

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2016

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 23, 2016, at 2:04 p.m. at 4311 S. 31st Street, Suite 125, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Scott Buckles, Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Marty H. Graham, 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
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
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
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Information Specialist
Molly Dutton, Information 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
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Chairman Buckles called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. and welcomed those present.

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

AGENDA ITEM 10: External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed agenda information. Mr. Foster stated that he and Mr. Oswald along with the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts Board Members traveled to Washington D.C.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Isom stated that TSSWCB is under the directive and wishes of Texas Legislators and the Texas Governor.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Clark commented on:

- Social media
- Restoration projects
- Contests
- Use of claims email
- TSSWCB presentations at other organizations
- Supporting of TCAWS
- SWCD resources
- Training

AGENDA ITEM 34: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman introduced new hire Molly Dutton to Board Members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.



Scott Buckles, Chairman

May 19, 2016

Date

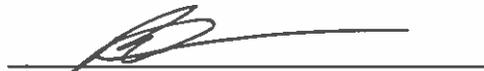


Karen D. Preece, Secretary

May 19, 2016

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 23, 2016.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

May 19, 2016

Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2016

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 24, 2016, at 8:07 a.m. at 5247 S. General Bruce Drive, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Scott Buckles, Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Marty H. Graham, 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
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
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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
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
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
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, Information Specialist
Molly Dutton, Information specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program 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
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Kristy Oates, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Lori Hazel, Texas Forest Service
Murphy Parks, Freese and Nichols, Inc.
Dr. Ryan Banta, United States Geological Survey
George Ozuna, United States Geological Survey
Doug Schnoelelen, United States Geological Survey

Chairman Buckles called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m., welcomed those present, and acknowledged guests.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Ms. Kristy Oates, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Ms. Oates reviewed the handout.

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

AGENDA ITEM 4: Effects of Huisache Removal on Evapotranspiration in South Central Texas at McFaddin Ranch in Victoria County

Mr. Wendt introduced Dr. Ryan Banta, United State Geological Survey. Dr. Banta presented a PowerPoint presentation with a question/answer period following.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Consider Approval of Minutes from Previous State Board Meetings

Ms. Preece reviewed the agenda information.

Chairman Buckles called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 20-21, 2016 Board Meetings. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6: 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. Mahler moved for the approval of the following appointments as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jay Todd Smith, Cottle County #163, Subdivision 4, Replace John Brinson
Charles Walker, Cottle County #163, Subdivision 5, Replace W. Q. Richards
John Dane Gholson, Stonewall #167, Subdivision 2, Replace Billy Kirk Meador
Billy Kirk Meador, Stonewall #167, Subdivision 3, Replace Bobby McGough
Jake Gillis Gurley, Devil's River #224, Subdivision 1, Replace Larry McBee
Kyle Koch, High Point #230, Subdivision 1, Replace Joe Elder

Jim Arledge, Gonzales County #338, Subdivision 3, Replace Donald Brown
Larry O. Calvin, Delta #443, Subdivision 2, Replace Roy Lee Jackson
Kim Dale Frank, Lower Sabine-Neches #446, Subdivision 1, Replace Verley G Spell
Dale M. Parish, Lower Sabine-Neches #446, Subdivision 2, Replace Voncille Plunkett
Jack Wall, Hamilton-Coryell #506, Subdivision 2, Replace Hall DeBusk

AGENDA ITEM 7: Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Temple Facilities Update

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 9: District Biennial Budget Request

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the form as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - \$480,000
- Natural Resource Conservation Service - \$250,000

AGENDA ITEM 11: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Foster commented on meetings in Washington D.C. that he and Mr. Oswald attended with the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts Board Members, and the National Watershed Coalition Members. Discussions concerned the Farm Bill, Flood Control, and the Carrizo Cane Eradication Program.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 14: 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 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 15: Consider Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

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

AGENDA ITEM 16: Poultry Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Consider Re-adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC Chapter 519, Subchapter A, Technical Assistance, §519.8, Eligible Pay Rates

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval to adopt the proposed rule amendment as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Review Plans for 2016 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Graham moved for the approval of the recommendations as presented, and giving the Executive Director and Chairman of the Board the approval to make decisions concerning 2016 state meeting plans. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Recommend Future State Meeting Sites to Solicit Proposals

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Suggestions from the State Board Members were San Antonio and Lubbock.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken

Mr. Davis and Mr. Gibson reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Texas Conservation Awards Program Recognition of Winners

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 30: State Board Member Elections

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Public Information/Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Public Affairs Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Prescribed Burn Board Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 35: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

Mr. Mahler moved for the meeting to be held on May 18-19, 2016. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting to be held in Temple.

Chairman Buckles commented on a 2:00 ceremony for the Stratford Highway Dedication due to loss of a Department of Public Safety officer 25 years ago, and as a reminder to honor and remember our men and women in uniform.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.



Scott Buckles, Chairman



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

May 19, 2016

Date

May 19, 2016

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 24, 2016.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

May 19, 2016

Date