

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
July 17, 1986

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Thursday, July 17, 1986 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  
Jay Kuykendall, Planner  
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist

Others present were:

Waldo Smith, President, Association of Texas Soil & Water  
Conservation Districts  
Clyde Hale, Director, Area V, Association of Texas Soil & Water  
Conservation Districts  
Coy Garrett, Soil Conservation Service  
Dale Fischgrabe, Soil Conservation Service  
Charles Thompson, Soil Conservation Service  
Gary Westmoreland, Soil Conservation Service  
Dr. B. L. Harris, Agricultural Extension Service  
Dr. Gerald Arkin, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Temple

Chairman Roach called the meeting to order.

On motion of Hermon Petty, seconded by Dick Schendel, the minutes of the May 22, 1986 meeting were approved as mailed out to each Board member.

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

Robert McPherson - Cap Rock SWCD # 126  
Floyd Rowland - Cochran SWCD # 149  
Mrs. Evelyn Reininger - Bandera SWCD # 229  
Bret Trant - West Nueces-Las Moras SWCD # 236  
Tully Shahan - West Nueces-Las Moras SWCD # 236  
Martha Frances Green - Caldwell-Travis SWCD # 304  
Thomas H. Canfield - Live Oak SWCD # 323  
Gustavo V. Villarreal - Zapata SWCD # 335  
Clovis R. Barker - Hays County SWCD # 351

John Millican reported that on March 10, 1986, a petition was received to divide and reorganize the Karnes-Goliad Soil and Water Conservation District # 343 and create the Karnes County SWCD # 343 and Goliad County SWCD # 352. Public hearings held on April 23, 1986 in Goliad and Kenedy were favorable. An audit has been made and agreement reached on distribution of funds. Documents on transfer of assets, liabilities, cooperator agreements, and easements from the old SWCD to each of the new SWCDs have been executed. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board approved the division and reorganization of the Karnes-Goliad SWCD as being practicable and feasible. Due to the division of this district, the Board approved new area and subdivision boundaries and appointed directors for each new district as follows:

Karnes County SWCD # 343

Zone 2 - Arthur W. Fenner

Zone 4 - Albert F. Banduch

Goliad County SWCD # 352

Zone 2 - Ida Rodgers

Zone 4 - Elmer Jacob

John Millican reported on public hearings held in Dickens, Texas and Jayton, Texas relative to the division and reorganization of the Duck Creek SWCD # 157. Testimony presented at the hearings was favorable. On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board authorized the staff to proceed with the division and reorganization.

James Moore presented copies of proposed rules covering conservation assistance (31TAC 517.1-517.12) and technical assistance activities (31TAC 519.1-519.11) as printed in the Texas Register on July 15, 1986 and explained several changes that had been made subsequent to the May 22, 1986 Board meeting as a result of comments by the Attorney General's office. The Board concurred with the changes as published.

Albert Roach welcomed the guests and agency representatives and called on them to make whatever comments they felt were appropriate.

Jerry Arkin explained the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station's budget situation and indicated that it is still unclear as to what the final outcome might be.

Bill Harris mentioned the recently held Soil Conservation Society of America meeting in College Station and informed the Board of a Conservation Tillage Conference to be held at College Station on July 1 and 2, 1987. He briefed the Board on Extension Service activities related to the "Sodbuster" and "Swampbuster" provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill which include the preparation of an economic analysis. He then discussed the proposed revision of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Texas A & M University System, the State Board and Soil and Water Conservation Districts. John Millican briefed the Board on State Board staff activities relative to this revision.

Coy Garrett briefed the Board on meetings recently held with the Corsicana and Terrell area offices. He indicated that furloughs of SCS employees would probably not be required to meet budget reductions this fiscal year. He told the Board that a meeting was currently underway in Austin to coordinate the closing of that area office and that the Pampa area office would close August 16 and the Mission field office would close August 26. He invited the State Board to attend a field day at the Knox City Plant Materials Center and

asked the State Board's help in getting district directors to attend. He announced that \$80,000 in pass through funds would soon be available for those districts which assisted in the Conservation Reserve Program on a reimbursement basis. He explained that although the SCS staffing plan for FY 87 was based on a 15% reduction, level funding might allow him to back off reduction in personnel in the field, but not the reductions planned for the State office because of increased operating expenses and salary increases. He told the Board that the final environmental impact statement on the remaining measures planned for Choctaw Creek had been finalized and should be published in the Federal Register soon.

