

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
May 16, 1985

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on May 16, 1985 at 8:15 a.m. in the Conference Room of its new office building at 311 North 5th Street, Temple, Texas. The office had moved from its location on the 10th floor of the First National Building at 18-20 South Main, Temple, Texas on April 20, 1985 to its new facilities.

Board members present were:

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

Staff members present were:

Harvey Davis, Executive Director
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor
James Moore, Engineer
Jay Kuykendall, Engineering Technician
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Dr. Carl Gray, Agronomist
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist

Others present were:

Dr. B. L. Harris, Agricultural Extension Service
Billy Griffin, Soil Conservation Service
Dale Fischgrabe, Soil Conservation Service
Gary Westmoreland, Soil Conservation Service (9:30 a.m.)
Pat Henson, Soil Conservation Service (9:30 a.m.)
O'Gene Barkemeyer, Soil Conservation Service (9:30 a.m.)
Charles M. Thompson, Soil Conservation Service (9:30 a.m.)
Frank Wheeler, Soil Conservation Service (9:30 a.m.)

Chairman Schendel called the meeting to order, welcomed all the guests and commented on the nice new facilities.

On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Hermon Petty, the minutes of the Board meeting held on March 21, 1985 were approved as read.

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

Paul Burns - Coke County SWCD # 219
Emil "Parky" Schendel - Karnes-Goliad SWCD # 343
George Payne - Sulphur-Cypress SWCD # 419
Avon Stretcher - Sulphur-Cypress SWCD # 419
John V. Bostick - Trinity-Neches SWCD # 422
Dick Wirz - Miller-Brazos SWCD # 542

On February 8, 1985, a petition was received to divide and re-organize the Hays-Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District # 304 and create the Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District # 304 and the Hays County Soil and Water Conservation District # 351. Public hearings held on April 3, 1985 in Lockhart and San Marcos were favorable. The Board approved distribution of assets and liabilities based on the audit and the transfer of easements. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved the division and reorganization of the Hays-Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District as being practicable and feasible. Due to the division of this district, the Board approved new subdivisions and appointed directors for each new district as follows:

Caldwell-Travis SWCD # 304

Zone 2 Clyde Roberts

Zone 4 Andy Alexander, Jr.

Hays County SWCD # 351

Zone 2 Reed Carr

Zone 4 Ray S. Nelson

On May 1, 1985, a petition was received from landowners in Callahan County requesting a soil and water conservation district be organized within the boundaries of Callahan County. Callahan County is presently in two districts, the Central Colorado SWCD # 517 and the Lower Clear Fork of the Brazos SWCD #531. On motion of Hermon Petty, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board agreed to respond to the request and explain that a petition must be filed from each of the

District Boards involved before the State Board can take action.

Requests for additional allocations of 1984-85 Conservation Assistance funds (Matching funds) were considered. On motion of Hermon Petty, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board allocated an additional \$400.00 to the Menard SWCD # 215 and \$1,000.00 to the Bandera SWCD # 229.

The Board discussed the procedure for allocating Conservation Assistance funds for fiscal year 1986. Since the appropriation bill requires the financial status of Soil and Water Conservation Districts be considered before allocating any funds, on motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board decided to survey districts' fund balances as of June 1, 1985 and determine the procedure for allocations in its July 18, 1985 meeting.

As per action in the March 21, 1985 board meeting designating the Chairman and Executive Director to distribute additional re-allocations of technical assistance funds as they are relinquished for fiscal year 1985, the following districts have received re-allocated technical assistance funds since that meeting:

Duck Creek SWCD # 157	\$2,000.00
Mitchell SWCD # 207	1,000.00
Mason SWCD # 223	1,500.00
Medina Valley SWCD # 226	1,500.00
Bandera SWCD # 229	500.00
Atascosa SWCD # 307	750.00
Bee SWCD # 344	800.00
Bowie County SWCD # 408	720.00
Freestone-Leon SWCD # 424	1,320.00
Wood SWCD # 444	1,000.00
Young SWCD # 539	1,500.00
Haskell SWCD # 546	2,000.00

Bob Buckley reviewed the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act which affects all public employers. The Act deals primarily with overtime and minimum wages. It will affect district technicians as well as the board staff. Specific details regarding implementation are forthcoming from the Attorney General's office. The 1986-87 appropriation bill will also reflect changes due to implementation of this Act.

Bob Buckley explained the proposed 1986-87 appropriation bills as adopted by the House and the Senate. The House version is 6.6% less than the 1985 appropriation. The Senate version is 3.7% less than the 1985 appropriation. Riders in the House version mandate consideration of districts' financial status before distributing any Conservation Assistance and Technical Assistance funds. Board Members shall receive \$30.00 per day plus meals and lodging not to exceed the maximum amount allowed in the Internal Revenue Code.

