

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
March 21, 1990**

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, March 21, 1990, in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

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

Staff members present were:

Robert G. Buckley, Executive Director  
John W. Millican, Assistant Executive Director  
James M. Moore, Engineer  
William C. Neiser, Director of Programs  
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant  
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist  
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist  
Janet Gonser, Planner  
Beade Northcut, Hydrologist  
Steven Deiss, Engineering Technician  
Ramesh Kumar Chamala, Research Specialist  
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Wes Oneth, Soil Conservation Service  
Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board  
Clyde Hale, Association of Texas SWCDs  
Christina Allday-Bondy, Texas Department of Agriculture

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

On motion of C. F. "Dick" Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, the minutes of the January 17, 1990 and March 1, 1990 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 Joe Antilley, seconded by Harvey Davis, the Board approved the following district director appointments:

John David Wade, Upper Pecos SWCD #213  
Alex H. Grosse, Mason County SWCD #223  
Anna R. Lovecky, McLennan County SWCD #512

John Millican reported that a request had been received from Smith County Soil and Water Conservation District #426 requesting subdivision boundary changes to allow the subdivisions to be established on more easily identifiable landmarks. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Joe Antilley, the new subdivision boundaries were approved.

Mr. Millican presented a request from the Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District #220 for changes in the present subdivision boundary to get the boundaries identified by more easily identified landmarks. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by C. F. "Dick" Schendel, the new subdivision boundaries were approved as requested.

Mr. Millican updated the Board on the division and reorganization of the North Concho River Soil and Water Conservation District #208. He advised the Board that the necessary forms were complete to form the Glasscock County Soil and Water Conservation District #251 and the North Concho River Soil and Water Conservation District #252 and recommended the division be approved as being practical and feasible. He recommended the subdivision boundaries be approved as submitted. Petitions recommending that Dennis Fuchs be appointed to subdivision 2 and Hubert Frerich be appointed to subdivision 4 of the Glasscock County SWCD #251 and that Larry Harwood be appointed to subdivision

2 and Mackey McEntire be appointed to subdivision 4 of the North Concho River SWCD #252 were presented. It was recommended that matching funds allocation of \$3,000 be equally divided between the two new districts and that the technical assistance money be allocated to Glasscock County SWCD #251 as stated in the division request. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Larry McCasland, the division and reorganization of the North Concho River SWCD #208 to form Glasscock County SWCD #251 and North Concho River SWCD #252 was approved as presented.

Mr. Millican presented a request from the Freestone-Leon Soil and Water Conservation District #424 to transfer the lands lying in Leon County to Bedias Creek Soil and Water Conservation #428. Mr. Millican recommended the division be approved as being practical and feasible and recommended that the new subdivision boundaries for each district be approved as presented. He recommended the approval of the appointment of James E. Sweeney to Subdivision 2 and E. Jerry Smith to Subdivision 5 of Freestone County as a result of this transfer. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Harvey Davis the above requests were approved. A request was received from each district requesting that the technical assistance allocation of \$1940 be transferred to Bedias Creek SWCD #428. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Joe Antilley the transfer of technical assistance funds was approved.

Mr. Millican presented a request from the Freestone-Leon SWCD #424 to change their name since that portion of Leon County had been transferred out of the district. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Joe Antilley, the request to change the name

to Freestone County Soil and Water Conservation District #424 was approved.

Clyde Gottschalk reported on the Public Information/Education Program. He advised the Board that the textbook cover project was being done again this year and bids were being received. The shoreline erosion video was ready to go to the field and production would soon begin. Mr. Gottschalk reported that a number of Boy Scouts of America workshops and conservation education workshops for teachers were scheduled. He also reported that he had been conducting Management Level II and III sessions for Soil Conservation Service personnel.

Mel Davis reported that 139 districts were participating in the 1990 fiscal year Texas Conservation Awards Program. He also asked the Board if they wanted to make any changes in the 1991 awards program.

Christina Allday-Bondy, program coordinator for the Trees for Texas program of the Texas Department of Agriculture, made a presentation for the Trees for Texas program. She said the goal is to plant 17,000,000 trees in Texas by the year 2000.

Mel Davis reported on a forest stewardship program sponsored by the Texas Forest Service and the Association of State Foresters. He said President Bush has encouraged the planting of one billion trees.

Wes Oneth reported on activities of the Soil Conservation Service. He advised the Board that a decision would soon be made on filling the position of Deputy State Conservationist for Texas. The soil survey for Leon County has just been completed with the

use of all color photographs. He also advised the Board that construction was beginning on Site Three of the Upper San Marcos Creek Watershed and on Site Ten of Salado Creek in San Antonio. Mr. Oneth then showed a video cassette program on the Edwards Aquifer.

Comer Tuck advised the Board that the Texas Water Development Board had received approximately ten applications from Texas soil and water conservation districts since the last State Board meeting for matching grants for laser levels and water quality kits. So far this year they have issued \$240,000 worth of grants, mostly to soil and water conservation districts.

