

**Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**July 15, 1992**

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, July 15, 1992 at 8:00 a.m. in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Chairman  
Albert Evans, Vice Chairman  
Paul Robertson, Member  
Charles "Buddy" Clark, Member  
Harvey Davis, Member

Staff members present were:

Robert G. Buckley, Executive Director  
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director  
William C. Neiser, Director of Programs  
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist  
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist  
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant  
Beade O. Northcut, Engineer  
Stephen Deiss, Planner  
Ramesh Chamala, Research Specialist  
Vicki Davis, Technical Assistant  
Andy Garza, Soil Conservationist  
Roy Freeman, Soil Conservationist  
Joe McKay, Soil Conservationist  
David Powell, Soil Conservationist  
Dub Crumley, Soil Conservationist  
Rex Isom, Soil Conservationist  
Bob Gruner, Soil Conservationist  
Johnny Oswald, Soil Conservationist  
Joe Freeman, Soil Conservationist

Others present were:

Wes Oneth, Soil Conservation Service  
John Impson, Texas Water Commission  
Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board  
Donnie G. Bowman, Agricultural Stabilization &  
Conservation Service  
Jerry Harris, Agricultural Stabilization & Conserva-  
tion Committee

Dick Schendel called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Special recognition was given to John Impson, Jerry Harris and Donnie Bowman.

On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Paul Robertson, the minutes of the May 20, 1992 Board meeting were approved as mailed.

John Millican presented district director appointments for consideration and recommended they be approved. On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by Paul Robertson the following district director appointments were approved:

Manuel N. Lujan, Upper Pecos SWCD #213  
Roy R. Stallman, Colorado SWCD #333  
John C. Mast, Nacogdoches SWCD #401  
Lance Vaught, Rusk SWCD #447  
Royce L. Slater, Limestone-Falls SWCD #501

Chairman Schendel announced a variance from the agenda allowing guests who needed to leave early to address the group. Jerry Harris, Chairman of the State ASCS Committee, discussed the ACP Program and proposed consolidations within USDA. Donnie Bowman, Director of the ASCS State Committee also discussed the ACP program and presented a brief background on the program. Chairman Schendel and Mr. Harris stated their desire for a closer working relationship between their two agencies and extended invitations to attend each other's board meetings.

John Impson, Manager of the Agriculture Division of the Texas Water Commission, discussed his desire for a close

working relationship between the Commission and the State Board on water quality issues. He also said the Texas Water Commission Agriculture Advisory Committee will be looking at the issue of groundwater as it relates to ownership.

John Millican reported on recommendations of the Planning Committee for this year's Annual State Meeting. Suggestions were taken from the Board pertaining to speakers that should be invited to address district directors.

Beade Northcut notified the Board that the proposed Seymour Aquifer Project was at the Texas Water Commission awaiting approval and the proposed Arroyo Colorado Project will be approved soon and ready to start.

Beade Northcut reviewed the Texas Water Commission's Clean Water Council's recommendations on NPS pollution and stated that their latest proposal addresses concerns presented by the State Board. The recommendations will be presented to subcommittee chairs by the end of July.

Bob Buckley informed the Board that a TWC proposal to have the Brazos River Authority assess watersheds concerning dairy waste and enforce TWC rules has been dropped. John Impson reviewed the activities of other TWC subcommittees. He also reported that the Permitting Subcommittee will be reviewing regulations on animal wastes in the early Fall.

Beade Northcut updated the Board on the workings of the Nutrient Enrichment Subcommittee of the Gulf of Mexico Program.

Dick Schendel stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program did not meet in June, therefore there was nothing to update at this time.

Beade Northcut reviewed a letter from GLO seeking input of the Board on the formation of a Coastal Policy Development Committee and reviewed the response noting support and willingness to be involved. Bob Buckley reviewed Agency comments submitted on the Coastal Coordination Council proposed rules concerning consistency on coastal issues.

