



TEXAS STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD

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TEMPLE

Bryan, Texas
March 28, 1947

The State Soil Conservation Board met in Bryan, Texas, March 28th, 1947, at 8 a.m., with the following present: Mr. C. M. Caraway, Chairman; J. P. Martin, and S. J. Payne; others present; Howard H. Goss, Chief, Engineering and Planning and A. L. Liles, Executive Assistant. The minutes of the meeting of the Board March 18, 1947, were read and approved.

Public hearing having been held in Carson County on March 19, 1947, the Board approved the need for the organization of a soil conservation district in Carson County.

A referendum having been held in Val Verde County on March 22, 1947, the vote being 113 to 0, it was therefore considered and determined that the operation of the said district within the boundaries heretofore defined by the Board is administratively practicable and feasible.

A motion was made by Mr. Caraway and seconded by Mr. Payne that Mr. J. P. Martin be elected chairman of the board for the ensuing year, motion carried.

The Board then adjourned to meet with Mr. Ide P. Trotter, Head of the Extension Service, College Station, at 10 a.m. This meeting was attended by the following: J. P. Martin, Chairman, C. M. Caraway, S. J. Payne, Howard H. Goss, A. L. Liles, and the following from the Extension Service and the College: Dr. Ide P. Trotter, D. W. Williams, E. C. Martin, and Paul G. Haines.

Mr. Caraway opened the discussion by making reference to S. B. 308, proposing the creation of a Texas Rural Development Commission. Dr. Trotter produced copies of a letter that he had written to Karl Hoblitzelle, dated January 14th, 1947, in which he stated that he could not approve nor sign the final draft of the commission's plan, and expressing disapproval of certain sections contained in the proposal; however, he did not state in this letter that he was opposed to the creation of a Texas Rural Development Commission, nor did he make such a statement to the State Board.

D. W. Williams read a complete digest of this bill that was being prepared by the College, and to be presented by the President to legislative bodies, wherein they objected to this bill almost from the beginning to the end.

After the discussion of S. B. 308, Mr. Payne brought up the subject of lack of cooperation on the part of some employees of the Extension Service with soil conservation districts, and asked the question "What can the State Board do in order to bring about that cooperation?" Mr. Caraway suggested that since Mr. Goss and Mr. Haines were more familiar with the details of cooperation and lack of cooperation in the field, than the rest of those present, that they tell the group about the

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status of it. Mr. Haines suggested that Mr. Goss proceed, which Mr. Goss did, explaining that there was good cooperation in numerous places throughout the State, citing some examples, but on the other hand, that there were some instances where there was not only lack of cooperation, but active opposition on the part of Extension Service personnel, citing several cases without calling names or places.

When Mr. Goss had finished, Mr. Haines stated to the group that Mr. Goss had, he was sorry to say, told the truth. Dr. Trotter asked the question if the situation was not getting better, whereupon Mr. Haines and Mr. Goss agreed that it was gradually getting better because of the infiltration into the Extension Service of young employees who had not been embittered by the fight that went on from 1937 to 1939, relative to the enactment of the State Soil Conservation Law in Texas.

Dr. Trotter suggested that if the situation was gradually getting better, maybe it would continue to get better, but made no statement as to what he proposed to do about it, or that he proposed to do anything about it.

D. W. Williams stated that this was all new to him, and he told the group he certainly appreciated getting the information.

The meeting was then adjourned at 12 m.

J. P. Martin
Chairman

A. L. Hill
Secretary

Approved: May 10, 1947