Clyde Hale reported on recent area association meetings he had attended and discussed the upcoming area awards programs. He also advised the Board that Texas had been asked to host the NACD's Public Lands, Pasture and Range Committee meeting in June.

James Moore presented an information sheet on a watershed application for West Laterals of the Trinity. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Harvey Davis, the application was approved as practical and feasible for planning.

Mr. Moore then advised the Board on the status of the Keechi Creek Watershed project application concerning the City of Centerville and that a feasibility study would be completed by the end of March.

Mr. Moore discussed a letter he had received from the Texas Water Commission concerning proposed changes to Title 31 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 321, Subchapter B dealing with regulations of concentrated animal feeding operations.

Mr. Moore advised the Board that the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Soil Conservation Service asked the agency to work with them on National Demonstration Projects and Hydrologic Unit Area Projects pursuant to their water quality initiative. The Board agreed to take part as an active participant from the standpoint of having state responsibility for agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source management programs.

Mr. Moore provided the Board a revised listing of project proposals for the Non Point Source Grant Application pursuant to Section 319 of the Clean Water Act in ranked order which listed the Upper Bosque-Leon River NPS project as first on the list and the Soil and Water Conservation Board Silvicultural NPS program as fourth.

Mr. Buckley advised the Board that Beade Northcut had been selected to fill the vacant Engineer III position effective April 1st and introduced Joe Camp who had been hired as hydrologist for the statewide watershed study.

James Moore reported on the status of the draft Agriculture Chemicals and Agents in Groundwater Management Plan being prepared by the State Groundwater Protection Committee. He reported that the State Soil and Water Conservation Board was listed as the lead agency for certain Non Point Source activities. It was the consensus of the Board that such designation was appropriate and that the agency should serve as the lead for NPS functions as listed.

Mr. Moore presented a recent letter transmitting FmHA policy on animal confinement facilities. He stressed the fact that a

written approval of the Agricultural Waste Management System from the local soil and water conservation districts will be required in all initial and subsequent Farmers Home Administration program loan requests involving poultry operations that do not require a Texas Water Commission permit as described in the letter.

James Moore discussed the tentative program for the Statewide Conference on Agricultural and Silvicultural Non Point Source Water Pollution Control in Texas scheduled for August 15 and 16, 1990 at the Sheraton Mockingbird West in Dallas, Texas. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board agreed to proceed with these dates and place.

Bob Buckley reported on his recent meeting in Hattiesburg, Mississippi on the Gulf of Mexico program. He advised the Board of a proposal of the five states involved to enter into a contract to share in the expenses of office space and travel expenses. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board agreed to participate in the contract.

Beade Northcut provided the Board with a statewide watershed study progress report. He advised the Board that a cooperative agreement is currently being negotiated with Soil Conservation Service to accelerate the digitization of the primary sampling units of the National Resources Inventory. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Soil Conservation Service in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.

Bill Neiser discussed Fiscal Year 1990 technical assistance allocations that had been turned back plus requests for new funding

and additional funding. It was the consensus of the Board to delay any action until the May board meeting in order to consider any technical assistance reallocations along with Subchapter H funds which should be available for allocation at that time.

Mr. Neiser presented a request from the Lamar Soil and Water Conservation District #415 for a technical assistance salary waiver to allow them to pay more than the \$6.50 an hour technical assistant wage. After discussion, Dick Schendel made the motion to not grant a waiver from the existing wage rate ceiling of \$6.50 per hour. Joe Antilley seconded. Dick Schendel, Joe Antilley, Fred Squyres and Harvey Davis voted for the motion, Larry McCasland voted against the motion.

Mr. Neiser provided the Board with the results of the Technical Assistance Needs Survey with 199 districts having completed the survey as of March 20, 1990.

Mr. Neiser discussed the status of the 1990 fiscal year budget reporting that expenditures are running as expected and are within available funds in all appropriated items at this time.

Mr. Neiser brought the Board up to date on the status of Fund 563 income. This income is shared between four agencies with the State Board receiving 21% of the fund. At this time the State Board's share is greater than expected when compared to past years receipts.

Mr. Neiser explained the preliminary budget request for the 1992-93 biennium. On motion of Larry McCasland, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board voted to approve the preliminary budget proposals with the amounts for matching funds, technical assistance



funds and cost share to be adjusted as figures become available.

On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board voted to ask for a two step per year increase (6.8%) for State Board employees.

On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Larry McCasland, the Board agreed to ask for enough money to increase the District Directors per diem to \$30.00 per day.

On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board voted to ask for an increase in per diem of Board members to \$100.00 per day.

Mr. Buckley and Mr. Neiser reviewed the technical assistance program rules. After some discussion there was no recommendation for changes.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board is May 16, 1990.

On motion of C.F. Schendel, seconded by Harvey Davis, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Fred H. Simpson  
Chairman

Lois Cain  
Secretary

May 16, 1990  
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on March 21, 1990.

May 16, 1990  
Date

Robert L. Buckley  
Executive Director