

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**February 19, 2004**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on February 19, 2004, at 8:00 a.m. in its Hearings Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Aubrey Russell, Vice-Chairman  
Edward G. Albrecht, Member  
Guillermo (Memo) Benavides, Member  
Jerry Nichols, Member  
W. T. (Dub) Crumley, Chairman

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Executive Director  
Dawn Heitman, Program Specialist  
Richard Egg, Engineer  
John Foster, Natural Resources Specialist  
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer  
Johnny Oswald, Program Specialist  
Kevin Wagner, NPS Team Leader  
Jay Bragg, 319 Grant Coordinator  
Mel Davis, Program Specialist  
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist  
Andy Garza, Program Administrator  
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Others present were:

Dr. Larry Butler, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Doug Sharer, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Kraig Gallimore, Texas Water Development Board  
George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General  
Sam Feagley, Texas Cooperative Extension  
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas SWCDs  
Denise Gentsch, BASF

Chairman Crumley called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m., welcomed those present and asked any visitors to sign in.

**AGENDA ITEM 1.** Minutes from the January 15, 2004 Board Meeting

Mr. Crumley called for a motion to approve minutes of the January 15, 2004 Board Meeting as mailed.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 2. District Director Appointments**

Ms. Davis presented a district director appointment for the Board's consideration and verified he met all qualifications and paperwork was in order.

Mr. Nichols moved the appointment be approved, Mr. Albrecht seconded and the following appointment was unanimously approved:

James W. Owens, Crockett County #235, Zone 1, Replace Larry R. Williams

A faxed appointment was received later in the morning and Ms. Davis presented it to the Board stating that the appointee met all qualifications and paperwork was in order.

Mr. Russell moved the appointment be approved contingent upon all original paperwork being received. Mr. Albrecht seconded and the following appointment was unanimously approved:

Kim Denton, Howard #243, Zone 1, Replace Larry Adkins

**AGENDA ITEM 3. Human Resources Report**

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM 4. Public Information/Education Report**

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM 5. Reports from Agencies and Guests**

Dr. Larry Butler, Natural Resources Conservation Service discussed: President signed a budget in January but allocations have not been made to NRCS, have received apportionments for the Farm Bill, received 12 million dollar increase in EQIP, three openings will be advertised Monday, Mr. Salvador Salinas named Deputy State Conservationist, TSP increase, listening session for CSP, IT convergence, NACD meeting in Washington, Hispanic Farmer & Rancher Conference and took questions from the Board concerning workgroups.

Sam Feagley, Texas Cooperative Extension discussed: testing program, dairy compost project, poultry project with State Board, soil survey/land resource workshop, soil & water stewardship week, nutrient management certification short course and nutrient management meeting with TCEQ.

Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality discussed: thanked State Board employees for assistance with nutrient management meeting, development of criteria for nutrient management in CAFO's and draft CAFO rules being published when approved.

Kraig Gallimore, Texas Water Development Board discussed: adoption of rules on conservation loan and grant program and request for applications packets.

Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts discussed: February NACD meeting, Spring Legislative Conference and the Association newsletter.

Denise Gentsch, BASF, voiced BASF's appreciation of the cooperative effort with the State Board.

**AGENDA ITEM 6.** Area Awards Contest Entry Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 7.** State Board Member Election

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 8.** Future State Meeting Sites Survey

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information and recommended the Board select two to four cities as possible state meeting sites and took questions from the Board.

Mr. Albrecht moved that staff research the top four cities on the list: San Antonio, Fort Worth, Corpus Christi and Waco and report on their availability for 2005 and 2006 at the next board meeting. Mr. Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Davis stated a report on the 2005 State Meeting in Laredo would be presented at the next board meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 9.** Adoption of proposed amendments to Cost Share Assistance for Brush Control

**AGENDA ITEM 10.** Adoption of proposed amendments to Technical Assistance Program and Technical Assistance Program for Soil & Water Conservation Land Improvement Measures

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information for item 9.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the board vote on agenda items 9A, 9B, 9C and 10 together. Mr. Albrecht seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the Board adopt the published amendments to Chapter 517, Subchapter B, Cost Share Assistance for Brush Control, Chapter 519, Subchapter A, Technical Assistance

Program and Chapter 521, Subchapter A, Technical Assistance for Soil and Water Conservation Land Improvement Measures. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 11.** Adoption of proposed amendments to Agricultural & Silvicultural Water Quality Management Program

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the board with input from Mr. Isom and Mr. Noelke.

Mr. Albrecht moved that Item 11B be tabled until the next board meeting and Mr. Nichols seconded. After discussion Mr. Albrecht withdrew his motion and Mr. Nichols removed his second.

On Item 11A, Mr. Albrecht moved that the board adopt the published amendments to Chapter 523.6 changing the obligation deadline from the last day in February to the last day in April and the date unobligated funds revert back from March 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

On Item 11B, Mr. Albrecht moved that agenda item 11B be tabled until the next board meeting, Mr. Benavides seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Board directed staff to look at the language contained in Item 11B.

**AGENDA ITEM 12.** Revision of life spans for practices cost shared through the S.B. 503 program

Mr. Garza stated his desire to cover this agenda item at the next board meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 13.** Coastal Coordination Council Report

Mr. Benavides deferred to Mr. Egg. Mr. Egg reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 14.** NACD Report

Mr. Benavides discussed: Executive Board meeting before and after the NACD meeting, Krysta Harden becoming NACD's CEO on March 1<sup>st</sup>, regional support program, Spring Legislative Conference, League City office closure, funding constraints, South Central Meeting in Fort Smith, Arkansas July 14-16 and took questions from board members.

**AGENDA ITEM 15.** Texas Water Conservation Task Force Update

Mr. Egg reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM 16.** Brush Control Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information stating that reallocation of Oak Creek funds would be discussed at the May Board meeting and took questions from the Board. Mr. Benavides requested that Legislators be kept informed of issues concerning the brush program.

**AGENDA ITEM 17. FY 04 Salt Cedar Allocation**

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board with input from Ms. Gentsch, Mr. Sharer, Mr. Salinas and Mr. Zajicek. The board stated their desire for State Board employees to work with NRCS for optimum distribution of funds.

Mr. Albrecht moved the Board reallocate remaining unobligated funds and remainder of the unobligated balance to the main channel of the Pecos River. Mr. Benavides seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Albrecht moved the contract and certification deadline be moved to January 1, 2005. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 18. Clean Water Act 319(h) Status Report**

Mr. Bragg reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 19. TMDL Program Status Report**

Mr. Wagner reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 20. North Bosque Watershed Status Report**

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board with input from Mr. Bragg.

**AGENDA ITEM 21. Water Conservation Initiative**

Mr. Foster stated he had no new information to present at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM 22. 2006/2007 Budget Request**

Mr. Zajicek presented and reviewed the district budget request form, noted changes from last year and took questions from the board with input from Mr. Isom.

**AGENDA ITEM 23. Management Audit**

Mr. Zajicek stated that findings of the management audit could not be presented at a public meeting because the Auditor's Office had not yet made the findings public. He offered to visit individually with the board members.

**AGENDA ITEM 24. Fiscal Report**

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 25. Set Date of Next Board Meeting**

The date of the next Board meeting was set as May 20, 2004.

Chairman Crumley expressed the Board's appreciation to Mr. Albrecht for his service to the Board and the program as a whole while serving as a local and State Board member.

Chairman Crumley called the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m..

W. J. "Duke" Crumley  
Chairman

Debra K. Davis  
Secretary

5/25/04  
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on February 19, 2004.

5/25/04  
Date

[Signature]  
Executive Director