

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2013

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on July 17, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. at 4311 S. 31st Street, Suite 125, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Marty H. Graham, Chairman
Scott Buckles, Vice-Chairman
Jerry Nichols, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Russell Gregorczyk, Jansen & Gregorczyk, CPA's
John Mueller, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 2:00 and welcomed those present.

A work session was conducted which covered agenda items in detail. Questions were taken and answered.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Discussion and Approval of Internal Audit Reports for Fiscal Year 2013 and Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Russell Gregorczyk, Jansen & Gregorczyk, CPA's, addressed the Board. Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information for agenda item 7.

AGENDA ITEM 27: 2013 Annual State Meeting Planning

Mr. Mel Davis reviewed the agenda information. Names were submitted by staff for meeting speakers:

- Texas Representative Jim Pitts
- Texas Representative Drew Darby
- Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples
- Texas State Senator Craig Estes
- Texas State Senator Tommy Williams
- Texas State Senator Wendy Davis - confirmed
- Texas FFA Foundation

AGENDA ITEM 38: Human Resources Report

Ms. Dawn Heitman addressed the Board. Ms. Heitman introduced Pamela Blanton and Clayton Vanderberg, both of which will be working in the new San Angelo Regional Office.

Mr. Scott Buckles stated that he had met with Mr. Salvador Salinas and Mr. Tom Christensen, both of Natural Resources Conservation Service, and discussed Technical Assistance funding.

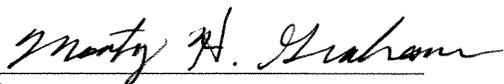
Mr. Rex Isom stated that Natural Resources Conservation Service is hiring Farm Bill Specialists.

Mr. Scott Buckles stated that he was involved in a discussion about Mexico immigration. Mr. Buckles spoke of the future of the immigration laws concerning agriculture labor and the building of a fence border.

AGENDA ITEM 39: Deliberation and Possible Vote Regarding Salary, Employment and Evaluation of Executive Director

Chairman Graham called for the Board to go into closed session on agenda item #39 for discussion only.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



 Chairman



 Secretary

September 19, 2013

 Date

September 19, 2013

 Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on July 17, 2013.



 Executive Director

September 19, 2013

 Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2013

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on July 18, 2013, at 8:07 a.m. at 720 East Blackland Road, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Marty H. Graham, Chairman
Scott Buckles, Vice-Chairman
Jerry Nichols, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Pam Casebolt, Nonpoint Source Grants Coordinator
Ashley Alexander, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Dave Morris, Geographic Information System Specialist
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Richard Egg, Statewide Programs Engineer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Loren Warrick, Public Affairs Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist

Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General
Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Volney Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Ben Bono, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
John Mueller, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Craig Derickson, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kerry Nieman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Daren Harmel, USDA-Agricultural Research Service
Randall Rakowitz, Texas Water Development Board

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m. and welcomed those present.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENDA ITEM 2: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities

Mr. Daren Harmel, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Harmel commented on the 75th Anniversary Open House and Historical Designation Ceremony for Riesel Watersheds, and extended an invitation to everyone. Mr. Harmel also thanked those who served on the Scientific Advisory Committee.

Mr. John Mueller, Natural Resources Conservation Service, addressed the Board by introducing Mr. Craig Derickson, Acting State Conservationist in Mr. Salvador Salinas' absence.

Mr. Craig Derickson, Natural Resources Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Derickson gave a brief history of his service with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and reviewed the handout. Mr. Derickson commented on potential funding, and our Annual State Meeting attendance of their staff.

Mr. Kerry Nieman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Nieman commented on TMDL's, Nonpoint Source, grant applications that expire on July 31, 2013, work groups, water quality standards, and the Clean Rivers Program.

Chairman Graham introduced Randall Rakowitz, Texas Water Development Board.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Comments from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Mr. Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. Richmond commented on the Legislative Special Sessions, the Farm Bill and the opposition to crop insurance, and a meeting with Mr. Craig Derickson of Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Chairman Mahler introduced George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General.

AGENDA ITEM 4: State District II Report

Mr. Ben Wilde and Ms. Kendria Ray, Program Specialists Field Representatives for Area II, gave a power-point presentation of State District Area II. They stated that included in Area II, there are 43 districts and 51 counties. They commented on rainfall amounts, land area, water sources, wildlife, and ranching and farming interests.

Representing Area II are Board Chairman Marty H. Graham, current Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board Chairman, and Mr. Volney Hough, current Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts Board Member, with Mr. Bob Steakley serving as Mr. Hough's Alternate. Since the State Board began, the list of Field Representatives for State Area II is as follows: Lonzo Stewart, Barney Jefferson, Mo Seidensticker, Johnny Oswald, Joe Freeman, Ben Wilde, and Kendria Ray.

