

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 16, 1963

The State Soil Conservation Board met in regular session in the Pioneer Hotel at 5:00 p.m., January 16, 1963, at Lubbock, Texas.

Board members present: A. F. Leesch, Chairman, J. Frank Gray, E. W. Wehman, J. S. Sharp and J. C. Porter.

Others present: H. D. Davis, Executive Director, J. M. Norton, and R. L. Carlisle of the State Board staff, and C. W. Graham, Assistant State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service.

The minutes of the November 30, 1962 board meeting were read and approved.

Norton reviewed favorable preliminary field examinations on both Upper and Lower Sweetwater Creek watersheds. Upon motion by Frank Gray, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board approved Upper Sweetwater Creek and Lower Sweetwater Creek watersheds as being feasible for planning.

The problem of financing the Choctaw Creek watershed development was discussed by H. D. Davis, in which the General Council for Federal Agencies questioned the legality of Grayson County expending County Permanent Improvement Funds for the development and operation and maintenance of the structural measures. Texas Attorney General's office has given their approval following a judgment rendered by the District Court in favor of the Choctaw Water Control and Improvement District. A meeting has been arranged for representatives of the General Council and the Attorney General's office to resolve the differences of opinion and find a solution to this problem.

A letter received from the sponsors of the Castleman Creek watershed was reviewed by Davis, in which they requested a planning priority so that their watershed

could be planned concurrently with other watersheds being planned by the party headquartered in Waco. In as much as this concerned the available facilities of the Soil Conservation Service, it was referred to them and answered in the light of perhaps interfering with the development of other work plans and not being any more efficient.

Clyde Graham and Harvey Davis reviewed the progress and status of the eight watersheds in the Valley. The sponsors of the Cameron County asked for and secured a planning estimate of \$85,000 on the three applications in their county. Other sponsors have asked for estimates on their watersheds. Cameron County is in the process of promoting a loan from the Housing and Home Finance Agency, Communities Facilities Administration, to finance the planning of these projects, and have hired the consulting engineering firm of Lockwood, Andrews & Newman to make preliminary field surveys and furnish engineering data. By letter from the sponsors of the Cameron County watersheds, the State Board has been invited to meet with them in the valley to review the watersheds on the ground and see the interest and desire to hasten the development of these watersheds. The Board authorized H. D. Davis to arrange a meeting and hearing on the Valley watersheds in late February or the first week in March. Funds have been requested by the Soil Conservation Service to make a Basin Survey of the valley as based on a request of the State Soil Conservation Board and the Texas Water Commission.

Graham further indicated that if additional funds are made available for planning watershed work, the Soil Conservation Service can utilize these funds by expanding the parties and crews to handle more planning.

Davis reviewed the Governor's Budget and the Legislative Budget Board's recommended budget for fiscal years 1964 and 1965 with the State Board.

A request by the Atascosa County Soil Conservation District for its proportionate share of the allocation to Soil Conservation Districts was disapproved by the Board

since the request was made much too late and the fund has been distributed to those districts requesting the funds.

A draft of a proposed resolution for locating the proposed Soil Moisture Research Laboratory in the Lubbock area was reviewed by Davis for the Board. On motion by Frank Gray, seconded by J. S. Sharp, the Board approved the resolution.

A meeting with the State Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Committee was reviewed by Davis. An effort is being made to secure lists of cooperators of Districts with which greater participation in the ACP Program may be encouraged by ACP and District personnel. The details have not been completed but it appears that the cooperation would be favorable to Districts by encouraging the application of conservation measures.

The action on the part of the Association of Soil Conservation Districts to change the present Annual State Meeting date was discussed. Supervisors in their Area meetings voted to change the date.

The meeting of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts to be held in Denver, Colorado, February 3-7, 1963, was discussed. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by J. S. Sharp, the Board authorized A. F. Leesch, J. Frank Gray, and H. D. Davis to attend. In the event any of these men cannot go, Davis will designate a replacement.

Mr. Paul Ligon presented an invitation to the Board to have the next Annual State Meeting in Corpus Christi together with information and particulars as to arrangements and accommodations.

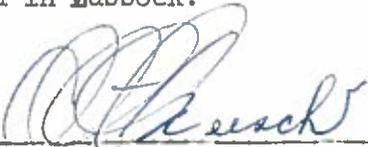
Jack Garrett and Bill Goldsberry, Supervisors of the Southmost Soil Conservation District, D. V. Guerra, Jr., Supervisor of the Willacy-Hidalgo Soil Conservation District and Jim Glover of the McAllen Chamber of Commerce met with the State Board to invite the next Annual Meeting of Soil Conservation District supervisors to McAllen.

They offered the City auditorium, entertainment, Committee Rooms and assistance with registration free of charge.

After consideration by the Board of the several invitations to hold the State Meeting in their cities, the Board decided to hold the next meeting in McAllen, Texas in October, 1963.

The next Board meeting will be held in the Valley in late February or the first week in March. Davis is to make the arrangements.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. and the Board participated in the Annual Meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors on January 17 and 18 being held in Lubbock.


Chairman


Secretary

March 6, 1963
Date

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your minutes dated Jan. 16, 1963.

RECEIVED 

Thanks very much for your cooperation.

MAR 19 1963

TEXAS STATE
SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD
TEMPLE, TEXAS

Sincerely,
