

**TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 21, 2015**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 21, 2015, at 3:03 p.m. at 4311 South 31<sup>st</sup> 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

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  
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor  
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor  
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist  
Jack Foote, 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  
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer  
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project management Coordinator  
Dave Morris, GIS Specialist  
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  
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist  
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist  
Fidencio Mesa, Planner  
Andy Kuklish, Natural Resource Specialist  
Pamela Manuel, Accountant  
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. and welcomed those present.

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

Mr. Mahler recognized staff for a job well done on the Sunset Legislation Implementation.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Clark commented on the goals set by the committee: technology email account, being able to operate independently of NRCS technology, Technical Advisory Board, education of partners, and developing marketing plans for sponsorships.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Facilities Update

Mr. Isom discussed leasing options of two additional suites next door to our headquarter suites.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Review Plans for 2015 Annual State Meeting

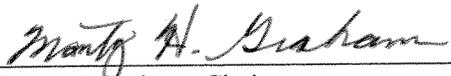
Suggestion made for Ms. Tiffany Dowell, Assistance Professor and Extension Specialist in Agriculture Law, Texas A&M University, as either a workshop speaker or main speaker.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

March 3-4, 2015 in Austin due to the Committee 100 Meeting on March 3rd, and the TSSWCB will be hosting a reception at the State Capital on March 3rd also.

Chairman Graham presented service award plaques to the following staff:  
Pamela Manuel - 5 years

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



Marty H. Graham, Chairman

March 4, 2015

Date



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

March 4, 2015

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 21, 2015.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

March 4, 2015

Date

**TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2015**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 22, 2015, at 8:05 a.m. at 1749 Scott Boulevard, 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

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  
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor  
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor  
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist  
Jack Foote, 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  
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer  
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator  
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, Public Affairs 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  
Fidencio Mesa, Planner  
Andy Kuklish, Natural Resource Specialist  
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Jennifer Hopgood, Office of Attorney General  
Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
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  
Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
John Mueller, Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Kristy Oates, Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environment Quality  
Daren Harmel, USDA – Agricultural Research Service  
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board

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

**AGENDA ITEM 1:** Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

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

Mr. John Mueller, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board and introduced Kristy Oates. Mr. Mueller reviewed the handout.

Mr. Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Mr. Turner commented on the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT).

Mr. Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environment Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Niemann commented on Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) Program, the Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program, and the Clean Rivers Program.

Chairman Graham welcomed Daren Harmel, , USDA – Agricultural Research Service.

**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 stated that an Association meeting was held on January 21st and some of the items discussed were the Texas Conservation Association for Water and Soil (TCAWS), committees, and the differences between the Association and the State Board. Mr. James also commented on the upcoming Legislative Day on March 3rd, and that three of their Board Members will be attending the National Meeting.

Ms. Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board and commented on the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) meeting in New Orleans.

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

Ms. Preece reviewed the agenda information. Chairman Graham called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 19-20, 2014 Board Meetings.

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

Tommy Laubhan, Lipscomb County #134, Subdivision 3, Replace Kendall Schoenhals  
Perry Brewer, Terry #151, Subdivision 1, Replace Terry Burris  
Tina M. Clyburn, Atascosa County #307, Subdivision 1, Replace Jerry Kosub  
Troy Willmott, Anderson-Houston #421, Subdivision 2, Replace Joseph Walker  
William "Dale" Dykes, Anderson-Houston #421, Subdivision 4, Replace W. W. Brown  
Frederick V. Newhouse, Walker County #453, Subdivision 2, Replace Tim Paulsel  
Kerry Hansen, Central Texas #509, Subdivision 1, Replace Vernon Hansen  
Carl Lee Lohman, Miller Brazos #542, Subdivision 1, Replace Carl Lohman

**AGENDA ITEM 6:** Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

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

**AGENDA ITEM 7:** External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:** Sunset Legislation Implementation Status Report

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 9:** Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 10:** Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Chairman Graham welcomed Ms. Jennifer Hopgood, Office of the Attorney General.

**AGENDA ITEM 11:** 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 12:** Consider Approval of 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 requests as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:** Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

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

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 15:** Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:** Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:** Consider Reallocation of Fiscal Year 2015 Grant Funding for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

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

**AGENDA ITEM 18:** Long Range Planning Status Report

Agenda information was covered in previous day's work session.

**AGENDA ITEM 19:** Evaluation of 2014 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 20:** Review Plans for 2015 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved to contact Ms. Tiffany Dowell, Assistance Professor and Extension Specialist in Agriculture Law, Texas A&M University, as either a workshop speaker or main speaker. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 21:** Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 22:** Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 23:** Candidate Conservation Agreements and Habitat Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie Chicken

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 24:** State Board / USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 25:** National Association of Conservation Districts Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 26:** National Association of State Conservation Agencies Dues

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval to pay a total of \$1,500 in dues. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 27:** National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 28:** Annual Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 29:** State Board Member Elections

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 30:** Prescribed Burn Board Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 31:** Public Information and Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 32:** Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 33:** Facilities Update

Agenda information was covered in previous day's work session.

Chairman Graham presented service award plaques to the following staff:

Fidencio Mesa – 10 years

Andy Kuklish – 10 years

Glenn Baker – 15 years

Dawn Heitman – 15 years

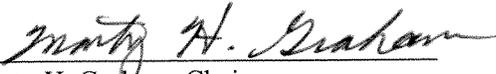
Todd Oneth – 20 years

Adrian Perez – 20 years

**AGENDA ITEM 34: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting**

March 3-4, 2015 to be held in Austin at the Holiday Inn-Town Lake. Also, May 20-21, 2015 to be held in Temple.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

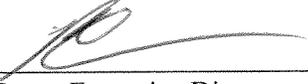
  
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Marty H. Graham, Chairman

  
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Karen D. Preece, Secretary

March 4, 2015  
Date

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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 22, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rex Isom, Executive Director

March 4, 2015  
Date