

Minutes
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
August 26, 1991

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Monday, August 26, 1991, at 8:00 a.m. in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Harvey Davis, Chairman
C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Vice Chairman
Joe Antilley, Member
Albert Evans, Member
Paul Robertson, Member

Staff members present were:

Robert G. Buckley, Executive Director
John W. Millican, Assistant Executive Director
William C. Neiser, Director of Programs
James M. Moore, Engineer
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Ramesh Chamala, Research Specialist
Stephen Deiss, Planner
Janet Gonser, Planner
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor
Joe Moore, Soil Conservationist
Rex Isom, Soil Conservationist
Bob Gruner, Soil Conservationist
Johnny Oswald, Soil Conservationist
Joe Freeman, Soil Conservationist
Roy Freeman, Soil Conservationist
Andy Garza, Soil Conservationist
David Powell, Soil Conservationist
Joe McKay, Soil Conservationist
Dub Crumley, Soil Conservationist
Don Brandenberger, Soil Conservationist

Others present were:

Kenton Inglis, Soil Conservation Service
Atlan Pfluger, Texas Water Development Board
Ray Abbott, Temple Economic Development Corp.
Charles "Buddy" Clark, Association of Texas SWCDs
S. W. Dorrell, Association of Texas SWCDs

Harvey Davis called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On motion of C. F. "Dick" Schendel, seconded by Albert Evans, the minutes of the July 31, 1991, Board meeting were approved as mailed.

Kenton Inglis reported for the Soil Conservation Service and said they hoped to have their budget approved by the 16th of the month and that it would be the same as last year. He also reported that soil surveys for Limestone and Wood Counties have been completed.

John Millican then presented District Director appointments for consideration and recommended they be approved. On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by Joe Antilley, the following District Director appointments were approved:

Bert Masters, Upper Neches SWCD #438
Ben M. D. Newsom, Upper Neches SWCD #438

John Millican presented a request for a subdivision boundary change for Davy Crockett-Trinity Soil and Water Conservation District No. 404 and said that everything appears to be in order. On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by Dick Schendel, the subdivision boundary change was approved as requested.

Bill Neiser reviewed the 1991 fiscal year expenditure report and advised the Board that expenditures are running very close to funds budgeted and are being closely monitored.

Mr. Buckley and Mr. Neiser discussed the proposed 1992 fiscal year operating budget with across-the-board reductions and advised the Board of the possibility of additional cuts. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Paul Robertson, the operating budget for

fiscal year 1992 was approved as presented. (Copy attached.)

Bill Neiser discussed fiscal year 1992 Conservation Assistance funding. The appropriation for 1992 Matching Funds is the same as the 1991 appropriated level. Mr. Neiser presented an allocation proposal with each district allocation equal to their 1991 allocation. Five districts requested less funds for fiscal year 1992 totaling \$2,300. After some discussion, on motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Joe Antilley, the motion was passed by the Board for the \$2,300 available funds to be divided equally between Glasscock SWCD #251, North Concho River SWCD #252, Bosque County SWCD #555 and Cross Timbers SWCD #556. After further discussion on motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Dick Schendel, the proposed allocations for conservation assistance funds for each district were approved as presented with adjustment for the \$2,300 reallocations. (Copy attached.)

Mr. Neiser then discussed Technical Assistance grant fund allocations. He presented a proposed fiscal year 1992 allocations worksheet based on 1991 allocations less an across-the-board reduction of 7.96%. He also provided the Board a list of eight soil and water conservation districts that were requesting technical assistance fund for the first time. After some discussion on motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board voted that any funding for districts new to the program would have to come from the totals allocated to the respective state area. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board voted to allocate total funds per area as they were

presented. They are as follows:

Area I	-	\$212,353.76
Area II	-	\$146,548.94
Area III	-	\$187,908.06
Area IV	-	\$155,847.35
Area V	-	<u>\$245,681.83</u>
Total		<u>\$948,399.94</u>

The Board then recessed to allow the State Board field staff time to develop recommendations for allocations to individual districts. After recess, on motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board approved the Technical Assistance allocations as presented and authorized the staff to make minor adjustments as needed. (Copy attached.)

John Millican then discussed plans for the Annual Statewide Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas, October 21-23, 1991 at the Bayfront Plaza Convention Center. Mel Davis discussed the resolutions to be considered at the annual meeting and passed out copies for the Board's information.

James Moore discussed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the State Board and the USDA Forest Service for carrying out the State Water Quality Management Plan and Nonpoint Source Management Plan as it relates to activities on National Forest System lands. This was discussed and tabled at the May, 1991 board meeting because a revised copy incorporating previously made comments had not been received. The necessary changes had since been incorporated into the Memorandum of Understanding and a copy received. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Paul Robertson, the Executive Director was authorized to sign the Memorandum of

Understanding.

