

**Minutes**  
**Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board**  
**September 18, 1991**

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, September 18, 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  
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist  
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant  
Stephen Deiss, Planner  
Janet Gonser, Planner  
Beade Northcut, Engineer  
Ramesh Chamala, Research Specialist  
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Dr. Bill Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service  
Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board  
Dr. Clarence Richardson, Agricultural Research Service  
Joe Pat Henson, Soil Conservation Service  
Charles "Buddy" Clark, Assn. of Texas SWCDs

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

On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by C. F. "Dick" Schendel, the minutes of the August 26, 1991, board meeting were approved as mailed.

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

Brent Murphy, Upper Colorado SWCD #115  
Conoly O. Brooks, III, Trans-Pecos SWCD #231  
Robert Greenfield, Johnson County SWCD #541

Bill Neiser discussed the 1991 Fiscal Year Expenditure Report that was provided each Board member. He advised them there were some items out that still needed to be paid such as District Director mileage and per diem which will affect the final totals.

Mr. Neiser reported that the Uniform Statewide Accounting System of which the State Board is a pilot agency is again being emphasized by the Comptroller's staff. He advised the Board that we had been asked to continue as a pilot agency and asked for the Board's direction. It was the consensus of the Board to continue as a pilot agency.

Clyde Gottschalk then reported on the District Director Training Conference recently held in Temple for newly elected or appointed directors. He said there has been very good response and very good participation in the workshops. More workshops are being planned for January or February, 1992 since there are still over 150 District Directors eligible to attend. He also reported that the Public Information/Education Committee had met on September 4th to review the past year's projects and to set the budget for the new year. He said the Information/Education workshop to be held during the annual state meeting in Corpus Christi would have

speakers from the Environmental Protection Agency and representatives from the Texas Education Agency to speak on environmental education in the public schools.

Dr. Bill Harris advised the Board that the water quality projects are going well and that a meeting would be held on October 3rd in College Station to solicit input from all federal and state agencies.

Dr. Harris discussed the Conservation Research Workshop recently held in Temple at the Mayborn Civic Center. He said it was very well attended.

Dr. Clarence Richardson advised the Board that he had attended the Conservation Research Workshop that Dr. Harris had discussed and that the workshop was very worthwhile.

Comer Tuck reported the Texas Water Development Board would meet on September 19, 1991. He said two of the four grants to be considered were from soil and water conservation districts. Grants would be used to obtain flow meters and other conservation equipment to help in their conservation programs.

Pat Henson gave the Soil Conservation Service report. He said Wes Oneth, State Conservationist for Texas, was in Maryland for a training course and that Kenton Inglis, Deputy State Conservationist, was in Washington, D.C. He advised the Board they were in the process of updating the National Resource Inventory. He also told the Board that the 12th sign up period for CRP has just been completed for about 4 million acres in Texas. The next CRP sign up period is set for June 15-26, 1992.

Charles "Buddy" Clark reported the Association committees were very active and that he appreciated the help they had received from the State Board and the staff of the State Board.

The next item the Board considered was review of agency rules. This item had been postponed from the July Board meeting regarding the cap of \$6.50 an hour wage on technical assistance. The field staff had been instructed to poll their districts and only 12 districts felt they had a problem with the \$6.50 cap. After some discussion, on motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board voted to amend the rules to allow a \$7.50 cap on technical assistance wages per hour. Motion carried. Chairman Harvey Davis asked Mr. Buckley to have the staff inform districts that increasing pay scales could decrease work performed and encourage judgement be used in making pay increases.

John Millican discussed the upcoming annual statewide meeting of soil and water conservation district directors to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas on October 21-23, 1991, in the Bayfront Plaza Convention Center. He discussed a proposed budget for estimated expenses of the meeting. The workshops for the annual meeting were discussed and will include workshops for District Operations, Education/Information, Legislative Issues, Environmental Issues, Water Resources Issues and Water Quality Issues. Mel Davis provided the Board a list of District Directors who would be receiving service awards in the Area Discussion Sessions to be held on Tuesday afternoon.

James Moore discussed an application for P.L. 83-566 assistance on the Northeast Tributaries of the Leon River from the Upper Leon Soil and Water Conservation District and advised the Board it had not met all review requirements for federal projects. Action on the application was postponed until the requirements are met.

Mr. Moore advised the Board that the nonpoint source management contracts approved at the August 26, 1991 board meeting were in the process of being prepared by the Texas Water Commission and were currently in the TWC Legal Department. He indicated that the contracts should be received sometime in November.

James Moore discussed the proposed comments on the new Federal Wetland Identification Manual. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board decided to wait until the Soil Conservation Service had completed their field work on testing the manual before considering final comments. Motion carried. The Board then directed the staff to mail proposed final comments to the State Board members for their review at the appropriate time.

The 1992 Federal Clean Water Act Reauthorization was then discussed by Mr. Moore. He advised the Board it was not moving in Congress and that nothing additional had been done on it since the last Board meeting. Mr. Moore indicated that the staff would continue to monitor the activity.

James Moore discussed the Coastal Zone Management Act Reauthorization Amendments and requirements for State Coastal Nonpoint Source Programs. He then discussed proposed comments

staff had prepared on the NPS management measures guidance prepared by EPA for the Coastal Nonpoint Source Program. Mr. Moore proposed that if the Oct 12th deadline held he would submit the comments, but if the comment period was extended he would hold these comments until review of upcoming Coastal Nonpoint Source Program Guidance could be completed so that a coordinated review could be conducted. The Board by consensus agreed to this approach.

The Board considered a quota notice from the National Association of Conservation Districts for dues. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board voted not to pay the dues.

Paul Robertson reported there would be a meeting and tour in Brownfield for Minimum Tillage on September 19th and invited anyone interested to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Sammy Davis  
Chairman

Lois Cain  
Secretary

11-20-91  
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on September 18, 1991.

11-20-91  
Date

Robert H. Buckley  
Executive Director