

Official Minutes
State Soil and Water Conservation Board
September 19, 1990

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, September 19, 1990, in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth St., Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Joe Antilley, Chairman
Harvey Davis, Vice Chairman
C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Member
Fred Squyres, Member
Albert Evans, 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
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist
Janet Gonser, Planner
Joe Camp, Hydrologist
Steven Deiss, Engineering Technician
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Kenton Inglis, Deputy State Conservationist
Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board
Dr. Bill Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service
Clyde Hale, Association of Texas SWCDs
Ray Abbott, City of Temple

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

On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Harvey Davis, the minutes of the August 2 and 15 Board meetings were approved as mailed.

John Millican reviewed information on appointees for district directors for consideration and recommended they be approved. On

motion of C.F. Schendel, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board approved the following district directors:

James Burrell, Canadian River SWCD #160
Tom I. Price, Coke County SWCD #219
Arthur A. Priesmeyer, Wharton Co. SWCD #342
Gary Hillje, LaSalle Co. SWCD #354
Don Ray Jarred, Wood SWCD #444
Hartal Coalson, Throckmorton SWCD #543

John Millican advised the Board that a petition for the division of Bosque Soil and Water Conservation District #522 had been received on September 17, 1990. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by C. F. Schendel, the staff was instructed to proceed with public hearings in the next step of the division process.

Bill Neiser discussed the 1992-93 Biennium Budget Request and advised the Board the second submission was due on October 1, 1990.

Mr. Neiser provided the Board a report on fiscal year 1990 technical assistance fund reallocations that had been approved since the last board meeting.

A report on Supplemental Technical Assistance funds was provided each Board member as to the number of supplemental requests that have been received as of September 19, 1990. Districts have until October 31st to submit claims for the 1990 fiscal year.

A summary report showing the number of districts for each area that had requested and received supplemental conservation assistance funds for the year ended August 31, 1990 was provided each Board member. A total of 153 districts had requested supplemental funds with the maximum amount paid being \$192.06.

A report on the 1990 fiscal year operating budget was discussed. Mr. Buckley advised the Board that the operating budget

for the 1991 fiscal year would be extremely tight.

Bill Neiser reported on the Uniform Statewide Accounting System implementation. The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board is one of the pilot agencies across the state under this new system. He advised the Board that the hardware, purchased by the Comptroller, was in place and the program began on September 1, 1990. He said the program gives this agency an internal accounting system that is automated and will be a benefit to the agency.

John Millican reported on the status of the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors to be held in Austin, Texas on October 22-24, 1990. He stated that room reservations were going very well. Jim Moseley, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture had accepted the invitation to speak on Wednesday. Discussion was held concerning speakers for the Tuesday general session. The workshop sessions this year will include:

1. District Operations
2. Education/Information
3. Nonpoint Source Pollution
4. Legislative Issues
5. Formation of Underground Water Districts

Mel Davis discussed the resolutions to be presented at the State Meeting. Of the 16 resolutions received, twelve were approved by the Resolutions Committee to be submitted at the State Meeting. He also advised the Board that the Audit Committee for the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts had just completed their audit of the funds of the Association and a financial statement would be handed out in the Area Discussion Sessions at the State Meeting. A list of district directors to receive service awards was also provided the Board. A total of 51

District Directors will be receiving these service awards.

Kenton Inglis, Deputy State Conservationist, gave the Soil Conservation Service report. He reported that Wes Oneth, State Conservationist, had just returned from China. He advised the Board that Eddie Seidensticker, District Conservationist from Anahuac had been appointed Soil Conservation Service coordinator for the Gulf of Mexico Program.

Dr. Bill Harris reported that the Seco Creek and Upper North Bosque projects were coming along very well. He advised that Plans of Work were being put together for the next year and asked for comments and input. Dr. Harris complimented the staff on the Nonpoint Source Pollution Conference held in Dallas on August 15-16. He said it was a good program and very well presented.

Comer Tuck from the Texas Water Development Board reported no formal applications from soil and water conservation districts had been received since the last Board meeting for grant applications and the agency is carrying over about \$60,000 to the next fiscal year. He also advised the Board that a considerable amount of written comments had been received on the 1990 revision to the Texas Water Plan.

Ray Abbott from the City of Temple told the Board how fortunate Temple was to have this agency located here. He also said the City of Temple was looking at a long range agricultural development program.

