

Official Minutes
State Soil Conservation Board Meeting
September 8, 1959

The State Soil Conservation Board held its regular meeting at the Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, Texas on September 8, 1959 beginning at 8:00 p.m.

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

Others present were: A. C. Spencer, Executive Director of the State Board, W. S. Gibbs, President and H. B. Boswell, Executive Director of the Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts.

The minutes were read and approved.

A. C. Spencer reported that the Water Control and Improvement District organized to supply operation and maintenance funds and to care for cost of planning the Bitter Oaks-John Mann-Polecat Creek watershed is experiencing some local difficulties. The Water Control and Improvement District was set up by Legislative Act. This act does not provide for exclusion of territory. After a \$75,000 Bond Issue was voted it was determined that some 20 or 30 landowners are included in the district but their land is not in the watershed. To exclude this territory now would require Legislative action and would invalidate the bonds. The Directors have not yet determined what action to take. If the bonds are invalidated the district will not be able to pay cost of developing the plan until new bonds are voted. This would necessitate the recommendation by the State Soil Conservation Board of another watershed for planning by the Trust Fund party. By mutual agreement the Board determined to wait until its October 22 meeting before taking action.

Chairman E. W. Wehman presented a petition signed by 200 landowners requesting that the Karnes County Soil Conservation District be dissolved and re-organized into two districts namely the Bee Soil Conservation District and the Karnes-Goliad Soil Conservation District. Mr. Wehman stated that he had met with local people and

had discouraged such action unless they felt that re-organization would bring about a higher degree of cooperation among people and would result in more conservation practices being applied to the land. J. C. Porter moved and J. S. Sharp seconded the motion that three public hearings be set in the District on dates mutually agreeable to the local people and E. W. Wehman. The motion carried.

Mr. Wehman asked W. S. Gibbs and H. B. Boswell if they had thought about the program for the Annual State Meeting to be held in Galveston in January. They stated that two possible speakers had been contacted. One from Denver, Colorado and one from New York City. The expenses and honorarium fees were respectively \$200.00 and \$300.00. They stated that unless some private source of funds is obtained speakers of this caliber will be difficult to obtain. Mr. Gibbs stated that he has sent a questionnaire to district supervisors asking them to suggest problems for group discussion among the supervisors as a part of the program. Sufficient time has not elapsed to determine what re-action he will receive on the questionnaire. After discussions on the program possibilities, Mr. Wehman appointed A. C. Spencer and A. F. Leesch or E. W. Wehman to represent the State Soil Conservation Board in working with Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Boswell to develop the State Meeting program.

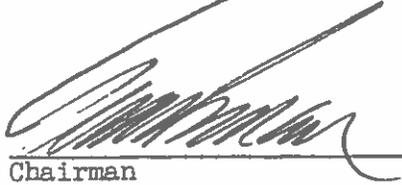
Mr. Wehman stated that the purpose for the meeting in Dallas was to inspect the facilities available for the 1961 Annual State Meeting. The group agreed to meet Mr. Fred Brown, Sales and Promotions Manager for the Adolphus Hotel at 7:30 a.m. September 9, 1959, to check the facilities in the Adolphus Hotel. Arrangements were made to see the municipal auditorium and meeting facilities at the State fairgrounds. Arrangements were also made to check facilities at the Baker Hotel and to have lunch with P. B. (Jack) Garrett of the Texas Bank and Trust Company to review facility needs for the State Meeting.

A. C. Spencer reported that the election for the organization of Oldham County Soil Conservation District had been set for September 24 and the election for the

organization of Canadian River Soil Conservation District had been set for September 14, 1959.

On motion by J. C. Porter, seconded by A. F. Leesch the Board agreed to hold its next meeting in San Antonio on October 22 and to inspect facilities for the State meeting on the morning of October 23. W. S. Gibbs and H. B. Boswell were invited to attend and participate in the meeting and the inspections.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.


Chairman


Secretary

10/23/59
Date