Charlie Thompson and Gary Westmoreland gave a detailed presentation on the "Sodbuster" and "Swampbuster" provisions contained in the 1985 Farm bill. A thorough discussion followed.

Coy Garrett reported on a meeting to be held with the Fish and Wildlife Service the week of August 26 to evaluate the National Wetland Inventory Maps and indicated that he would report back to the State Board concerning the results of the meeting.

Bob Buckley supplied the Board members with a spread sheet giving details of funding balances, allocations for FY 1986, and requests for funding for FY 1987 by each individual soil and water conservation district for use in determining allocations of Conservation Assistance (matching) funds and Technical Assistance funds for FY 1987. Harvey Davis explained the estimated allocations as shown for each district were prepared in a staff conference to assist the Board in making their determinations. After discussion, on motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board approved the allocations contingent upon any changes submitted to Harvey Davis by Board members before August 10, 1986. All estimated allocations reflect the 13% reduction

in effect pursuant to Executive Order MW-36.

A request from Harrison County Soil and Water Conservation District # 412 requesting \$370.00 in Conservation Assistance funds for FY 1986 was discussed. A letter dated 6-18-86 from the district explained the oversight on the deadline date for submitting a claim. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board approved the request in the amount of \$316.67 which was the two-thirds balance of the FY 1986 allocation for the Harrison County SWCD # 412.

Before the end of FY 1986, it appears some districts will be releasing Subchapter H, Agricultural Soil and Water Conservation Assistance funds. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Fred Squyres, the Board authorized Harvey Davis to examine and determine any re-allocation of the above funds.

Chairman Roach reported on the hearing held on July 9, 1986 by the Subcommittee on Agriculture and Livestock on the proposed 1988-89 biennium budget request. Out of several agencies appearing, the State Soil and Water Conservation Board was the only agency to have achieved the 13% cut pursuant to MW-36.

The Planning Committee for the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation Districts to be held in Austin, Texas on October 20-22, 1986 met Wednesday, the 16th, to plan the program for the meeting. Registration fee for the meeting will be \$25.00 and \$10.00 for spouses. Speakers were chosen for the general sessions and workshop topics were discussed. A barbeque meal will be served on the opening night of the meeting. The meeting will follow the same format as in previous years.

James Moore reported that concurrence had been obtained from the staff of the Texas Water Development Board in the use of letters of credit as a plan for repayment of defaulted loans under the pilot loan program authorized in H.B. 2 passed by the 69th Legislature. He briefed the Board on activities

of soil and water conservation districts in the Grants Program for purchase of irrigation evaluation equipment and the pilot loan program, administered by the Texas Water Development Board.

Jay Kuykendall reported on the tour held at 8:30 a.m. on June 26, 1986 on West Rocky Creek in the San Angelo area. The tour revealed the impact of brush management on water yields. At 2:00 p.m. a hearing was held by the House Agriculture and Livestock Committee and Senate Agriculture Subcommittee of the Natural Resources Committee to consider the potential effects of brush management on the State's water supplies.

Harvey Davis reported a hearing will be held on July 18, 1986 at 10:00 a.m. with the staff of the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office on the 1988-89 biennium budget request.

Waldo Smith presented a letter dated July 10, 1986 to the Board received by him from Mark Moseley, President of the Texas Section, Society for Range Management, addressing questions to the State Board regarding the nonpoint source pollution program in Texas. In order to expedite these inquiries, Mr. Antilley agreed to contact Mr. Moseley for additional information on the recommendations of the Society.

Lodging reservations were given to each Board Member for the NACD South-Central Area of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors to be held on July 27-29, 1986 in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 18, 1986. Mr. Schendel extended an invitation to everyone to come to Kenedy on September 17, 1986 for a field day sponsored by Soil and Water Conservation District Directors in State Area III and to have the Board meeting on September 18, 1986 in Kenedy at the Civic Center. The Board accepted the invitation.

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Albert Roach  
Chairman

Josephine Chupik  
Secretary

September 18, 1986  
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on July 17, 1986.

September 18, 1986  
Date

Lawey Davis  
Executive Director