Mr. Wilde and Ms. Ray showed pictures of the new San Angelo Regional Office and staff, and the Water Supply Enhancement Program staff. They shared information of the brush projects, WQMP projects, and Flood Control Dams in the Area. Three of the districts have a Natural Resources Conservation Service presence. They commented on Field Days, three districts owning their own building, Billy Goat Bingo, equipment rental, fundraisers, and CEU events. Area II covers the hill country, sand hills, and mountains.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Consider Approval of Minutes from the May 15-16, 2013 Board Meetings

Chairman Graham called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 15-16, 2013 Board Meetings. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Approval of District Director Appointments

Ms. Preece presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the following appointments. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ed Miller, Howard #243, Subdivision 1, Replace Nancy Raney
L. Shay Howard, McCulloch #249, Subdivision 4, Replace Larry Howard
Wayne K. James, Jr., Wilson County #301, Subdivision 1, Replace Ben Korzekwa
Carol Jares, Fayette #341, Subdivision 4, Replace Lawrence Friedrich
Bobby G. Waddle, Dalworth #519, Subdivision 3, Replace Jimmie L. Ballweg
Wendell L. Stewart, Dalworth #519, Subdivision 4, Replace Bobby G. Waddle
Phillip M. Haley, Fannin County #520, Subdivision 4, Replace John A. Smith
Scott Carpenter, Upper Elm-Red #524, Subdivision 2, Replace W. T. Meador

AGENDA ITEM 7: Discussion and Approval of Internal Audit Reports for Fiscal Year 2013 and Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Mahler commended staff for exceptional audit results.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Internal Audit of the Accounting and Payroll Systems and Controls as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Internal Audit of Purchasing, Property and Fleet Management Functions as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Report on the Status of Implementing Prior Years' Audit Recommendations. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Internal Audit Plan for FY 2014. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of granting authority for the Executive Director to reallocate Fiscal Year 2013 funds with changes limited to \$200,000 or less without Board

notification, and over \$200,000 requiring Board notification. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the operating budget for Fiscal Year 2014 as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Technical Assistance Allocations for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of the Technical Assistance allocations as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler gave a special thank you to the Association and staff for the work they did to achieve additional Technical Assistance funds.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider Matching Fund Allocations for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Matching Fund allocations as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider District Director Mileage and Per Diem Allocations for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the District Director Mileage and Per Diem allocations as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Sunset Legislation Implementation Status

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2014 Water Quality Management Plan Program Cost Share Incentive Priorities, Allocations, and Application Ranking Procedures

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of the Fiscal Year 2014 Water Quality Management Plan Program Cost Share Incentive Priorities, Allocations, and Application Ranking Procedures as presented with an amendment shown that when a cost share is tied in point values, the date on which the applicant *submits the signed* request should be used to break the tie. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion with the amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Consider Approval of Requests for Waivers as per 31 TAC §523.6(E)(2)(A) thru (F)

Mr. Munz stated that there are no requests at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Consider Statewide Water Quality Management Plan Cost Share Requests

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the requests as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Water Quality Management Plan Program Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Allocations for Flood Control Operation and Maintenance Grants

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Buckles moved for the approval of Fiscal Year 2013 allocations for Flood Control Operation and Maintenance Grants as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Consider Approval of Flood Control Dam Rehabilitation Projects for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Egg reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the Flood Control Dam Rehabilitation Projects for Fiscal Year 2014 as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board thanked Richard Egg for his service as he retires on August 31st. Mr. Egg thanked the Board for the opportunities.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Report

Ms. Casebolt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Poultry Water Quality Management Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information and the handout.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Water Supply Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Consider Adoption of Water Supply Enhancement Program Policies and Procedures

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Buckles moved for the approval of the Water Supply Enhancement Program Policies and Procedures as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Consider Adoption of Revised Rule Review Plan

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the adoption of the revised Rule Review Plan as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 27: 2013 Annual State Meeting Planning

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the District Director Training Workshops to be addressed at the Annual State Meeting Area Discussion Sessions. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Some of the service awards listed are incorrect. They will be reviewed before being finalized.

Mr. Nichols asked if we could send an invitation to Greg Abbott.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30: National Association of Conservation Districts Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: National Association of Conservation Districts South Central Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 32: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Semiannual Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Consider Approval of 2014 Texas Conservation Awards Program

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the 2014 Texas Conservation Awards Program as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 35: District Director Training Workshop

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 36: Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 37: Texas Prescribed Burn Board Update

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 38: Human Resources Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 39: Deliberation and Possible Vote Regarding Salary, Employment and Evaluation of Executive Director

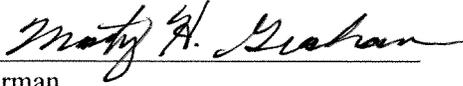
Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the salary as approved by the State Legislature. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler stated his and the Board's sincere appreciation for Mr. Isom, and the work that he does for the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board.

AGENDA ITEM 40: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

September 18-19, 2013, to be held in Temple.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.



Chairman



Secretary

September 19, 2013

Date

September 19, 2013

Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on July 18, 2013.



Executive Director

September 19, 2013

Date