

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2016

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on November 16, 2016, at 2:03 p.m. at 1497 Country View Lane, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Scott Buckles, Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Marty H. Graham, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Dave Morris, GIS Specialist
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Information Specialist
Molly Dutton, Information Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist

Beverly Krause, Administrative Assistant
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Cody York, Pecan Bayou SWCD Program Specialist

Chairman Buckles called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and welcomed those present.

A work session was conducted which covered agenda items in detail. Questions were taken and answered.

A video presentation of treatment of Carrizo Cane was shown, and discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 7: External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Foster commented that we are planning to apply for another Carrizo Cane grant, but are awaiting more information. Mr. Foster commented on \$10 million for match on Flood Control, asking National Fish and Wildlife Federation for additional funds for Monarch Butterfly Program, and Wildlife Habitat on coast, and may be able to convert some funds from technical assistance to financial assistance.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information, and commented that State Representative Kacal has taxing authority district to match funding for flood control. Mr. Foster also reviewed the agenda handout concerning agricultural irrigation.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Anderson County Levees

Mr. Foster and Mr. Watson reviewed the agenda information, and commented that the levees are not holding, and landowner's properties are being flooded.

Mr. Munz introduced Beverly Krause, Administrative Assistant for Mt. Pleasant Regional Office.

**AGENDA ITEM 17: Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and Texas Water Development Board
Joint Report to Legislature on Water Conservation**

Mr. Bednarz and Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda handout, and commented that there will be a Public Hearing scheduled for December 15, 2016.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Review 2016 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information and the agenda handouts.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Consider Selection of Sites for Future Annual State Meetings

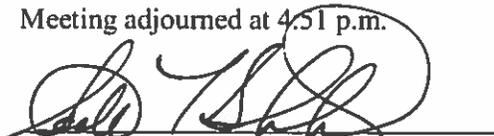
Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda handout.

Chairman Buckles commented that he attended the NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee, and was asked about our 8:00 Board Meeting start time, and if it was possible to change to a later time for people traveling from other agencies. It was suggested that the order of the agenda may need to be changed to give those time to comment toward the end of the meeting instead of the beginning of the meeting.

Madisonville FFA to make a presentation at the Board Meeting.

Mr. Helton and Chairman Buckles commented on the NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee meeting on November 15th. An item of discussion was Local Work Groups, any recommendations be presented to the NRCS by 5:00 on November 16th, and of districts holding meetings. Mr. Wilde reviewed a handout from Bill Wight.

Meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.



Scott Buckles, Chairman



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

January 19, 2017

Date

January 19, 2017

Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on November 16, 2016.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

January 19, 2017

Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2016

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on November 17, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. at 1497 Country View Lane, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Scott Buckles, Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Marty H. Graham, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
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Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Ashley Wendt, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Dave Morris, GIS Specialist
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Information Specialist
Molly Dutton, Information Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist

Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Beverly Krause, Administrative Assistant
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Andrew Lutostanski, Office of the Attorney General
Volney Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Vicki Riser, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
David Basinger, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
J. C. Mathews, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Bill Gray, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Bob Stobaugh, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Kerry Neimann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Kelly Holligan, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Daren Harmel, USDA-Agricultural Research Service
Chad Hajda, USDA Agricultural Research Service
Antonio Delgado, Texas Water Development Board
James Grimm, Poultry Federation
Lynita Foster, Madisonville FFA
Mia Caperton, Madisonville FFA
Averie Sims, Madisonville FFA
Matthew Longoria, Madisonville FFA
Morgan Manning, Madisonville FFA
Bethany Bullard, Madisonville FFA

Chairman Buckles called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and welcomed those present. Chairman Buckles called for the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, and then asked for a moment of silence. Chairman Buckles acknowledged guests.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

Madisonville FFA gave presentation, and a question and answer session followed.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities

Mr. Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Salinas reviewed the handout. Mr. Salinas commented on Conservation Stewardship Program and staff vacancies with the potential of upcoming hiring freezes. Mr. Salinas stated that there are 3 things to focus on: Conservation Stewardship Program – acreage cap reduced, conservation planning, and voluntary conservation.

Mr. Neimann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Neimann commented on the Water Quality Planning Division, the Memorandum of Understanding approved October 19th, the Total Maximum Daily Load Program, the Nonpoint Source Program, the 2016 Annual Report, the 2016 Integrated Report, Water Quality Standards, and the Clean Rivers Program.

