

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
May 14, 1987

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Thursday, May 14, 1987 at 8:00 a.m. in its Conference Room at 311 North 5th, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

Albert Roach, Chairman  
Joe Antilley, Vice Chairman  
C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Member  
Fred Squyres, Member  
Hermon L. Petty, Member

Staff members present were:

Harvey Davis, Executive Director  
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director  
James Moore, Engineer  
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs  
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor  
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist  
Jay Kuykendall, Planner  
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist

Directors of the Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts present were:

Waldo Smith, President  
W. Q. Richards, Vice President  
Larry McCasland, Secretary-Treasurer  
Clyde Hale, Director, Area V

Others present were:

Dale Fischgrabe, Soil Conservation Service  
O'Gene W. Barkemeyer, Soil Conservation Service  
Dr. B. L. Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service  
Dr. Clarence Richardson, Agricultural Research Service  
Comer Tuck, Jr., Texas Water Development Board

Chairman Roach called the meeting to order.

On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Hermon Petty, the minutes of the March 18, 1987 board meeting were approved as mailed out to each Board member.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board approved the following district director appointments:

Ronald Joe Thuett - Garza SWCD # 158  
Jo Ann Keith - King SWCD # 168  
Pleas Childress, III - Crockett SWCD # 235  
Gene Perry - Crockett SWCD # 235  
Curtis L. Roberts - Willacy SWCD # 349  
Richard Johnson - Cherokee County SWCD # 427  
Darryl G. Schoonmaker - California Creek SWCD # 545

Bob Buckley informed the Board that May 15, 1987 is the deadline for Soil and Water Conservation Districts to claim 2/3 of their allocated 1987 FY conservation assistance funds. Relinquished funds will be re-allocated to districts requesting additional funds. Deadline date for submitting claims for supplemental conservation assistance funds is August 1, 1987.

Bob Buckley informed the Board that at this time of the year technical assistance funds were being released by some districts while at the same time other districts were requesting additional funds. The relinquished funds would need to be re-allocated before the next Board meeting in July due to the FY ending August 31, 1987. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Fred Squyres, the Board authorized Harvey Davis to distribute these re-allocations of technical assistance funds.

Since the current appropriation bill requires the financial status of soil and water conservation districts be considered before allocating any funds, the Board agreed to survey districts' fund balances as of June 1, 1987. Also in this survey, districts will be given an opportunity to suggest changes in the guidelines on technical assistance funds.

Bob Buckley reported on the status of our 1988-89 budget request as being in the Conference Committee.

Harvey Davis reported on current legislation affecting soil and water conservation districts and the State Board.

James Moore and O'Gene Barkemeyer presented the Board with information pertaining to a potential River Basin Study to develop faster, more efficient methods of developing conservation plans under the Food Security Act for areas

of the state experiencing critical wind and water erosion problems on highly erodible land. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board instructed the staff to draft a letter requesting the Soil Conservation Service to undertake such a study.

James Moore briefed the Board on recent activities relative to the State Dam Safety Program. He discussed a proposal by Camp Dresser and McKee, Inc. to the Kaufman Van Zandt Soil and Water Conservation District to perform certain services relative to dams within their jurisdiction; concerns expressed by the San Antonio River Authority relative to letters being sent to the Corps of Engineers by the Texas Water Commission; and a request by the Texas Water Commission to the Brushy Creek Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 requesting a plan of action for upgrading certain P. L. 83-566 dams in the Upper and Lower Brushy Creek Watershed to meet Water Commission standards. Harvey Davis then led a brief discussion on dam safety and indicated that there would probably be some meetings in the near future between selected project sponsors, Soil Conservation Service and Texas Water Commission to attempt to resolve some of the problems being experienced.

Albert Roach welcomed the guests and asked if anyone had comments to make.

Comer Tuck indicated that Senate Bill 410 dealing with agricultural water conservation was tied up in calendars committee and that the Texas Water Development Board proposal for use of the Exxon overcharge funds was on hold.

