

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
JULY 15, 1971

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met at 2:00 p.m. on July 15, 1971, in Parlor'D', Astroworld Hotel, Houston, Texas.

Board Members present were: Albert Roach, Chairman, Joe Antilley, Vice Chairman, E. W. Wehman, Henry Turney and Frank Gray.

Others present were: Harvey Davis, Executive Director, John Millican, Assistant Executive Director, Phil Grazier, Engineer and Josephine Chupik, Office Manager of the State Board staff; M. J. Spears, Deputy State Conservationist and L. J. Lann, Assistant State Conservationist, Watersheds, of the Soil Conservation Service.

Minutes of the May 25 and June 27, 1971 meetings were approved as read.

The Board considered the division and re-organization of the Martin-Howard-Midland Soil & Water Conservation District #203 creating the Mustang, Howard, and Midland Soil and Water Conservation Districts. A petition was received on December 29, 1970 and a favorable public hearing was held on March 9, 1971. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board approved, contingent upon all financial documents being in order, the division and reorganization of the Martin-Howard-Midland Soil and Water Conservation District #203 as being practicable and feasible. Due to the division of this District, the Board approved new subdivisions in the Mustang Soil and Water Conservation District #242, the Howard Soil and Water Conservation District #243 and the Martin Soil & Water Conservation District #244 and appointed Bob Cox as Director in subdivision 2 and Bernard Houston as Director in subdivision 4 of the Mustang District; Jerry Iden as Director in subdivision 2 and Jack Buchanan as Director in subdivision 4 of the Howard District; and Bobby Howard as Director in subdivision 2 and J. D. Crawford as Director in subdivision 4 of the Midland District.

A petition for inclusion of territory in the Monte Mucho Soil and Water Conservation District #331 was considered by the Board. On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board authorized a public hearing in this district to determine the feasibility of inclusion of additional territory.

M. J. Spears reported on personnel changes throughout the State in their organization. Mr. Spears also reported on the uniform relocation assistance and real property acquisition policies act of 1970 known as Public Law 91 effective January 2, 1971.

Mr. Spears reported that Clyde Graham, State Conservationist who underwent heart surgery in Houston, would be dismissed from the hospital, Friday, July 16, 1971.

On a motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Henry Turney, the Board approved the appointment of the following District Directors:

Max T. Wells - Mason County SWCD #223
Mack Crow - Hays-Caldwell-Travis SWCD #304
Leroy Strarup - Wharton SWCD #342
William Bayer - Victoria SWCD #346
J. C. Sheffield - Freestone-Leon SWCD #424

The Board discussed Matching Funds for the fiscal year of 1972. One hundred and seventy-six Districts requested funds totaling \$329,618; however, only \$248,784 was appropriated in Matching Funds for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 1971 and ending August 31, 1972. After considerable discussion, on motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board agreed to allocate 75% of the amount requested by each of the 176 districts.

Due to the outbreak of Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis (VEE) in the Valley, the Board discussed the impact this could have on our attendance at the Annual State meeting to be held in McAllen on October 19, 20 and 21, 1971. On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board agreed that E. W. Wehman, Albert Roach, Harvey Davis and any of his staff that is necessary, survey the situation and make any decision they deem appropriate.

Possible sites for the 1972 Annual State meeting were discussed. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Henry Turney, the Board selected Houston, Texas with the Astroworld Hotel as headquarters.

Mr. Davis discussed the Ethics Bill, HB 302 by James E. Nugent of Kerrville and Senator Ralph Hall of Rockwall. All officials who hold an office of "honor or trust" with the State of Texas must file a financial statement with the Secretary of State. Exempt are state employees whose salaries are less than \$11,000 a year.

A field examination on the Elm Creek watershed near Shamrock, Texas revealed that the benefit cost ratio indicated it was not a feasible watershed. On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board disapproved the Elm Creek watershed.

Phil Grazier reported on the status of watershed activities under Public Law 566 projects.

L. J. Iann reviewed the status of watershed construction and planning on Public Law 566 projects and presented each Board member with a detailed summary of his report.

To date, five Directors Workshops have been held in Area II and one in Area V. Board members commented favorably on discussions held at these workshops.

The Southeastern Meeting of Executive Officers and members of State Committees or Boards will hold its meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee on September 13 and 14, 1971. The Board authorized the Chairman or one member of the Board, the Executive Director or his designee to attend this meeting.

The Texas State Great Plains Conservation Program Committee will be held in Dalhart, Texas on September 15-16, 1971.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for September 16, 1971; however, on motion of Henry Turney, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board agreed that Albert Roach and Harvey Davis decide whether to have the regular scheduled Board meeting or have the Board meeting on another date.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Albert Roach
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

September 16, 1971
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on July 15, 1971.

September 16, 1971
Date

Harvey Davis
Executive Director