

Meeting Minutes
TEXAS STATE SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
January 26, 2011

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 26, 2011, at 2:08 p.m. at 4311 S. 31st Street, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

José Dodier, Chairman
Barry Mahler, Vice-Chairman
Aubrey Russell, Member
Marty H. Graham, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Staff members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, 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
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
Richard Egg, Engineer
John Foster, Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, NPS Program Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Watershed Planning Coordinator
Pam Casebolt, NPS Project Manager
Ashley Alexander, NPS Project Manager
Loren Warrick, NPS Project Manager
Mitchell Conine, NPS Project Manager
David Reeves, Database Administrator
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Meredith Whitley, Program Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Programs Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Coordinator
Mark Cuba, Engineering Technician
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Dale Mengers, Texas Association Watershed Sponsors

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Vice-Chairman

March 30, 2011

Date

Secretary

March 30, 2011

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 26, 2011.

Executive Director

March 30, 2011

Date

Meeting Minutes
TEXAS STATE SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
January 27, 2011

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 27, 2011, at 8:02 a.m. at 1749 Scott Boulevard, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

José Dodier, Chairman
Barry Mahler, Vice-Chairman
Aubrey Russell, Member
Marty H. Graham, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Staff members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
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Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
Richard Egg, Engineer
John Foster, Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, NPS Program Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Watershed Planning Coordinator
Pam Casebolt, NPS Project Manager
Ashley Alexander, NPS Project Manager
Loren Warrick, NPS Project Manager
Mitchell Conine, NPS Project Manager
David Reeves, Database Administrator
Brian Koch, Regional Watershed Coordinator
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Meredith Whitley, Program Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Programs Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Coordinator

Mark Cuba, Engineering Technician
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kevin Wagner, Texas Water Resources Institute
Daren Harmel, USDA - Agricultural Research Service
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Shane Harrington, Texas Forest Service
George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General

Chairman Dodier called the meeting to order at 8:02 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 and commented that Mr. Kevin Ward, Executive Administrator is leaving TWDB, and that Ms. Melanie Callahan is named as the Interim Leader. Mr. Turner also stated that the joint report between our two agencies is due January 2012.

Ms. Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board and commented on a new Division Director. Ms. Harris presented TMDL updates, NPS project updates, 319 success stories, and stated that the Pesticide General Permit is coming up for adoption on March 9, 2011. Ms. Harris stated that TCEQ is still currently undergoing the Sunset Review.

Mr. Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service, addressed the Board and reviewed the NRCS Activity Report.

Chairman Dodier acknowledged Mr. Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Mr. Kevin Wagner, Texas Water Resources Institute, addressed the Board and commented about ongoing projects with TSSWCB, BMP's, evaluations, educational manuals, invasive species eradication, Pecos landowner agreements, and Saltcedar spraying and/or burning.

Mr. Daren Harmel, USDA - Agricultural Research Service, addressed the Board and stated that Dr. DeLoach retired on December 31, 2010. Mr. Harmel commented on the USDA National Modeling Team which is now housed in Temple, and the addition of two or three staff members being added in the near future.

Chairman Dodier acknowledged Mr. Shane Harrington of the Texas Forest Service. Chairman Dodier also acknowledged two new TSSWCB employees: Mr. Mark Cuba, Hale Center Engineering Technician, and Ms. Ashley Alexander, Temple NPS Project Manager.

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

Ms. Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board and commented on hosting the Ag Council Legislative Orientation, upcoming district director conference calls, and cost share terminology.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Minutes from the November 9-10, 2010 Board Meeting

Chairman Dodier called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9-10, 2010 Board Meeting. Mr. Mahler moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: District Director Appointments

Ms. Preece presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications with the following exceptions of Mr. Paul Crawford and Mr. Ray Teinert's missing their personal data sheets, and Mr. Joe O. Ellis' being a fax copy. Mr. Graham moved the following appointments be approved contingent upon all original paperwork being received in the Temple office. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Doug Benge, Hemphill #138, Zone 1, Replace Dawn Webb
Geoffrey Scott Cooper, Terry #151, Zone 4, Replace Chris Fails
Robert M. Grimes, Middle Clear Fork #206, Zone 1, Replace Danny Lewis
Benny F Kothmann, Menard County #215, Zone 3, Replace Lee Clark
Edward Seidensticker, Kendall #216, Zone 1, Replace M. E. Dusty Bruns
Bill Taylor, Devil's River #224, Zone 2, Replace John McKaskle
Paul Crawford, Midland #244, Zone 1, Replace Ray Teinert (Missing Personal Data Sheet)
Ray Teinert, Midland #244, Zone 2, Replace Toby Bryant (Missing Personal Data Sheet)
Jason Meshell, Davy Crockett-Trinity #404, Zone 1, Replace Jerry Anderson
Joe O. Ellis, Trinity-Neches #422, Zone 2, Replace Marshall Ellis (Fax copy)
Morris Morgan, Red River County #423, Zone 2, Replace Paul Allen
Lewis Odell Casey, Lower Trinity #435, Zone 1, Replace J. W. Rollins
James Ray Schronk, Hill County-Blackland #540, Zone 2, Replace Henry D. Thuem
Pinckney M. Smith, Brazos Valley #557, Zone 5, Replace Mac Yocham

AGENDA ITEM 6: Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of respectfully submitting a request for \$2 million per year in funding for the Flood Control program including 2 FTE's. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Approval of Waivers as per 31 TAC §523.6(E)(2)(B), (E)

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of waivers as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Approval of Addition to Master List of Practices Approved for Cost Share Assistance

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Russell moved for the approval of the addition as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Statewide Water Quality Management Plan Cost Share Request

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the requests as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Adoption of Standardized Rates for In-Kind Contributions of Match Funding Related to Flood Control Operation and Maintenance Activity Reimbursement Requests

Mr. Munz stated that there are no requests at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Chairman Dodier presented service award plaques to:

Kendria Ray – 10 years

John Foster – 10 years

Bob Gruner – 25 years

Vicki Davis – 30 years

AGENDA ITEM 12: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Poultry Water Quality Management Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Water Supply Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Review 2010 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Review Resolutions Adopted at Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved on the Senate Bill 503 Program Eligibility for the approval of the TSSWCB Executive Director to pursue as a committee and report to the Board at the May Board meeting. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Davis discussed CEU's offered at the State Meeting, and that they will try to be incorporated into the Tuesday workshops.

Mr. Mahler moved that the State Board approach the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts to take the lead on designating Houston Black Clay as the State Soil of Texas through the Legislature during its 82nd session in 2011. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Planning for the 2011 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information and stated that the Hyatt Hill Country will be used. Mr. Davis is currently checking on the availability of tours, the need to increase registration fees, room rates for NRCS, and workshops.

AGENDA ITEM 19: National Association of Conservation Districts Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 21: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Dues

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved to pay \$1,500, 50% of current request of \$3,000 for FY2011. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Revise Rule Review Schedule

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jacobs moved for the adoption of the proposed rule review plan as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts Report

Mr. Davis stated that there is nothing to report at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Semi-Annual Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Consider Request for Subdivision Boundary Change by the Brazos Valley SWCD #557

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved to approve the boundary changes as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 26: State Board Member Elections

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Human Resources Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Set a Date for the Next State Board Meeting

March 29-30, 2011 in Austin, Texas. Mr. Isom suggested that the meetings be moved to coincide with the Legislative Committee meeting and reception. Mr. Mahler moved the to accept these dates. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Vice-Chairman

March 30, 2011

Date

Secretary

March 30, 2011

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 27, 2011.

Executive Director

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Date