Dale Fischgrabe informed the Board that Coy Garrett was attending a meeting of southern state conservationists in San Antonio. He reported that the series of meetings on meeting requirements of the Food Security Act of 1985 had been successful and that proposed conservation systems had been developed for the High Plains and Rolling Plains critical areas, with systems for the Pleasanton Critical Area still under development. He indicated that Soil Conservation Service was behind on developing conservation plans at a rate to meet 1990 deadlines under the Food Security Act, and briefed the Board on the status of

supplemental appropriations.

Mr. Fischgrabe then told the Board of an upcoming USDA study on the effectiveness of the USDA delivery systems at getting information on Food Security Act requirements to small resource and minority farmers, which will involve five states, one of which will be Texas. He indicated that the study would focus on Bexar, Brooks, Burleson, Fort Bend, Grimes, Nacogdoches, Smith, Starr, Travis and Washington Counties. He then informed the Board of the implementation by EPA of the Endangered Species Act under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, which would impact the use of chemicals where endangered species are present. He further indicated that he would get copies of relative information to those desiring it as soon as possible.

Dr. Clarence Richardson announced that Norman Jones was the new Agricultural Research Service Area Director for this area, and briefly explained that an administrative realignment of ARS was underway and might affect this area.

Dr. Bill Harris updated the Board on Extension Service activities relative to the Food Security Act of 1985 and reminded everyone of the Conservation Tillage Conference scheduled for July 1 and 2 at College Station. He then reported on the status of Conservation Tillage Demonstrations and indicated that the Great Plains Council was trying to reinitiate their effectiveness and activity in the wake of recent Food Security Act shift in priorities.

O'Gene Barkemeyer reported that the Big Creek Watershed Project in Delta County had been authorized for funding although no funding was currently available.

Waldo Smith discussed a recently announced USDA policy relative to the membership of Soil and Water Conservation District Boards, and updated the Board on a telephone conversation with Peter Myers that had taken place during the Board meeting. Mr. Smith indicated that a meeting would be scheduled with Peter Myers to discuss objections to the USDA policy as soon as he had an opportunity to discuss the policy with Clarence Durban of the National Association of Con-

ervation Districts.

Harvey Davis reported that present State Board members in Area I, III and V were re-elected by acclamation on Tuesday, May 5, 1987 to serve a two year term ending the first Tuesday in May, 1989. The following were re-elected:

Area I - Fred Squyres  
Area III- C. F. 'Dick' Schendel  
Area V - Hermon Petty

All Area Conservation Awards Programs were held the first week of May. The Board discussed locations for these programs and decided that each area hold their program in the location that suited their area.

On motion of Hermon Petty, seconded by Fred Squyres, the Board elected Joe Antilley as Chairman and Dick Schendel as Vice Chairman.

The Texas Section of the Soil Conservation Society of America will meet on June 18-20, 1987 in Kerrville.

The Conservation Tillage Conference will be held on July 1 and 2, 1987 in College Station, Texas.

The South Central Area Meeting of the National Association of Conservation Districts will be held on July 26 thru July 28, 1987 in Bossier City, Louisiana. All Board members plan to attend as previously adopted in the Board's travel policy.

The National Soil Conservation Society of America will meet on August 2 thru 5, 1987 in Billings, Montana. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board authorized attendance of any Board member.

The NACD Leadership Conference will be held on August 26 thru 28, 1987 in Albany, New York. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board authorized Chairman Antilley and Harvey Davis to attend.

A meeting of the Louisiana Shoreline Erosion Committee will be held on June 24 and 25, 1987 in Grand Island, La. Some Texas Soil and Water Conservation District Directors have been invited to participate. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Fred Squyres, the Board authorized Dick Schendel or any other Board

member to attend.

Due to the discussion earlier in this meeting on USDA policy relative to membership of soil and water conservation districts boards, the Board agreed a meeting with Peter Myers, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, would be beneficial. On motion of Hermon Petty, seconded by Dick Schendel, the Board authorized attendance of any and/or all board members if and when this meeting is held.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for July 15, 1987.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

*Joe Costello*  
Chairman  
July 15, 1987  
Date

*Josephine Chupik*  
Secretary

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on May 14, 1987.

July 15, 1987  
Date

*Harvey Davis*  
Executive Director