TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 19, 2014, at 3:03 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
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
Ashley Wendt, 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
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
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.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Marty H. Graham
Chairman

May 15, 2014
Date

Secretary

May 15, 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 March 19, 2014.

Executive Director

May 15, 2014
Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 20, 2014, at 8:04 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
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
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
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist

Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Jeremy Welch, Natural Resources Specialist
Yolanda Brown, Contract Specialist
Anita Brazzle, Accountant
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Alfonso Leal, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Daren Harmel, USDA – Agricultural Research Service
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Doug Shaw, Texas Water Development Board

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 8:04 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 the Agricultural Grants Program, the Water Conservation Advisory Council, and introduced Mr. Doug Shaw, Agricultural and Rural Texas Ombudsman for Texas Water Development Board.

Mr. Doug Shaw, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Mr. Shaw spoke of his history of working for the Texas Water Development Board and his new role. Mr. Shaw commented on working with planning groups and projects, the State Water Implementation For Texas (SWIFT), and work sessions across the state.

Mr. Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Niemann commented on the Clean Water Act Program, TMDL Program, Nonpoint Source Program, Watershed Planning, Water Quality Standards, and the Texas Clean Rivers Program.

Chairman Graham acknowledged Mr. George Noelke.

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. Ms. Daniel commented on the upcoming National Association of Conservation Districts meeting (Spring Fly-In) in Washington D.C. March 23-25, and the Farm Bill.

Chairman Graham acknowledged Mr. Darren Harmel.

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

Chairman Graham called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15-16, 2014 Board Meetings.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: 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 with the exception of Mr. Albus' appointment being contingent upon the approval of agenda item #17 subdivision boundary change, and Mr. Irwin missing his Personal Data Sheet.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the following appointments contingent upon the approval of agenda item #17, and all paperwork being received in the Temple office. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger Miller, Lipscomb SWCD #134, Zone 2, Replace Lynn Born
Lynn Born, Lipscomb SWCD #134, Zone 4, Replace Brian Ash
William Albus, Cochran SWCD #149, Zone 1, Replace Kevin Silhan (contingent upon boundary change – agenda item #17)
Stephen Detten, Jr., Canadian River SWCD #160, Zone 4, Replace Phillip Smith
Jay Hurt, King SWCD #168, Zone 4, Replace Dale Rankin
Coy Irwin, Andrews SWCD #246, Zone 2, Replace Doug Irwin (missing personal data sheet)
Charles B. Baker, Matagorda County SWCD #316, Zone 2, Replace Cheryl Hickl
Weston Wolff, San Patricio SWCD #324, Zone 5, Replace Joel Hoskinson
Rory D. Koehn, Colorado County SWCD #333, Zone 2, Replace Jerry Hudec
Chris Moser, Bowie County SWCD #408, Zone 1, Replace Justin Powell
Don "Dink" Benton, Red River County SWCD #423, Zone 2, Replace Morris Morgan
Terry D. McFall, Jasper Newton SWCD #441, Zone 2, Replace Calvin Barnett
Curt Bayer, Upper Elm-Red SWCD #524, Zone 3, Replace Charles Bayer
Kevin W Churchwell, Hill Country SWCD #534, Zone 5, Replace Harlan C. Russell
Mark Bell, Denton County SWCD #547, Zone 1, Replace Jim Blalock

Chairman Graham called on Mr. Alfonso Leal, Natural Resource Conservation Service, who addressed the Board. Mr. Leal reviewed the handout, and commented on the Farm Bill.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Allocations for Clerical Assistance Contribution Agreement

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the request as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Financial Report

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

AGENDA ITEM 10: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider Approval of Requests for Waivers in Accordance with 31 TAC523.6(f)(2)

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

AGENDA ITEM 13: Consider Approval of Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

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

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 and handout.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Consider Request from Cochran County SWCD #149 for Subdivision Boundary Change

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the change as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Candidate Conservation Agreements/Habitat Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie Chicken

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Consider Re-Adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31TAC529, Subchapter B, Structural Repair Grant Program (§§529.50-529.62)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved to readopt the rule as currently written. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Review Plans for 2014 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the State Board members staying at the San Luis Hotel, with staff staying at the Hilton Hotel, and no headquarters hotel designated. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Planning Committee as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval to authorize the Chairman to make planning decisions needing expedited action. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 21: State Board Member Elections

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Texas Conservation Awards Program Recognition of Winners

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

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 Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Public Information/Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

May 14-15, 2014, to be held in Temple.

Chairman Graham presented service awards to the following:
Jeremy Welch – 5 years
Trecia Perales – 20 years
Joel Clark – 20 years
Yolanda Brown – 25 years

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Chairman

Secretary

May 15, 2014
Date

May 15, 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 March 20, 2014.

Executive Director

May 15, 2014
Date