

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
State Soil Conservation Board Meeting  
Austin, Texas  
June 25, 1962

The regular meeting of the State Soil Conservation Board was held in the Stephen F. Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas, June 25, 1962, beginning at 8:00 p.m.

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

Others present: Harvey Davis, Executive Director and J. M. Norton, Engineer, State Soil Conservation Board, John Wells, President and A. L. Bading, Executive Director of the Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts.

The minutes of the regular meeting of May 25-26, 1962 were read and approved.

Harvey Davis discussed operation procedures and financial conditions of Soil Conservation Districts. He also reviewed the Budget Request for 1964 and 1965 with Board Members and others present. An itemized breakdown of the cost for operating a planning party on an annual basis was reviewed with the Board. The necessary costs amount to \$100,000.

A preliminary field examination report on Lipan Creek watershed was reviewed by Norton indicating a favorable project. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by J. S. Sharp, the Board approved the application as feasible for planning.

Harvey Davis explained that no answer had been received in reply to our letter relative to the status of Wilbarger Creek. The priority for planning will be re-considered by the State Board when additional priorities are set.

The Valley applications were discussed and various possibilities were considered for planning operations.

Davis brought out that the Board might want to consider how they should allocate the \$110,000 appropriation for next year prior to establishing more

watershed priorities. It was mutually agreed by the group that all funds are for Soil Conservation District work even though some would be used for watershed planning and some for operating expenses of Soil Conservation Districts. It was agreed that a determination be made as to what would be required to carry on watershed planning operations and allocate balance to Soil Conservation Districts.

A meeting with the Texas Water Commission on July 27, 1962 to discuss problems of mutual interest particularly in regard to another irrigation survey for 1964 and possibilities of developing water supplies for small towns and communities in the watershed protection and flood prevention program was discussed. The date was agreeable and is to be confirmed to the other parties.

Arrangements were reviewed for the tour and hearing of Castleman Creek at Waco on June 26.

The 1963 State Meeting was considered and discussed. Arthur Bading suggested that the date for the Annual Meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors be changed to a time when the most could be accomplished and not for the convenience of Soil Conservation District Supervisors. More thought and consideration will be given toward selecting a more suitable and practical date in the future.

The Board recessed at 11:00 p.m.

June 26, 1962

The Board reconvened at 9:30 a.m., June 26, 1962, in the Capitol Building in Austin, Texas with representatives of the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office.

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

Others present were: H. D. Davis, Executive Director and J. M. Norton, State Soil Conservation Board, John Wells, President and A. L. Bading, Executive

Director of the Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts, Vernon McGee and John Frasch of the Legislative Budget Board and Jess M. Irwin, Jr. of the Governor's office.

The State Board's Budget Request for the next biennium was reviewed and discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

The State Board and staff members proceeded to Waco to conduct a tour and public hearing on the Castleman Creek watershed. After the field tour of the watershed, a public hearing was held at Robinson, Texas with sponsors of the project and other interested parties and landowners. The Board heard only favorable testimony for the project. Any opposition to the project was not disclosed.

The hearing adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

June 27, 1962

The State Board reconvened its meeting in the First National Building, Temple, Texas at 8:30 a.m. on June 27, 1962.

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

Others present: C. W. Graham, Assistant Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Harvey Davis, Executive Director, J. M. Norton and Bob Carlisle of the State Soil Conservation Board, and A. L. Bading, Executive Director, Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts.

Mr. Leesch called the meeting to order 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Graham reviewed approval of work plans by Congressional Committees. It appears difficult to secure approval of work plans with a 1.2:1 Benefit-Cost ratio. As a result, a revision of policy relative to benefits and evaluation period has been made which provides for the following:

1. Secondary benefits will be used also.
2. One hundred year evaluation period to be used. (Design criteria

calls for 100 year sediment storage.)

3. Induced labor under Area Redevelopment Act 1961 in under-developed areas.
4. Recreational value derived on value of visitor day of use.

Another policy change of significant importance is that local funds for planning are no longer limited to an amount equivalent to the federal appropriation. Mr. Graham then discussed the present planning status and future needs. He estimated that \$72,000 would be needed to complete Upper Bosque and Hondo Creeks.

After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by E. W. Wehman to allocate \$55,000 of \$110,000 for 1963 to watershed planning, \$35,000 to Soil Conservation District operations, and to hold \$20,000 for future use as needs develop. The motion was seconded by J. C. Porter and approved.

The Valley projects were discussed together with other drainage projects, including Chocolate Creek. The possibility of securing assistance through trust funds and the planning by consulting engineers was considered a good possibility.

A letter from the Cameron County Judge requesting estimates of planning costs on three watersheds was reviewed. These estimates are to be made by the Soil Conservation Service in August. On motion by J. Frank Gray, seconded by J. S. Sharp, the Board agreed to replace the priority granted Wilbarger Creek with a priority for planning on Donohue Creek in accordance with alternate priorities granted and recorded in minutes of meeting dated June 15, 1960.

A motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by J. S. Sharp to establish a priority for Chocolate, Little Chocolate, and Lynn's Bayou together with Escondido Creek to be planned following Hondo Creek under Trust Fund agreements provided the Chocolate Creek sponsors vote the necessary bonds. The motion carried.

After a review and discussion of watersheds ready for planning, a motion was made by J. S. Sharp to grant a priority for planning to Choctaw Creek near

Sherman, Texas. The motion was seconded by E. W. Wehman and approved by the Board.

J. C. Porter explained a request from the Red River Authority to meet with them at Shamrock, Texas on July 16, 1962 at 1:30 p.m. The authority is set up to develop resources on Red River in Texas and Oklahoma. The local people and other interests desire to develop water supplies for small towns in Sweetwater Creek, induce pollution control and provide flood protection. The towns of Wellington and Quail will probably be represented at the meeting. Norton and Graham are to develop a map showing probable watershed projects and other aspects of the conservation program.

Norton discussed an invitation to meet with the Texas Water Commission and Water Development Board relative to an irrigation survey for 1964 and water supplies for small towns through Public Law 566. The date was confirmed for July 27, 1962.

The Board discussed the Budget item relative to appropriation of funds for operation of Soil Conservation Districts.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon, June 27, 1962.

*W. H. Hesch*

Chairman

*J. M. Norton*

Secretary

*July 27 1962*

Date

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your minutes dated June 25, 26, and 27.

Thanks very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

*Price Daniel*