James Moore discussed the State Management Plan for Agricultural Chemicals in Ground Water. A copy of this plan had been provided each Board member at the July 31, 1991, Board meeting. Beade Northcut explained the plan and process the committee followed in making the plan.

James Moore discussed two grant work plans for work under the Clean Water Act about to be approved by EPA. He explained that the State Board would need to enter into contracts with the Texas Water Commission to carry out the work in order to receive the funds. The first work plan considered was for Fiscal Year 89-90 205(j)(5) funds. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Paul Robertson, the Board gave authority to the Executive Director to sign the contract. The second grant was for Fiscal Year 1991 Section 319 funds. On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Executive Director was authorized to sign the contract.

Atlan Pfluger from the Texas Water Development Board advised the Board that seven grants were approved at their August 15th Board meeting and five of the seven were from soil and water conservation districts.

Buddy Clark reported that the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts and its committees have been very busy. The Association Directors will have a meeting on August 30th. He advised the Board he had just attended a meeting in Bozeman, Montana on the National Great Plains Program and had some discussions with native americans on the Great Plains program.

Clyde Gottschalk gave a report on the Public

Information/Education Committee. He advised the Board that a District Director Training Conference would be held in Temple on September 10-11 for new district directors. He reported that the summer seminars for Project Wild and Project Learning Tree had just been completed. Sixteen of these seminars were held for teachers across the state. He also reported that 327,000 textbook covers have been printed and distributed to districts for their distribution in public schools across Texas.

James Moore discussed a proposed ACP Special Water Quality Project for the Upper Leon River. A letter of endorsement had been requested by the ASCS County Executive Director from the State Board. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Paul Robertson, the Board voted to endorse the project, and instructed the Executive Director to submit a letter.

James Moore discussed a proposal for a water quality project on the Arroyo Colorado in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties proposed by the EPA and submitted for funding under the Coastal Americas Program. He indicated that the Southmost and Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation Districts had been briefed on the proposal and were considering whether or not to serve as local sponsors.

James Moore presented the Board a status report on on-going work in the Nonpoint Source Program.

The Board was presented copies of a newly proposed Federal Wetland Identification Manual. After a brief discussion the Board directed the staff to analyze the manual and prepare recommendations for the next State Board meeting.

James Moore discussed the Coastal Zone Management Act

Reauthorization and a provision added which requires coastal zone states to prepare and submit for approval to EPA and NOAA a coastal zone nonpoint source management program which must include provisions for mandatory implementation of management measures. He indicated to the Board that there was a comment period open until October 12. The Board instructed the staff to prepare and submit recommended comments at the September Board meeting.

Mr. Moore discussed Senate Bill 1081 currently under consideration by the U.S. Senate to reauthorize and amend the Clean Water Act. He discussed major items that would impact agency programs. He was instructed by the Board to keep abreast of its status and to keep the Board informed and to determine what NACD and others proposed relative to the Act.

Dick Schendel reported on his attendance at the National Grazing Conference in Bozeman, Montana in June. He said it was well planned and covered a lot of territory. Participants included ranchers, and employees of state and federal agencies and universities.

James Moore gave the Board a copy of a statement of work on a nutrient management demonstration project in Cameron County, Texas, which was submitted to the Gulf of Mexico Program for funding. The Soil Conservation Service in cooperation with the Southmost Soil and Water Conservation District propose to establish a project to demonstrate the water quality benefits of nutrient management practices which are being recommended to the agricultural producers in the area. Mr. Moore reported that the nutrient enrichment subcommittee of the Gulf of Mexico Program had

recommended funding of the project at its August, 1991, meeting.

Dick Schendel reported that he had recently attended an advisory committee meeting of the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program. He said the committee was updated on current projects and viewed four videos of which the committee accepted two.

Bob Buckley provided the Board with a copy of the Cooperative Agreement between the State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts for their review and information.

Board members' travel was discussed. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board voted to pay all Board members travel expenses incurred through the fiscal year ending August 31, 1991. On motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board voted to prorate per diem if necessary. On motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board approved the travel allowances for each member for the 1992 fiscal year. Allowances will be \$5,300 each for travel expenses and \$1,800 each for compensatory per diem.

Bob Buckley expressed his appreciation to the Board members, Buddy Clark and the Association Directors and the staff for the help he had received during the recent Special Sessions.

Albert Evans expressed his appreciation to Joe Antilley and Harvey Davis for the extra time they had spend working with the Legislature.

The Board was provided reservation forms for their attendance at the national meeting of the National Association of Conservation Districts to be held in Reno, Nevada on February 2-6, 1992.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Harvey Davis
Chairman

Lois Cain
Secretary

September 18, 1991
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on August 26, 1991.

September 18, 1991
Date

Robert G. Buckley
Executive Director