Wes Oneth reported for the Soil Conservation Service. He informed the Board that soil mapping had been completed for Rusk and Houston Counties; the Earth Team had recently hosted the South Regional Volunteers meeting in San Antonio; gave a brief history of the Conservation Grazing Lands Initiative and handed out an official summary stating that SCS is seeking a pilot program for the initiative; related the State Historical and Preservation Board's request that SCS personnel report all sites they find when on a private landowner's property and explained his refusal to do so; a plan by TWC with SCS to jointly employ an individual to work on voluntary programs; USDA's reorganization causing drastic budget cuts for SCS and his preliminary thoughts on staff reductions that will have to be made if current figures hold true; invitation extended to the State Board members for the National SCS State Conservationist Conference in San Antonio; and recounted to the Board his knowledge and understanding of the ACP resolution as

discussed earlier by Jerry Harris and Donnie Bowman.

Comer Tuck reported for the Texas Water Development Board. He told the Board that 13 water conservation grants were being considered at this time, many for SWCD's. He also stated that their water conservation evaluations for irrigation had been delayed by the heavy rains this Spring.

Mel Davis reviewed the 15th Annual Conservation Awards Program packet to the Board for their consideration and approval. On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by Harvey Davis, the packet was approved. Motion carried.

Bill Neiser discussed recommended changes to the Strategic Plan as suggested by the Legislative Budget Board and Governor's Budget Office. On motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Buddy Clark the revised plan was approved with flexibility for the staff to make future revisions on output measures as recommended by Legislative Budget Board. Motion carried.

Bill Neiser then covered the district audit rule changes stating that no comments were received during the open comment period. Albert Evans made a motion, seconded by Paul Robertson to adopt the rules as final. Motion carried.

Mr. Neiser reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 1993 Operating Budget reflecting a proposed allocation of the 5% reduction amount in the General Appropriations Bill. Harvey Davis moved to adopt the FY 93 budget as presented, Albert Evans seconded and the motion passed.

Bill Neiser presented a draft allocation of FY 93 Conservation Assistance Funds. Albert Evans moved that the allocations as presented be adopted, Paul Robertson seconded, and the motion carried.

Bill then reviewed the FY 93 Technical Assistance Funds draft allocations and the Board recessed to make adjustments to the proposed allocations. The Board reconvened and Paul Robertson made a motion to approve the adjusted FY 93 fund allocations, Buddy Clark seconded and the motion passed.

Bill Neiser reviewed Board policy concerning the reallocation of technical assistance funds turned back by districts. Harvey Davis made a motion to continue the policy and give the Executive Director the authority to make reallocations on requests as received from districts, Albert Evans seconded, motion passed.

Bob Buckley suggested that August 1st be set as a cut-off date for reallocation of turned back funds. After that date all returned funds would go to the pool for supplemental allocations. Albert Evans moved for the continuation of the supplemental payment policy as it is with the August 1st stipulation and Harvey Davis seconded. Motion passed.

Bill Neiser reviewed the reduction of Matching Funds to districts not meeting the May 15 (2/3) deadline date. By consensus the Board agreed that the Executive Director should have the authority to make allocations with those funds freed up with the reductions. A motion was made by Harvey Davis,

seconded by Paul Robertson to continue using the past method of allocating unclaimed Matching Funds. Motion carried.

Bill Neiser presented a 10 month expenditure report reflecting actual expenditures compared to budget funds.

He then reviewed the Auditor's Report on key performance targets. He informed the Board that this would be the form of audit we would receive in the future.

Bob Buckley notified the Board of the time frame for turning in the Agency's 94-95 budget request and asked for suggestions and questions. Bill Neiser reviewed each line item submitted on the FY 92-93 budget request. Discussion was held as to making the language in item #1 of the hand out referring to cost-share more viable. The Board requested that the staff reexamine the line item on cost-share funds and present their recommendation for changes to the Board. By consensus, all other line items were approved for inclusion in preparing the FY 94-95 Budget Request.

Dick Schendel set August 13th as the date for a called Board meeting to consider the adoption of a budget request.

Clyde Gottschalk presented the Public Information/Education report. He informed the Board that EPA had elected not to fund the education grant proposal which the Agency submitted; two Area IV districts had been awarded small education grants by EPA; a district director training workshop for new directors is scheduled September 22-23; the Rice Field BMP Demonstration Project has been receiving good

Committee was planning a workshop with the Boy Scouts of America in Austin.

Board member travel was discussed.

The Board was reminded of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on September 16, 1992 and the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Clarence Schendel  
Chairman

Diego J. Davis  
Secretary

8-13-92  
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on July 15, 1992.

8-13-92  
Date

Robert L. Buckley  
Executive Director