

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on September 17, 2014, at 1:04 p.m. at 201 S. Washington Street, Fredericksburg, Texas.

Board Members present:

Marty H. Graham, Chairman
Scott Buckles, Vice-Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, 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
Mark Cochran, 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
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Public Affairs Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

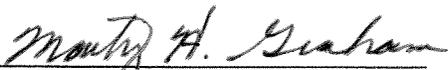
Others present:

Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Russell Gregorczyk, Jansen & Gregorczyk, CPAs
Joe Freeman

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and welcomed those present.

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

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.



Marty H. Graham, Chairman

November 20, 2014

Date



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

November 20, 2014

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 September 17, 2014.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

November 20, 2014

Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on September 18, 2014, at 8:01 a.m. at 201 S. Washington Street, Fredericksburg, Texas.

Board Members present:

Marty H. Graham, Chairman
Scott Buckles, Vice-Chairman
José Dodier, Jr., Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, 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
Mark Cochran, 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
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Public Affairs Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Kara Holsinger, Office of the Attorney General
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Mindy Conyers, Texas Water Development Board
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. and welcomed those present.

Mr. Foster gave a video presentation of dam reservoir work as taken from the TSSWCB drone. Questions and answer period followed.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

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

Mr. Salvador Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Salinas reviewed the handout. Mr. Salinas commented on funding, the Farm Bill, that 60% of EQIP nationwide needs to go to livestock benefits, staffing issues, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, and attendance at our annual State Meeting.

Ms. Mindy Conyers, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Ms. Conyers commented on the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas, groundwater conservation funding, the Blue Legacy Award, the Texas Rain.Catcher Award, and their attendance at our annual State Meeting. Ms. Conyers reviewed the handout.

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

Ms. Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Ms. Daniel commented on the South Central Region Meeting attendance, audit for fiscal year 2014, resolutions, and the annual State Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Consider Approval of Minutes from Previous State Board Meetings

Ms. Preece reviewed the agenda information. Chairman Graham called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 27-28, 2014 Board Meetings.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Consider Approval of Soil and Water Conservation 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. Ward moved for the approval of the following appointments as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Doyle Schaefer, Glasscock County #251, Subdivision 4, Replace Hubert Frerich
Leroy Wolff, Live Oak #323, Subdivision 3, Replace Richard Lee
Richard Lee, Live Oak #323, Subdivision 4, Replace Edmund Garza, Jr.
John Derrell Hall, Fannin #520, Subdivision 5, Replace Carroll W. Jones

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Internal Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2014

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the internal audit report for the Flood Control Program as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the internal audit report for the Water Supply Enhancement Program as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Proposed Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2015

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the proposed Internal Audit Plan for fiscal year 2015 as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Clerical Assistance Contribution Agreement

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Policy for Information Technology Assistance to Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the policy as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Rangeland Conservation Agreement with USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the agreement as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Sunset Legislation Implementation Status Report

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Consider Approval of Requests for Additional Cost-Share Incentive Funding for Water Quality Management Plans in Accordance with 31TAC §523.6(f)(2) Relating to Criteria for Waivers

Mr. Munz stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Consider Approval of Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Poultry Water Quality Management Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Foster added comments about the Regional Conservation Partnership Program and the Restore Act.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider Allocation of Fiscal Year 2015 Grant Funding for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Oswald reviewed the handout.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the allocation as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Clark commented on the agency's future, seeking authority for legislative, develop plans to go paperless, full-time soil and water conservation district planner, provide resources to SWCDs to operate individually, and have a list of eligible persons to fill vacant director positions.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Consider Approval of Subdivision Boundary Changes for Menard County SWCD #215

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the subdivision boundary changes as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Consider Proposed Federal Rules Defining "Waters of the United States" Under the Clean Water Act

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Nichols moved for the approval to submit comments on this federal rulemaking. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Review Plans for 2014 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Davis submitted the program handout. Mr. Davis stated that the Tuesday Breakfast for Sponsors and Board Members will be added to the program. Mr. Davis also stated that the Wednesday morning tour would be the Haak Winery.

Mr. Dodier moved for the menu for the banquet to be chipotle-glazed fire-grilled shrimp with filet mignon. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Consider Future Sites for Annual State Meetings

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Nichols moved for the 2017 Annual State Meeting to be in Waco. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Texas County and District Retirement System

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: National Association of Conservation Districts Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Public Information and Education Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Human Resources Status Report

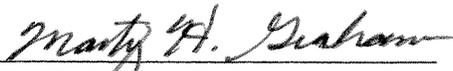
Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

Chairman Graham presented Lee Munz with his 15 year service award plaque.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

November 19-20, 2014, to be held in Temple.

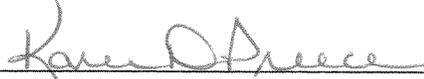
Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.



Marty H. Graham, Chairman

November 20, 2014

Date



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

November 20, 2014

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 September 18, 2014.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

November 20, 2014

Date