Clyde Hale reported on his attendance at the NACD National Leadership Conference in Boston, Massachusetts on August 22-24, 1990. He advised the Board that NACD will have five regional

Leadership Conferences next year on a trial basis. Mr. Hale expressed his concern over the cost of district audits that districts are required by law to have done every two years and said he would like to see what can be done to help correct this problem. He said he had enjoyed serving as the President of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts the past three years and would miss being associated as closely as he had been with the State Board.

Clyde Gottschalk reported on the recent meeting of the Public Information/Education Committee. He said the programs would be continued that are in place now. He advised the Conservation Tillage video had been completed and that there was good cooperative efforts from all agencies involved. He said the Shoreline Erosion video was in its final stages and should be completed by the end of September. Mr. Gottschalk advised the Board that Texas will host a Project Food, Land and People Conference in November.

Joe Camp brought the Board up to date on the statewide watershed study. He had advised the Board that his department was working with the three contractors on a weekly basis and that October 15 had been set for the Watershed Study Team to have the Draft Study Report ready.

James Moore updated the Board on the status of the Nonpoint Source Management Program and discussed the status of nonpoint source work plans. He advised the Board that three sets of interagency contracts were being worked out with the Texas Water Commission and that one set of contracts was on the Commission

agenda for 3:00 p.m. this afternoon. On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board requested Harvey Davis to attend this meeting with Bob Buckley and James Moore.

Mr. Moore presented the Board with a draft of the 1990 NPS Assessment. He discussed the assessment with emphasis on the inclusion of sediment concerns. The Board instructed the staff to proceed with submission of the assessment as it was presented. He also advised the Board on the status of the Erath County Groundwater Study and reported that 18 out of 50 wells had been tested and 4 out of 18 had initial indications of high nitrate levels. Mr. Moore stressed the fact that no final data had been received and that the nitrate levels were unofficial field measurements.

Mr. Moore briefed the Board on progress made in developing a Quality Assurance/Quality Control Program for overall agency work and for the North Bosque River project. He indicated that a draft program was nearing completion and that meetings with the Water Commission and EPA to review the draft would be scheduled during November.

Mr. Moore informed the Board that the agency had received word from EPA to begin thinking about possible uses for expected 319 funding in fiscal year 1991. He requested the Board to provide input into the process.

James Moore advised the Board that there had been no formal word on the 1991 USDA Water Quality Initiative program applications from Texas.

Mr. Buckley discussed proposals for consideration to the 72nd

Legislature. Mr. Buckley discussed following up with the State Auditor's Office to develop proposals to help soil and water conservation districts with their biennial audits.

C. F. Schendel reported on the Galveston Bay Program. He was unable to attend the September meeting but said the main items on the agenda were the review of the 1991 budget and reports from subcommittees.

James Moore advised the Board that the Gulf of Mexico Program had provided the agency with a grant for \$7,000. He reported that the funds would be used to purchase chlorophyll meters to assist rice producers with proper fertilizer management and that the meters were being purchased.

Mr. Moore advised the Board that he had reviewed the Draft Texas Water Plan and expressed some concerns. The Board was provided a copy of a draft letter expressing these concerns and asked for their review and comment.

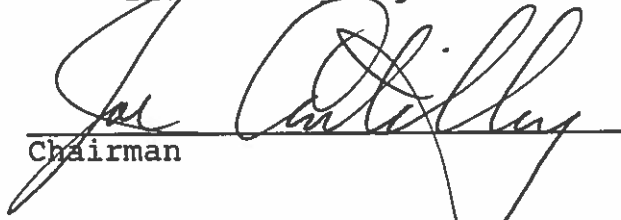
Fiscal year 1990 Board member travel was discussed. The Board was informed that all travel expenses could be paid and the per diem could be prorated. On motion by C. F. Schendel and seconded by Fred Squyres, the Board approved to prorate board members' per diem.

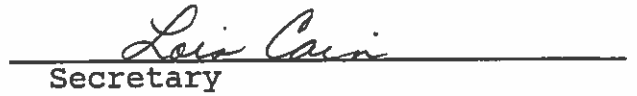
It was the consensus of the Board to move the November Board meeting from November 21 to November 14 since the original date was the day before Thanksgiving.

The Board and Bob Buckley expressed their appreciation to Clyde Hale for the cooperative working relationship and the fine job he had done as President of the Association of Texas Soil and

Water Conservation Districts for the past three years.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.


Chairman


Secretary

November 14, 1990
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on September 19, 1990.

November 14, 1990
Date


Executive Director