

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
January 13, 1981

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 13, 1981 at 8:40 a.m. in the Conference Room, 1006 First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Henry W. Turney, Chairman
Albert Roach, Vice Chairman
Joe Antilley, Member
J. Frank Gray, Member
C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Member

Staff members present were:

A. C. Spencer, Executive Director
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs
Leonard Pietzsch, Jr., Chief Accountant
James Moore, Engineer
Jay Kuykendall, Engineering Technician
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Mel Davis, Field Representative
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Hermon L. Petty, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
George C. Marks, Soil Conservation Service, USDA
Budd Fountain, Soil Conservation Service, USDA
J. C. Brown, Soil Conservation Service, USDA
Dr. Earl Burnett, Science and Education Administration
Dr. B. L. Harris, Agricultural Extension Service

Chairman Turney called the meeting to order.

Since copies of the November 20, 1980 board meeting minutes were received in the mail by each Board member and there being no changes, on motion of Frank Gray, seconded by Dick Schendel, the minutes were approved without being read.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved the following district director appointments:

W. B. Merritt - Cochran SWCD # 149
Wilma C. "Bud" Davis - Runnels SWCD # 232
W. J. Beason - Jasper-Newton SWCD # 441

Two soil and water conservation districts had requested changes in their subdivision boundaries. The reasons for requesting changes in the Wheeler SWCD #141 was to equitably distribute size of each subdivision, equitably distribute the number of farmers-ranchers within each subdivision and to make boundary lines easier to follow. The Comal-Hays-Guadalupe SWCD # 306 requested the change due to present subdivision boundary lines being on county commissioners precinct lines which have changed. The requested change in boundary lines follows permanent landmarks. On motion of Frank Gray, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board approved the change in subdivision boundaries for both districts.

The Upper West Fork Soil and Water Conservation District # 549 requested the name of their district be changed to Jack SWCD #549. The district consists of land area in Jack County. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved the new name of Jack SWCD # 549.

James Moore reviewed several PL 83-566 watershed applications for the Board in view of setting a planning priority. After discussion on motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board agreed to conduct a public hearing regarding the North Fork Hubbard Creek watershed near Albany in Shackelford County to give local sponsors and the general public an opportunity to appraise land rights problems. The staff will work out a suitable date for the hearing with the local people and Soil Conservation Service. No planning priorities were set.

The Board considered a letter dated December 30, 1980 from the local sponsors of the Lewis and Seymour Creeks watershed requesting withdrawal of the application. On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Dick Schendel the Board honored the request.

James Moore reported on progress being made on the State Plan.

Clyde Gottschalk reported that a preliminary interagency contract between Texas Tech University and the State Board for a documentary film of the State Plan is being considered.

James Moore gave a report on the status of Sabine River Authority's water quality monitoring program in Lake Tawakoni which is ready to begin as soon as it rains.

Mr. Moore also reported on a meeting in Harlingen on January 12, 1981 at which he reviewed the status of the inventory we are to do with the Texas Department of Water Resources on the Lower Rio Grande Valley pursuant to PL 92-500, Section 208.

Bob Buckley reported that the meeting with the State Committee of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, had been changed to Wednesday, January 14. Finalization of the project application on Sulfur River watershed will be considered. On motion Albert Roach, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board designated Bob Buckley as the official representative.

John Millican reported on a survey conducted on the site, day of week and the time of year of the Annual Statewide meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors. The survey indicates the days of the week and time of the year the meeting is being held are acceptable to the majority of the directors. The Board instructed the staff to check dates and facilities at cities preferred by directors. (See attachment)

Carl Spencer reported to the Board that Bud Mekelberg, Vice President of the National Association of Conservation Districts had asked him to serve on the "District Outlook Committee".

George Marks reported that 72 full time people have been hired in the last 30 days on his staff. Administrative staff has been cut and more staff

people were added in the field.

Bill Harris reported on the "Land Application of Municipal Wastewater and Sludge" workshops to be held in College Station on February 9 and San Angelo on February 11.

The meeting recessed for lunch and re-convened at 1:05 p.m. with the following additional people in attendance:

G. A. Jennings, Chairman, Calhoun SWCD # 345
Alvin Hahn, Vice Chairman, " " "
Pete Wright, District Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service

Mr. Turney welcomed Mr. Jennings, Mr. Hahn and Mr. Wright to the meeting. The group discussed the shoreline erosion problem in their district and other areas of the Texas coast and a meeting the district had with State Representative John Sharp concerning these problems. The group stated that Representative Sharp agreed to introduce legislation to fund a project to test and demonstrate to landowners in the coastal areas the most practical conservation measures to control this problem. The Calhoun SWCD suggested to Mr. Sharp that the State Soil and Water Conservation Board be the state agency to coordinate this project and receive and administer an appropriation contained in the bill. Mr. Jennings and Mr. Hahn requested the Board's concurrence in this proposal. Following a thorough discussion of the matter, on motion by Dick Schendel, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board voted to coordinate the demonstration projects if funds are approved by the Legislature for this purpose. Mr. Spencer agreed to furnish staff assistance to aid in the development of proposals for this project. Chairman Turney appointed Dick Schendel to represent the State Board in working with the districts concerned with coastal erosion problems.

The date for the next regular meeting of the Board was tentatively set for March 19, 1981.

