

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
March 21, 1985

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 21, 1985 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 1006, First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Chairman
Albert Roach, Member
Joe Antilley, Member

Staff members present were:

Harvey Davis, Executive Director
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs
James Moore, Engineer
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Carl Gray, Agronomist
Jay Kuykendall, Engineering Technician

Others present were:

Waldo Smith, President, Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation
Charles "Buddy" Clark, Director, Assn. of Texas SWCDs /Districts
Dale Fischgrabe, Soil Conservation Service
Gary Westmoreland, Soil Conservation Service
Pat Henson, Soil Conservation Service
O'Gene Barkemeyer, Soil Conservation Service
Charles M. Thompson, Soil Conservation Service
Frank Wheeler, Soil Conservation Service
Dr. B. L. Harris, Agricultural Extension Service
Dr. Earl Burnett, Agricultural Research Service (1:15)
Kenneth Kuykendall, Treasurer, National Association of Conservation Districts/

Chairman Schendel called the meeting to order and welcomed all the guests.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Roach, the minutes of the Board meetings held on January 17, 1985 and February 26, 1985 were approved as read.

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

James Fuston - Hall-Childress SWCD # 109
Philip LaMaster - Ochiltree SWCD # 142
Bob Millican - San Saba-Brady SWCD # 214
Larry Damerau - Comal-Guadalupe SWCD # 306
Fred Neumann - Alamo SWCD # 330
Ronald W. "Ronnie" Riske - Calhoun SWCD # 345

A petition was received February 8, 1985 from the Hays-Caldwell-Travis SWCD # 304 to divide and reorganize the district into two districts; Caldwell-Travis SWCD and Hays County SWCD. On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board authorized the staff to proceed with the division and reorganization of the Hays-Caldwell-Travis SWCD. Public hearings will be held in San Marcos and Lockhart on April 3, 1985 at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. respectively.

As per action of the Board at its last meeting, a survey was conducted of districts to determine the status of technical assistance funds for fiscal year 1985 in order to reallocate funds released to districts requesting additional funds. Each Board member was given a data sheet listing individual districts with the amount of allocated funds, balance of funds as of 2-28-85, additional funds requested or released and cash balances as of August 31, 1984. Districts released \$62,070.00 and additional requests totaled \$206,090.43. Using the information on the data sheet as a guideline for re-allocating released funds, on motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved re-allocation of technical assistance funds as attached.

Since the Board had approved \$55,000.00 in the 1985 operating budget for watershed planning, and these funds had not been expended, James Moore reviewed watersheds to be considered for planning contracts. On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board authorized contracts be entered into with Soil Conservation Service for the following watersheds:

Big Creek, Delta County	\$15,000.00
Caddo Creek, Collin & Hunt Counties	10,000.00
Hudspeth County, Hudspeth Co.	15,000.00
Sulphur Creek, Bee, Live Oak & Karnes Counties	15,000.00
Total	<u>\$55,000.00</u>

Harvey Davis discussed several legislative bills effecting the State Board and Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Jay Kuykendall discussed Senate Bill # 1083 by Senator Bill Sims that provides for the brush control problem to be carried out by the State Soil and Water Conservation Board and Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Bob Buckley reported on the current status of the proposed 1986-87 budget request. Due to review of budget proposals by both houses, markups are to begin this week. Buckley reported on Senate Bill # 306 passed on March 6, 1985 requiring all agencies, commissions, etc. to report on anticipated lapsing of funds for 2 previous fiscal years plus funding anticipated to lapse for the 1985 fiscal year. Six reports on these funds had to be in the Comptroller's Office by March 15, 1985. These reports were reviewed with the Board.

Mr. Schendel expressed appreciation to the Board and staff for remembering his wife, Ellie, with cards, flowers and visits while in the hospital having her second hip surgery.

James Moore reviewed proposed guidelines for the identification of farmland of statewide importance for State Board use in fulfilling responsibilities pursuant to the Farmland Protection Policy Act. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board adopted the guidelines as reviewed with the understanding that for the present each referral would be brought before the Board for its consideration. (copy of guidelines attached)

Frank Wheeler presented information to the Board concerning a referral under the farmland protection policy act submitted by the U. S. Department of Energy on the potential nuclear repository sites in Swisher and Deaf Smith Counties. It was agreed that the Soil Conservation Service and State Board staff would evaluate the areas for farmland of statewide importance and present their recommendations at the next board meeting.

Dale Fischgrabe introduced Pat Henson, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs. Mr. Fischgrabe reported that the Brownwood Area Office would

be closing June 8, 1985. Carrol Adams was going to Vernon as Area Conservationist. Due to budget restrictions hiring of personnel will be very limited with an expected 1,044 permanent full time positions for this year. Mr. Fischgrabe explained the memorandum of understanding between Farmers Home Administration-Soil Conservation Service was to be limited to selected locations with normal ongoing problems, the status of the budget was unsure, and targeting was now up to the discretion of the State Conservationist with agreement of ASCS. It was announced that Thomas Rockenbaugh will be the Associate Chief of Soil Conservation Service effective 3-25-85.

Gary Westmoreland informed the group Soil Conservation Service will use Circular 39 in lieu of the Cowardin System for wetlands classification for at least 5 years. This does not mean other agencies will do the same.

O'Gene Barkemeyer reported on water resource activities.

Pat Henson reported on funding of various programs.

Bill Harris reported on a successful soil survey land resource workshop and that conservation tillage demonstration programs were being developed in several SWCDs around the State. Dr. Harris informed the group of a statewide effort involving input from agricultural agencies was being developed on wind erosion.

Earl Burnett reported on emphasis being placed on technology and budget activities.

Kenneth Kuykendall thanked everyone for support given to the National Association of Conservation Districts and briefed the Board on current activities.

The Board discussed participation in the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Soil Conservation Service and the National Association of Conservation Districts Board of Directors meeting in Washington, D. C. April 28 thru May 2, 1985. Plans were finalized for banquet, airline, and lodging reservations for those attending.

Area Conservation Awards Programs will be held as follows:

- Area I May 3, 1985 - Lubbock
- Area II May 2, 1985 - San Angelo
- Area III May 7, 1985 - Beeville
- Area IV May 9, 1985 - Nacogdoches
- Area V May 13, 1985 - Mineral Wells

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board is May 16, 1985.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Clarence F. Schendel
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

May 16, 1985
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on March 21, 1985.

May 16, 1985
Date

Harvey Davis
Executive Director