Mr. Harmel, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Harmel stated that he has taken a new job position in Colorado, and that he appreciated working with the State Board while here in Temple. Mr. Harmel stated that Mr. Chad Hajda and Mr. Doug Smith will be available to the State Board for future assistance.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Comments from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Mr. Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. Hough commented on legislative issues and an upcoming soil health seminar.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Consider Approval of Minutes from Previous State Board Meetings

Ms. Preece previously emailed a copy of the minutes to Board Members for their review.

Chairman Buckles called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 3-4, 2016 and August 18, 2016 Board Meetings. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Consider Approval of Soil and Water Conservation District Director Appointments

Ms. Preece presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications.

Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the following appointments as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Taylor Beedy, Floyd County #104, Subdivision 2, Replace Mark Beedy
Ronald Kuehler, McClellan Creek #156, Subdivision 3, Replace Jerry Biggs
Douglas L. "Dink" Wilson, Lower Pease River #162, Subdivision 2, Replace Billy D. Parker
Mitch Jurecek, Eldorado-Divide #247, Subdivision 1, Replace Mike Lux
Mike Lux, Eldorado-Divide #247, Subdivision 2, Replace Roy Gene Lloyd
Billy Ray Buckner, Caldwell-Travis #304, Subdivision 1, Replace Emma Lue Mohle
Warren Wheeler, McMullen County #353, Subdivision 5, Replace Joe E. Wheeler
Charles Stone, Burleson County #358, Subdivision 2, Replace Joel Cowan
Martin Schubert, Lee County #359, Subdivision 2, Replace Jon Walther
Larry A. Poe, Nacogdoches #401, Subdivision 2, Replace Ray Mize
Mike Herrington, Trinity-Neches #422, Subdivision 1, Replace Mickey Crow
Countee "T" Woodard, Freestone #424, Subdivision 2, Replace Barney Crouch
Chuck Holt, Wood #444, Subdivision 1, Replace Benton Bryant
Randal Kinnibrough, Wichita Brazos #544, Subdivision 1, Replace Billy Kinnibrough

AGENDA ITEM 6: Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 7: External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Anderson County Levees

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz and Mr. Bednarz reviewed the agenda information. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has stated that if you de-water a site, you must move animal aquatic life to a new location. Internal concerns are being considered between Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider Approval of Requests for Additional Cost-Share Incentive Funding for Water Quality Management Plans in Accordance with 31TAC §523.6(f)(2) Relating to Criteria for Waivers

Mr. Munz stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Consider Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the request as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Poultry Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Consider Approval of Brush Control Feasibility Studies for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Oswald stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and Texas Water Development Board Joint Report to Legislature on Water Conservation

Mr. Bednarz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved to accept the report as amended to remove from Recommendation 2 "in excess of \$5 million". Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Consider Allocation of Fiscal Year 2017 Grant Funding for Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information and handout.

Mr. Graham moved for the approval of the allocation as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider Approval to Publish for Public Comment the 2016 Revision of the State Water Supply Enhancement Plan

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval to publish notice in the Texas register and hold a Public Hearing as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Conservation Plans to Restore Health of the Gulf Coast

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Review 2016 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Consider Selection of Sites for Future Annual State Meetings

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the 2017 Annual State Meeting to be held at Galveston Moody Gardens. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. All voted to approve with the exception of Mr. Jacobs opposed. The motion passed.

Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of the 2018 Annual State Meeting to be held at Fort Worth. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Review, Amend, or Reaffirm State Board Fraud Policy

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval to reaffirm the policy as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Review, Amend, or Reaffirm State Board Ethics Policy

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval to reaffirm the policy as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Call for an Election to be held in Lower Pease River SWCD #162

Mr. Davis stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 29: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Ray and Mr. Clark both attended the NASCA Annual Meeting in Branson, Missouri and presented a brief overview to the State Board.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Public Information and Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Public Relations and Information Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Texas Prescribed Burn Board Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 35: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information. Ms. Heitman extended a thank you note from the family of Gene Sollock.

Chairman Buckles presented service award plaques to the following staff:
Beverly Krause – 20 years

AGENDA ITEM 36: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

January 18-19, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.



Scott Buckles, Chairman



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

January 19, 2017

Date

January 19, 2017

Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on November 17, 2016.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

January 19, 2017

Date