

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
MARCH 5, 1968

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board held a joint meeting with the Directors of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Austin, Texas, at 10:00 a.m. on March 5, 1968, in the Directors Room of the Stephen F. Austin Hotel.

The following representatives of the State Board, State Association and Soil Conservation Service were in attendance:

State Soil and Water Conservation Board

A. F. Leesch, Chairman
Frank Gray, Vice Chairman
E. W. Wehman, Member
Henry Turney, Member
Albert Roach, Member
Harvey Davis, Executive Director
Josephine Chupik, Secretary

Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

A. L. Black, President
Jack Buchanan, Secretary-Treasurer
Gilbert Kretzschmar, Director
W. S. Gibbs, Director

Soil Conservation Service

L. J. Lann, Assistant State Conservationist, Watersheds

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Leesch. Minutes of the January 18, 1968 meeting and the February 6, 1968 meeting were read and approved.

After a lengthy discussion on financial needs of districts, the Board and Association agreed unanimously to seek through the State Legislature a "Matching fund" for Soil and Water Conservation Districts. It was agreed in the proposal that the matching fund have a ceiling of \$3,000 per district and be available to match funds raised by local districts from sources other than State funds or earnings from State funds.

On motion by Albert Roach, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board approved the appointment of the following supervisors:

Dewitt Dobbs - Wood # 444
B. Lynn Sanders, Jr. - Navarro-Hill # 514
Joe Criswell - Upper Leon # 525

A petition was received from the Wilbarger-Wichita Soil and Water Conservation District # 533 to divide the present District into the Wilbarger Soil and Water Conservation District and the Wichita Soil and Water Conservation District. On motion by Henry Turney, seconded by Frank Gray, a public hearing was set for April 15, 1968, to be held in the Chamber of Commerce office in Electra, Texas to determine the feasibility of this proposal. Motion carried.

The proposed division and re-organization of the Calhoun-Victoria Soil and Water Conservation District # 315 was discussed by the Board. A motion was made by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, not to hold a public hearing on this proposal due to the previous meeting held in this area by the local Board. Motion carried.

A request to approve the change in name of the Navarro-Hill Soil and Water Conservation District # 514 to the Navarro Soil and Water Conservation District was reviewed by the Board. Due to territory changes in this district, new subdivisions were considered. Since the Hill County portion of this district has been transferred to the Nolan-Aquilla Soil and Water Conservation District, Henry Turney made a motion, seconded by Albert Roach, that the Board approve the requested name change and the new subdivisions for this district. Motion carried.

Letters were reviewed from the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District # 206 and the Upper Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District # 121 requesting that a portion of Nolan County now in the Middle Clear Fork District be transferred to the Upper Clear Fork District. On motion by Frank Gray, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board agreed to proceed with the proposal from these two districts.

Harvey Davis reviewed correspondence from the Office of General Counsel in regards to Fee Simple being exercised in some Public Law 566 projects. It was the opinion of the General Counsel that it was not appropriate to acquire greater interests in property than necessary; therefore, the condemnation of property in fee simple for flood control only would probably be held void by the Courts especially when sponsors used this method with the intention of selling the property for profit. No Board action was necessary.

A letter from Virgil Brock, Chairman of the Red Deer Creek Watershed Steering Committee, was reviewed by the Board. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board granted a planning priority on the Red Deer Creek watershed contingent upon the \$25,000 being furnished by the sponsors as stated in a letter dated February 19, 1968.

On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board granted a planning priority on the Cornudas, North and Culp Draw watershed contingent upon the State of New Mexico granting a priority on that portion of the watershed in the State of New Mexico.

The Board agreed to hold tours and hearings in April and May to determine the watersheds to be considered for additional planning priorities. The tentative schedule for these tours and hearings is as follows:

April 4, 1968	- -	Upper North Wichita, Paducah
April 23, 1968	- -	Madera Canyon, Balmorhea
May 2, 1968	- - -	Sabana River, Gorman
May 3, 1968	- - -	Kickapoo Creek, Lipan
May 10, 1968	- - -	Willow Creek, Ballinger
May 15, 1968	- - -	Sandy Creek, Jasper
May 15, 1968	- - -	Lower Sabine, Orange

Correspondence from the Three Mile-Sulphur Draw watershed was reviewed. Local interest is desirous of a planning priority. No Board action was taken.

L. J. Lann reviewed the status of watershed planning on Public Law 566 projects and presented a detailed summary to each Board Member.

The "National Watershed Congress" to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 26-29, 1968, was discussed by the Board. The Board authorized any of the Board Members, the Executive Director and the Engineer to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

J. Frank Gray
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

May 21, 1968
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on March 5, 1968.

May 21, 1968
Date

Leroy Davis
Executive Director