

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 1967

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met in a regular session in the Conference Room, 10th Floor, First National Building, Temple, Texas at 9:00 a.m. on September 28, 1967.

Board Members present were: A. F. Leesch, Chairman, E. W. Wehman, H. W. Turney and Albert Roach.

Others present were: Harvey Davis, Executive Director, and Josephine Chupik, Secretary of the State Board staff; and L. J. Lann, Assistant State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service.

Minutes of the July 21, 1967, meeting were approved as read.

A new watershed application on the Koegler Hill Irrigation project near Seguin was reviewed. A motion was made by E. W. Wehman and seconded by Albert Roach to disapprove the application pending a field examination to determine feasibility. Motion carried.

Favorable field examinations were reviewed on the following watersheds:

Madera Canyon -- near Balmorhea
Chiltipin -- near Sinton
San Patricio -- near Sinton
Upper North Wichita River -- near Paducah

On motion by Albert Roach, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board approved the watershed applications as being economically feasible for project development.

A motion was made by Albert Roach, seconded by H. W. Turney, to change the wording on the County resolution form for watershed sponsorship. This wording was inserted "in accordance with the watershed work plan agreement". Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed by Harvey Davis on watersheds in the Van Horn and Eagle Pass area. No Board action was necessary.

L. J. Lann reviewed the status of watershed planning on Public Law 566 projects and presented a detailed summary to each Board Member. Mr. Lann also reported on the storm which came through South Texas due to Hurricane Beulah. All Public Law 566 structures had functioned perfectly. A report on this area which is now being compiled by the Soil Conservation Service will be given to the State Board.

Petitions were received by the State Board for transfers of land among the following Soil and Water Conservation Districts:

San Jacinto # 425 to Navasota # 440
Bedias Creek # 428 to San Jacinto # 425
Lower Trinity # 435 to Trinity Bay # 434
Trinity Bay # 434 to Lower Trinity # 435

Upon motion by Albert Roach, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board approved the transfers as being practicable and feasible.

A proposal from the Nolan-Aquilla Soil and Water Conservation District was discussed whereby all parts of Hill County and Johnson County not in the Nolan-Aquilla District would be transferred to it. Hill County is in 5 Districts and Johnson County is in 3 Districts. On motion by H. W. Turney, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board authorized Harvey Davis to pursue this proposition to see what could be worked out.

A proposal from the Wilbarger-Wichita Soil and Water Conservation District was discussed in regard to forming two districts from what is now one Soil and Water Conservation District. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board directed H. W. Turney and Harvey Davis to meet with these people as soon as their schedules would permit to discuss the feasibility of this proposal.

On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved the appointment of the following Supervisors:

Sam Hoover -- Hockley County #129
John Vermillion -- Wheeler County #141
Jack Franklin -- Red River County # 423
Louis Merrill -- Dalworth # 519

Proposed changes in subdivision boundaries for the Rio Grande-Pecos Soil and Water Conservation District were considered. According to the correspondence from the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, using the present descriptions there are only 13 ranchers in one subdivision. The change in subdivision boundaries will give better distribution of landowners. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by Henry Turney, the Board approved the request to correct subdivision boundaries in the Rio Grande-Pecos Soil and Water Conservation District #237.

The South East Texas Resource Conservation and Development project has requested the Board to pay the printing cost of a brochure. On motion by Henry Turney, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board declined the request due to lack of funds in the State Board budget.

Mr. A. F. Leesch gave a report on a trip that he and Harvey Davis made to Washington, D. C. on August 29, 1967, in regard to HR 1451, sponsored by Congressman Jim Wright. The purpose of the trip was to discuss the role of Districts in the proposed legislation, if adopted, with officials of USDA-SCS and the National Association of Conservation Districts. It was concluded during the meeting that Districts had not been properly recognized in the legislation and that USDA officials and others would request Mr. Wright to amend his legislation so that Districts would be properly recognized.

Due to correspondence from the Kerr County SWCD in regard to a highway drainage problem on Interstate 10 involving land owned by Morris Holekamp, the Board reviewed the problem and examined the Memo of Understanding with the Texas State Highway Department and found no violation of the Memorandum. The Board also felt that there was no appropriate action to be taken since the problem had developed into a Court case and directed Harvey Davis to advise the Kerr District of its decision.

The Audit Report for the State Soil and Water Conservation Board has been received from C. H. Cavness, State Auditor, for the audit of three years ending August 31, 1966. No recommendations were made by the auditor. No action was necessary by the Board.

In preparation for the Annual State Meeting to be held in Fort Worth October 17-19, 1967, the Board reviewed resolutions that have been presented for consideration as well as items for discussion at the Area Discussion Sessions.

The Board was advised that it would be necessary to submit a budget request for the 1969 fiscal year to be considered during a special called legislative session. In addition to the request previously submitted for the 1969 fiscal year, the Board directed Harvey Davis to include two additional field representatives in the next request with final approval of the request to be made at a later Board meeting.

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board decided to hold a joint meeting with the Directors of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Fort Worth, Texas on October 17, 1967.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

W. Busch

Chairman

Josephine Chupik

Secretary

October 17, 1967

Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting on September 28, 1967.

October

Date

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your minutes dated September 28, 1967.

Thanks very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

John Connally