Harvey Davis thanked Dick and Ellie Schendel for the clock donated by them for use in the Conference Room. He also thanked Hermon Petty for the cookies brought to the meeting for "Coffee break". Mr. Davis informed the Board Jay Kuykendall had been delegated the responsibility of the new building, grounds, and purchasing.

Harvey Davis discussed the current status of legislation affecting the State Board and Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

James Moore presented a staff report on a Farmland Protection Policy Act referral from the Department of Energy involving the potential nuclear waste repository sites in Deaf Smith and Swisher Counties. The report indicated that the following soil mapping units met Board guidelines for farmland of statewide importance:

Deaf Smith County

- Pullman clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes
- Pullman clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes
- Olton clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes
- Pullman-Ulysses complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes
- Pullman-Ulysses complex, 1 to 3 percent slopes
- Ulysses clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes
- Ulysses clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes

Swisher County

- Lofton clay loam
- Olton clay loam
- Pullman clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes
- Pullman clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes
- Mansker and Estacado soils, 0 to 1 percent slopes
- Mansker and Estacado soils, 1 to 3 percent slopes
- Roscoe clay

The report also indicated that farmland of Statewide importance which met Board guidelines made up 5,675 acres or 98.5% of the nine square mile site in Deaf Smith County and 5,384 acres on 93% of the nine square mile site in Swisher County. In response to the request from the Department of Energy for the determination of prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance in the areas being considered as possible nuclear waste repositories, Joe Antilley moved that the staff report be accepted and the soils identified in the report as meeting Board guidelines be designated as farmland of statewide importance. The motion was seconded by Hermon Petty and carried unanimously.

Harvey Davis announced that Wilson Scaling had just been appointed Chief of the Soil Conservation Service effective May 21, 1985.

Billy Griffin discussed recent Senate action on the USDA Conservation Program budget which would cut funding by 15%. Griffin discussed the 1985 fiscal year budget situation and a proposal to streamline USDA, which includes agency consolidation; a plan to promote conservation tillage by the Northeast Texas RC & D area and efforts between FmHA and SCS to assist with FmHA loans.

Pat Henson briefed the Board on SCS targeting activities. O'Gene Barkemeyer reported on construction activities under watershed programs and status of planning on the Sulphur Creek and Hudspeth County projects. He reported on the dedication of the Upper San Marcos watershed Site 2 and Elm Creek watershed Site 1. Gary Westmoreland reported on a Range Improvement Promotion campaign and indicated if it was successful, similar programs will be developed for other land uses. Westmoreland informed the Board that the brush inventory data is out in preliminary form, and briefly summarized the findings.

Bill Harris discussed the wind erosion control demonstration projects which involve several soil and water conservation districts, and informed the Board that the Surface Mining Reclamation Conference will be held in College Station in October.

Harvey Davis discussed a National Private Landowner Recreation survey being conducted by the U.S. Forest Service to determine the supply of recreation land available on a regional and national basis involving 700 counties in the nation. The Board agreed to recommend that districts not participate in the survey.

Reports were given by Hermon Petty, Joe Antilley, and Dick Schendel on the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Soil Conservation Service in Washington, D. C. the week of April 28 thru May 2, 1985. Contacts were made with several Texas Congressmen.

Mel Davis reviewed the estimated financial status on banquet ticket sales and disbursements in each of the Area Awards programs held during the month of May.

The Annual Statewide meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors will be held in San Antonio on October 7, 8 & 9, 1985. Hermon Petty and Dick Schendel will represent the Board on the Planning Committee for the meeting. Two directors of the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts will also serve on the Planning Committee. The 1986 Annual meeting will be held in Austin, Texas. In order to determine future meeting sites for the meeting, the Board agreed to poll district directors for their preference.

The South Central Area Meeting of NACD will be held July 28, 29 and 30, 1985 at the Shangri-lain Afton, Oklahoma. All Board members plan to attend. Lodging reservations will be made for the Board members.

The Soil Conservation Society of America, Texas Section, will hold its meeting on July 11, 12 and 13, 1985 in Amarillo, Texas.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board is July 18, 1985.

On May 7, 1985 in Beeville, Texas, C. F. "Dick" Schendel was re-elected to serve another five year term on the Board representing Area III.

As Chairman of the Board, Mr. Schendel thanked everyone for their cooperation for the past year.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board elected Hermon Petty as Chairman and Albert Roach as Vice Chairman of the Board.

On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Frank Gray, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m. and the Board stepped out for photos in front of the new office building.

Hermon L. Petty
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

July 18, 1985
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on May 16, 1985.

July 18, 1985
Date

Lawrence Davis
Executive Director