

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**March 29, 2011**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 29, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. at 20 N Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas.

Board Members present:

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  
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  
Tuffy Wood, Program Specialist  
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist  
John Foster, Programs Officer  
Aaron Wendt, Watershed Planning Coordinator  
Pam Casebolt, NPS Project Manager  
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer  
Richard Egg, Engineer  
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator  
Meredith Whitley, Program Specialist  
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Clayton Wolf, Texas Parks & Wildlife  
Joe Freeman

Mr. Wolf, Texas Parks & Wildlife, presented a slide show presentation on the Black Footed Ferret. Questions were taken and answered.

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

Ms. Whitley addressed the Board, and stated that she would be terminating her employment with the agency in April due to her military husband being reassigned to Alabama.

Mr. Mahler stated that Mr. Russell will not be seeking re-election to the State Board, and thanked him for his many years of service. Mr. Russell stated that his time served on the State Board has been very rewarding, and has been an honor to serve with the elected Board Members and the Governor's Appointees.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

May 26, 2011  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

May 26, 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 March 29, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director

May 26, 2011  
Date

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**March 30, 2011**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on March 30, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. at 20 N Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas.

Board Members present:

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  
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  
Tuffy Wood, Program Specialist  
John Foster, Programs Officer  
T. J. Helton, NPS Program Coordinator  
Aaron Wendt, Watershed Planning Coordinator  
Pam Casebolt, NPS Project Manager  
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer  
Richard Egg, Engineer  
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator  
Meredith Whitley, Program Specialist  
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General  
Scott Buckles, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Kelly Holligan, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board  
Jason Pinchback, Texas Stream Team, River Systems Institute  
Meghan Roussel, US Geological Survey  
Richard Eyster, Texas Department of Agriculture

Bill Gray, McClellan Creek SWCD Director  
Pete Johnson, Upper Neches SWCD Director

Vice-Chairman Mahler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and welcomed those present.

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

Mr. Jason Pinchback, Texas Stream Team, River Systems Institute, addressed the Board and thanked them for our working partnership.

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

Ms. Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board and introduced Kelly Holligan. Ms. Harris spoke about the Gilleland Creek TMDL Implementation Plan, TMDL's, the NPS brochure shared by the TSSWCB, funding projects, compiling success stories, PCB's (Polychlorinated Biphenyls), and the Coastal NPS Program.

Mr. Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board and commented that they have 2 new Board Members.

Mr. Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service, addressed the Board and reviewed the NRCS Activity Report. Mr. Salinas commented that they were returning organic funds not used, that the RC&D and Watershed programs are closing, and commented on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Black Footed Ferret project.

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

Mr. Scott Buckles, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. Buckles stated that SWCD Directors and the Association had contacted every House Member on behalf of our proposed budget cuts. Mr. Buckles commented on the Resolution for Groundwater Vested Ownership, the Nashville National Meeting, the Washington D.C. Legislative Conference in July, new website, new brochure, and a NRCS agreement.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: Minutes from the January 26-27, 2011 Board Meeting**

Vice-Chairman Mahler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26-27, 2011 Board Meeting. Mr. Ward moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Mr. Russell 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. Mr. Graham moved the following appointments be approved. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Terry Symons, Ochiltree #142, Zone 1, Replace Gary Black  
Johnny D. Freeman, McClellan Creek #156, Zone 2, Replace John Paul Dauer  
Donald Graham, Caldwell-Travis #304, Zone 5, Replace Melvin Bain  
Randall Davidson, Winter Garden #326, Zone 5, Replace Tamara J. Holdsworth  
Kevin Wilkerson, Trinity-Neches #422, Zone 5, Replace Bob Johnson  
Clay Mercer, Upper Leon #525, Zone 2, Replace Norman Moore  
Arnold D. Smith, Callahan Divide #552, Zone 5, Replace A. H. Ringhoffer

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Fiscal Report**

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:** Consider Approval of Revisions/Additions to Master List of Practices Approved for Cost Share Assistance

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the revisions/additions as presented. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:** Consider and Approve Requests for Waivers as per 31 TAC §523.6(E)(2)(B), (E)

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

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

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the requests as presented. Mr. Jacobs 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. Foster stated that there are no requests at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM 11:** Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 12:** Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Report

Ms. Casebolt reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:** Water Supply Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Wood reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:** Allocation of FY 2011 Water Supply Enhancement Program Funds

Mr. Wood reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Russell moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Mahler presented service award plaques to:  
Mel Davis – 35 years

**AGENDA ITEM 15:** Consider Request by Delta SWCD #443 to Revise District Subdivision Descriptions

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Ward moved for the approval of the changes requested in the legal description as presented. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:** Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:** Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Report

Mr. Davis reviewed agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 18:** Review plans for 2011 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Four sites that were discussed in the Work Session include Toyota Motor plant, an olive orchard, and Color Spot Nursery. Discussion ensued about increasing the registration fees with a recommendation of \$110 for Directors, and spouse increase to be decided at the May Board Meeting.

**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:** State Board Member Elections and Texas Conservation Awards Program

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Davis stated that Mr. Russell has decided to not run for reelection as a State Board Member.

**AGENDA ITEM 22:** Legislative Update/Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 23:** Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 24:** Human Resources Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 25:** Set a Date for the Next State Board Meeting

May 25-26, 2011 in Temple, Texas. Mr. Nichols moved to accept these dates. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

May 26, 2011  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

May 26, 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 March 30, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director

May 26, 2011  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date