

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 15, 2014, at 2:31 p.m. at 4311 S. 31st Street, Suite 125, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

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

Staff Members present:

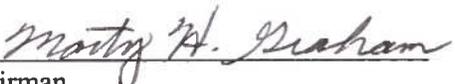
Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Tuffy Wood, Program Specialist
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 2:31 and welcomed those present.

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.



Chairman

March 20, 2014
Date



Secretary

March 20, 2014
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 January 15, 2014.



Executive Director

March 20, 2014
Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 16, 2014, at 8:05 a.m. at 5247 S. General Bruce Drive, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Marty H. Graham, Chairman
Scott Buckles, Vice-Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., 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
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
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
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
Dave Morris, Geographic Information System Specialist
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Public Affairs Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist

Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General
Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Alfonso Leal, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Kerry Nieman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Kelly Holligan, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Daren Harmel, USDA – Agricultural Research Service
Kori Higgs, USDA – Agricultural Research Service
Jack LeClair, DuPont Chemical Company, Rancher
Grady Hillhouse, Freese and Nichols

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed those present.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Mr. Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Mr. Turner commented on a new position of Agricultural and Rural Texas Ombudsman Doug Shaw, Agricultural Conservation Grant Funding, \$1.5 million additional allocation, Regional Planning and Adopted Standards, and adoption of rules.

Chairman Graham acknowledged Mr. Jack LeClair.

Mr. Kerry Neimann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Neimann commented on the new Commissioner, Zak Covar, and the new Executive Director, Richard Hyde. Mr. Neimann also commented on Implementation Plans, TMDL's, the Nonpoint Source program under final review, water quality standards, and the Clean Rivers Program.

Mr. Alfonso Leal, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Leal reviewed the handout of their January 2014 Activity report.

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

Mr. Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. James commented on a meeting concerning the Lesser Prairie Chicken. Mr. James also commented on the Texas Conservation Association for Water and Soil (TCAWS), Association dues, and that Ms. Daniel attended a meeting with Texas A&M.

Ms. Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Ms. Daniel stated that she had met with the Texas A&M Interim President, Dr. Hussey concerning the July 27-29, 2014 meeting.

Chairman Mahler acknowledged Mr. George Noelke.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Monitoring the Effectiveness of Vegetative Treatment Areas

Mr. John Foster addressed the background for the program. Mr. Daren Harmel, USDA – Agricultural Research Service, gave a power-point presentation.

Chairman Graham acknowledged Mr. Grady Hillhouse.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Consider Approval of Minutes from the November 20-21, 2013 Board Meetings

Chairman Graham called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20-21, 2013 Board Meetings. Mr. Ward moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Approval of 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. Mahler moved for the approval of the following appointments. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

John Brandenberger, Mason County #223, Zone 4, Replace Reuben Geistweidt
Coy H. Irwin, Andrews #246, Zone 2, Replace Norman (Doug) Irwin
Robin Baker, Comal-Guadalupe #306, Zone 5, Replace Kathryn Brady
John Eric Flanagan, Winter Garden #326, Zone 2, Replace Victor Lopez
Travis Meissner, Hamilton-Coryell #506, Zone 3, Replace Greg Weber

AGENDA ITEM 7: Biennial Budget Request for Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the request as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Sunset Legislation Implementation Status

Mr. Foster stated that we are due for a review in the fall.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Legislative Update

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

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Approval of Requests for Waivers as per 31 TAC §523.6(E)(2)(A) thru (F)

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

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider Statewide Water Quality Management Plan Cost Share Requests

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

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider Approval of the Water Quality Management Plan Program Approved Practice List

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the list as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Water Quality Management Plan Program Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Poultry Water Quality Management Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Consider Adoption of Water Supply Enhancement Program Policies and Procedures

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

AGENDA ITEM 18: Consider Allocation of Fiscal Year 2014 Grant Funding for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Water Supply Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Oswald stated that there will be a Science Advisory Meeting on February 24, 2014.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider District Boundary Changes for San Patricio SWCD #324

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the changes as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Candidate Conservation Agreements/Habitat Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie Chicken

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Consider Re-Adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 529, Subchapter B, Structural Repair Grant Program (§§529.50-529.62)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the publication of the rule as currently written to be published in the *Texas Register* for a 30 day review and comment period. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Review Plans for 2014 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval to add a line to the registration form for a Legislative Banquet Contribution (to come from district trust funds). Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Annual Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Report

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

AGENDA ITEM 26: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: National Association of Conservation Districts Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Dues

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval to pay dues in the amount of \$1,500. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 29: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

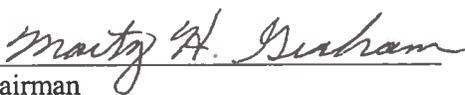
AGENDA ITEM 31: Human Resources Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

March 19-20, 2014, to be held in Temple.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.


Chairman

March 20, 2014
Date


Secretary

March 20, 2014
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 January 16, 2014.


Executive Director

March 20, 2014
Date