

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD
September 20, 1957

The regular meeting of the State Soil Conservation Board was held in its office in Temple, Texas at 10 A.M., September 20, 1957.

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

Others present were A. C. Spencer, H. D. Davis and L. F. Stewart of the State Soil Conservation Board; H. N. Smith, W. T. Moon and E. W. Buchtien of the Soil Conservation Service.

The minutes of the July 23 and September 9, 1957 meetings were read and approved.

A. C. Spencer stated that the annexation of a portion of Edwards County to the Upper Llanos Soil Conservation District had been completed.

A. C. Spencer stated the checks had been received for the five new Soil Conservation Districts and that arrangements had been made to meet with Supervisors of each District and review rules and regulations governing soil conservation district funds and property.

A motion was made by J. S. Sharp and seconded by J. C. Porter for E. W. Wehman to contact the supervisors of the Bastrop-Fayette Soil Conservation District and set public hearings for the proposed dissolution and reorganization of said district. The motion carried.

A motion was made by E. W. Wehman and seconded by J. S. Sharp for A. F. Leesch to stay in contact with the Governor's Office and the Legislature relative to the provisions for funds for personnel for the State Soil Conservation Board to work on a Master Water Plan for Texas. The motion carried.

A motion was made by E. W. Wehman and seconded by J. C. Porter to disapprove the following watershed applications pending preliminary surveys:

1. Nolan Creek - Central Texas SCD No. 509
2. Valley Creek - Runnels SCD No. 222, Upper Clear Fork SCD No. 121 and Middle Clear Fork SCD No. 206

The motion carried.

Due to favorable reports having been received on the following watersheds from preliminary surveys, a motion was made by S. J. Payne and seconded by E. W. Wehman to approve these watersheds as being practicable and feasible:

1. Bitter Creek, Oak Creek, John Mann Creek and Polecat Creek - Hall and Donley County SCD's.
2. La Puerta-La Casita - Garciasville Watershed - Starr County SCD.
3. Garceno-Los Morenos Watershed - Starr County SCD.
4. Fronton Watershed - Starr County SCD.
5. Attoyac River - Shelby-Panola and Nacogdoches-Rusk SCD's.
6. Pond Creek - Central Texas SCD.

The motion carried.

Due to unfavorable reports having been received from preliminary surveys on the following watersheds, a motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp to finally disapprove these applications:

1. Upper South Sulphur River - Upper Sabine and Fannin County SCD's.
2. Tri-Bay Watershed - San Patricio SCD.

The motion carried.

Upon a request from the Brazoria-Galveston Soil Conservation District to withdraw the Varners Creek Watershed application which was sponsored by the Brazoria-Galveston Soil Conservation District, a motion was made by J. S. Sharp and seconded by E. W. Wehman to permit said application to be withdrawn. The motion carried.

A motion was made by J. S. Sharp and seconded by J. C. Porter to ask the sponsoring Soil Conservation Districts of the Big Sandy Watershed application and the seven San Jacinto Watershed applications to supply additional information needed to complete the applications or to request withdrawal of said applications. The motion carried.

The State Board decided to use the process of elimination to determine which four of the thirteen watersheds in which public hearings had been held would receive priorities for detailed planning.

The following are the nine watersheds eliminated and the reasons for elimination:

1. Upper Sabine River - Upper Sabine SCD No. 530
 - A. Local people need to be better informed about the program.
 - B. More land treatment needed above sites for structures.
2. Rock(Dry) Creek - Palo Pinto and Hood Parker SCD's
 - A. Lack of benefits in comparison to other watersheds.
 - B. More land treatment needed above sites for structures.
3. West Yegua -Burleson-Lee SCD No. 313
 - A. Lack of understanding by local people.
 - B. Need a good educational program.
 - C. Need more land treatment.
4. Big Creek - Limestone-Falls SCD No. 501 and McLennan County SCD No. 512
 - A. Need more land treatment.
 - B. Lack of unity of purpose.
5. Upper Bosque - Bosque SCD
 - A. Need more land treatment
 - B. Agricultural benefits low in relation to other benefits.
6. Upper Bois d'Arc - Fannin County SCD
 - A. Additional land treatment needed.
 - B. Question about lower portion.
 - C. Application needs ammending.
7. Elm Creek - Central Texas SCD
 - A. Territorial distribution with other factors being equal.
8. Pine Creek - North Texas SCD
 - A. Territorial distribution with other factors being equal.
9. East Keechi - Palo Pinto and Upper West Fork SCD's
 - A. Benefits not quite as great as those that received priorities.

A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by J. S. Sharp for Tehuacana and Langford Creeks to be given Number 1 priority to be worked concurrently and that Plum and Caney Creeks be given Number 2 priority to be worked concurrently. The motion carried.

A. F. Leesch reported on the Great Plains Meeting held at A. & M. College - September 13, 1957. Mr. Leesch stated that Glasscock County was added to the other 64 counties previously approved for activation.

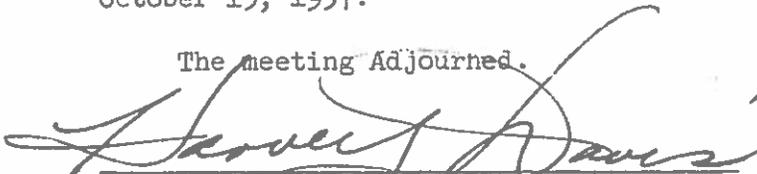
E. W. Wehman reported on the State ASC Committee Meeting held September 11 at A. & M. College. Mr. Wehman stated that assistance to individual units was reduced from \$2,500 to \$1,000. This was done because of a shortage in appropriations

J. C. Porter read a letter from C. M. Caraway asking that Public Hearings be held on. Cow and Armstrong, Rush and Resley Creeks. The Board decided to notify Mr. Caraway that these watersheds would be considered when the next hearings were scheduled.

A motion was made by J. S. Sharp and seconded by E. W. Wehman to approve an amendment to the Lowrey Draw Watershed application if and when such amendment is received which would add the Dry Devil's River Watershed to the Lowrey Draw application subject to the Dry Devils River qualifying under the cost-benefit-ratio. Such ratio to be determined by a detailed planning party of the Soil Conservation Service which is making a work plan on Lowrey Draw at the present time and is having to get a lot of data from Dry Devil's River in order to make the Lowrey Draw Work Plan. The motion carried.

The Board received the resignation of Mrs. Merle Chandler who has been employed for nearly three years as secretary. The Board Members expressed their appreciation to Mrs. Chandler for her work during this time. The resignation is effective October 15, 1957.

The meeting Adjourned.


Secretary
Date 11-14-57


Chairman