

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD
MAY 2, 1964

The State Soil Conservation Board met in regular session in the Texas Hotel at 3:00 p.m. on May 2, 1964 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Board Members present were: J. Frank Gray, Chairman, E. W. Wehman, J. C. Porter, J. S. Sharp, and A. F. Leesch.

Others present were: H. D. Davis, Executive Director, J. M. Norton, S. E. Jones, and A. W. Dalrymple of the State Board staff, and C. W. Graham, Assistant State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service.

The minutes of the March 5, 1964 meeting were read and approved.

Applications for assistance under Public Law 566 were reviewed by J. M. Norton on the following watersheds:

Mill Creek - Kaufman-Van Zandt & Neches-Sabine SCDs

San Antonio-Nueces - Alamo, Medina Valley & Atascosa SCDs

Dutchman Creek & Shinnery Draw - Upper Pease SCD

Upon motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board disapproved the above watersheds pending field examinations to determine economic feasibility.

A favorable report on the field examination of the North Cuero watershed was reviewed by Norton. On motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board approved the North Cuero watershed as feasible for planning.

The field examination report on Salado Creek watershed in the Little River-San Gabriel Soil Conservation District was reviewed by J. M. Norton as being economically unfavorable. On motion by J. C. Porter, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board disapproved assistance on the application.

An amended application on the Chocolate, Little Chocolate, and Lynn's Bayou watershed was reviewed and approved by the Board, on motion by E.W. Wehman, seconded by A.F. Leesch.

An amendment to the Aquilla Creek and Hackberry Creek watershed applications was reviewed by the Board. Since the watersheds were to be combined with a change in application area as well as consideration of the proposed Corps of Engineers Aquilla Reservoir, the Board disapproved the amended application for further evaluation and examination to determine feasibility on motion by J.C. Porter, seconded by J.S. Sharp.

Mr. Clyde Graham discussed the progress and status of the Sabine River Basin Survey and the possibility of securing a portion of data needed for work plan development on the Upper Sabine, Mill Creek, and Irons Bayou watersheds. The Mill Creek and Upper Sabine watersheds have shown the most interest and willingness to participate.

Mr. Graham reviewed watershed planning and status of work plan development and discussed costs and expenditure of State funds. It appears that some State funds may be available for re-allocation to plan another watershed.

Mr. Davis reviewed the request of Williamson Creek watershed sponsors relative to their paying a portion of the cost of work plan development. He also discussed meeting with the local sponsors and their interest and willingness to develop their project. On motion by J.C. Porter, seconded by A.F. Leesch, the Board granted a planning priority to Williamson Creek watershed contingent upon the sponsors paying \$6,000 toward work plan development. The State Board agreed to finance the balance of cost for planning with State Planning funds not to exceed \$17,000 and authorized Harvey Davis to sign a Project Agreement.

The Board discussed a request from Bowie County Soil Conservation District relative to a planning priority on Ash Slough watershed. On motion by J.C. Porter,

seconded by J. S. Sharp, the Board directed Mr. Davis to notify the Bowie County Soil Conservation District that as soon as funds and facilities were available, the Ash Slough watershed would be considered along with other watersheds for a planning priority.

Mr. A. F. Leesch gave a report on the National Watershed Congress held in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Mr. Gray reported on the hearing held April 14, 1964 at Stratford in Sherman County relative to determination of need for the creation of a Soil Conservation District. There were 29 people present and the interest appeared good with a good majority being favorable to the district organization. On motion by J. C. Porter, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board approved an election upon the proposition of the creation of a Soil Conservation District, and the appointment of Earnest Goule as Polling Superintendent. Mr. Davis is to set the election.

A petition by landowners in the Smith County portion of the Sabine River-Cypress Creek Soil Conservation District #417 to withdraw and annex to the Neches-Sabine Soil Conservation District #426 was presented to the State Board for consideration. After discussion, on motion by J. S. Sharp, seconded by A. F. Leesch, the Board authorized a hearing to determine the need for transfer of this area (approximately 70,132 acres) to the Neches-Sabine Soil Conservation District. Mr. Davis is to schedule and set up the hearing.

Harvey Davis then discussed the agenda for the Annual State Meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors to be held in Sherman, Texas, October 27-29, 1964. A workshop type meeting for old and new supervisors was prepared. The Board agreed to consider the agenda and discuss it further at their next meeting.

The Board further agreed to accept bids and consider invitations for the 1966 State meeting site at this years meeting.

Harvey Davis reviewed the financial condition of Soil Conservation Districts with the Board. As of August 31, 1963, Soil Conservation Districts had approximately \$1,605,000 in total funds. At their last meeting, the Directors of the Association of Soil Conservation District Supervisors agreed to request an increase in per diem and mileage from \$4.00 and 5¢ per mile to \$10.00 and 8¢ per mile. This is under consideration and will take an amendment to the State law. An increase in State Board Members per diem was suggested from \$10.00 to \$25.00.

Harvey Davis advised the Board that budget instructions had been received for preparing the budget for the next biennium and that the Board needed to determine it's budget request. After reviewing the present budget and discussing the needs for the next biennium, the Board adopted the following Budget request:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Requested 1966</u>	<u>Requested 1967</u>
1	Per Diem of Board Members	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
2	Executive Director	10,500	10,500
3	Salaries of Classified Positions	49,212	49,212
4	Seasonal and part-time help	-0-	-0-
5	Travel Expense - Board Members and Staff, District Supervisors and Delegates, including District Supervisors' and Delegates' Per Diem	86,000	86,000
6	Consumable supplies and materials, current and recurring operating expense (excluding travel expense), and capital outlay	8,840	8,840
7	For payment of expenses for Watershed Planning by contract or by direct salary and wage, and other necessary expenses	125,000	150,000
	Total	\$ 281,552	\$ 306,552

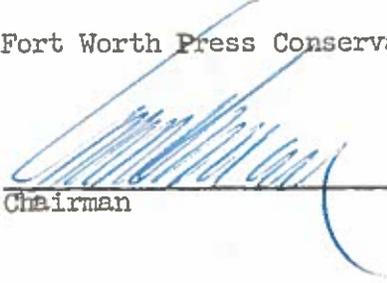
A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp for E. W. Wehman to present the Board's budget request at a hearing to be conducted by the Executive

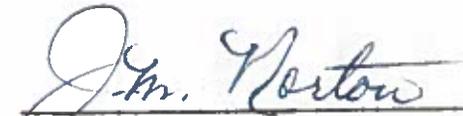
Budget office and the Legislative Budget Board on June 29, 1964, at 2:00 p.m. in Austin. The motion carried and all members of the Board plan to attend the hearing.

Harvey Davis reported that O. F. Armstrong had been extended sick leave for the months of May and June. Mr. Armstrong suffered a stroke in November of 1963 and returned to work too soon. Harvey Davis had a letter from Mr. Armstrong's Physician stating that he needed at least 60 more days without duty. The Board approved this action.

Upon request by Harvey Davis, a motion was made by A. F. Leesch and seconded by E. W. Wehman for S. E. Jones, Assistant Executive Director for the State Board, to be authorized to approve claims and make purchases when the Executive Director is away from headquarters. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. so the Board could attend the State Fort Worth Press Conservation Awards Program.


Chairman


Secretary

June 29, 1964
Date

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your minutes dated May 2, 1964.

Thanks very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

