protection Agency by the May 4, 1989, deadline.

Mr. Moore advised the Board that extra copies of the documentary entitled "Pointless Pollution" produced by the Lower Colorado River Authority and viewed by the Board in Austin on March 6, 1989, were not available at this time. He told the Board that LCRA had agreed to provide the State Board a copy when available.

Gulf of Mexico Program advisory committees were discussed. The Board had decided to ask for representation on the Nutrient Enrichment Subcommittee; the Information and Data Transfer Subcommittee; the Freshwater Inflow Subcommittee; the Toxics and Pesticides Subcommittee; and the Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee at their Board meeting on February 14, 1989. Chairman Schendel asked to delay assigning individuals to represent the Board on these committees until later in the day when Joe Dial, Chairman of the Gulf of Mexico Program's Citizens Advisory Committee, would present information on the Gulf of Mexico Program.

James Moore advised the Board that Chairman Schendel and Waldo Smith, past president of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, had been selected to serve on the Citizens Advisory Steering Committee for the Galveston Bay Study. Mr. Moore indicated that he had been selected to serve on the Technical Steering Committee.

A proposed revision to districts' Long Range Program and Plan of Work relative to nonpoint source management was presented to the Board. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Hermon Petty, the proposal was approved and the staff directed to work with districts to get it incorporated into as many

programs and plans as possible. (A copy of the adopted wording is attached.)

Dale Fischgrabe brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Soil Conservation Service. He advised that the eighth Cropland Reserve Program sign up period had just been completed. He also advised the Board of the limited space for the National Watershed Congress in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on May 15-17, 1989. Texas was only allowed space for 35 people and it was left up to the State Conservationist of each state to select people to attend. The Board was asked for their input into who should be invited to attend.

Dr. Allen Jones reported on a mesquite control program his agency is currently involved with.

Dr. Bill Harris reported on work he is actively involved with regarding nonpoint source management and expressed an interest in working with the Board and staff.

Comer Tuck introduced Tom Milligan who works as a consultant for the Texas Water Development Board. He also reported that Reg Arnold, Executive Administrator for the Water Development Board, had been in a serious accident and that Sonny Kretzschmar had been given authority to act in the Executive Administrator's absence.

Clyde Hale reported on his trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, on February 5-9, 1989, to attend the national meeting of the National Association of Conservation Districts. He advised the Board that the South Central Regional meeting of NACD would be held July 31 - August 3, 1989, at South Padre Island.

Mr. Buckley reported on the status of the 1990-91 biennium budget request and on recent budget hearings before committees of the House and Senate.

The staff reviewed bills pending before the legislature that would have a direct impact on the agency and local soil and water conservation districts.

The Annual Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors will be held October 23-25, 1989, in McAllen, Texas. Chairman Schendel appointed the following to the Planning Committee:

C. F. "Dick" Schendel  
Joe Antilley  
Clyde Hale  
Don Swann  
Bob Buckley  
John Millican

Clyde Gottschalk reported on the activities of the Public Information/Education Committee and advised the Board of a video cassette program on shoreline erosion that was being developed. He advised that a grant from the Moody Foundation of \$7,500 had been given to aid in the development of this production. Mr. Gottschalk also reported on the national steering committee meeting for Project Food, Land and People that he had recently attended in Sparks, Nevada. He also reported that the Education Textbook Covers had been so well received last year that it is being continued again this year.

John Millican reported on the status of the request of an Attorney General's Opinion regarding Opinion V-1365 relating to district finances. Mr. Schendel requested that Mr. Millican and Mr. Buckley continue to work with the Attorney General's Office on this matter.

Mr. Buckley discussed the upcoming Board member elections that will be held on May 2, 1989, in State Areas I, III, and V. The procedures for conducting these elections were reviewed. The Area I election will be held in Room 211A at the McClung University Center, Wayland Baptist University in Plainview at 6:00 p.m. The Area III election will be held at the Yoakum Community Center, Yoakum, Texas at 5:00 p.m. The Area V election will be held in Room 103, Stephenville High School, Stephenville, Texas at 6:00 p.m.

Mel Davis gave a report on the Conservation Awards program. He reported that 178 districts had contributed to the awards program and that 131 districts had entered one or more categories. The regional awards banquets will be held at the following locations:

- Area I - McClung University Center Cafeteria, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, Texas, May 2, 1989 at 7:00 p.m.
- Area II - Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, May 4, 1989 at 7:00 p.m.
- Area III - Yoakum Community Center, Yoakum, Texas, May 2, 1989 at 6:00 p.m.
- Area IV - Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, May 2, 1989 at 6:30 p.m.
- Area V - Stephenville High School Cafeteria, Stephenville, Texas, May 2, 1989 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Schendel, Mr. Antilley and Mr. Petty reported on their attendance at the national meeting of the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Salt Lake City, Utah on February 5-9, 1989. They reported that Bob Wetherbee of Fairmount, North Dakota, is the new president of NACD. Clyde Hale reported that Texas' soil and water conservation districts had contributed \$1,360.00 to the NACD building fund.

Chairman Schendel requested approval for travel to Washington, D.C. on April 1-3, 1989, to attend the spring board meeting of NACD. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Larry McCasland, Chairman Schendel's travel to this meeting was approved.

Since the Board will be in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma attending the National Watershed Congress at the time of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, it was the concensus of the Board to move the Board meeting date to May 24, 1989, in place of the regular date of May 17, 1989.

Joe Dial, Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee, Gulf of Mexico Program then presented a video program entitled "America's Sea".

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Clarence J. Scheudel  
Chairman

Lois Cain  
Secretary

5-24-89  
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on March 15, 1989.

5-24-89  
Date

Robert L. Buckley  
Executive Director