

OFFICIAL MINUTES
TEXAS STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD
Galvez Hotel, Galveston
October 21, 1956 - 7:30 P. M.

The regular meeting of the State Soil Conservation Board was called to order by Chairman J. P. Martin in the Galvez Hotel, Galveston, Texas at 7:30 P.M., October 21, 1956

Other members present were S. J. Payne, A. F. Leesch, E. W. Wehman and J. C. Porter.

Others present were A. C. Spencer, and L. F. Stewart of the State Soil Conservation Board, H. N. Smith of the Soil Conservation Service and Rollans Hill of the Upper West Fork Soil Conservation District.

The minutes were read and approved.

J. C. Porter gave a report on the State Board's Exhibit in the State Fair.

A motion was made by E. W. Wehman and seconded by A. F. Leesch to disapprove the following watershed applications for planning assistance pending preliminary surveys:

1. Village-Farmer's Creek - Upper Elm Red SCD No. 52⁴
2. Berry Creek - Bosque and Hood-Parker SCD's

Favorable reports having been received on the following watersheds from preliminary surveys, a motion was made by A. F. Leesch and seconded by J. C. Porter to approve these watersheds:

1. Cow and Armstrong Creek Watershed - Upper Leon and Palo Pinto SCD's
2. Two-Mile Creek Watershed - Calhoun-Victoria SCD
3. Wilbarger Creek Watershed - Bastrop-Fayette and Taylor SCD's
4. Lanford Creek Watershed - Red River County SCD
5. Sand Branch Watershed - Red River County SCD

The motion carried.

A motion was made by J. C. Porter and seconded by E. W. Wehman that local sponsors of Two-Mile Creek be notified by letter that priority for planning of Two-mile Creek will not be granted until there is evidence of a higher degree of cooperation

among local people in the watershed. The motion carried.

An unfavorable report having been received on the following watershed from a preliminary survey, a motion was made by A. F. Leesch and seconded by J. C. Porter to disapprove this watershed:

1. Nolan River Watershed - Nolan-Aquilla SCD

The motion carried.

The Kent Creek portion of the Upper Pease Headwater was resubmitted. Kent Creek is a portion of the Upper Pease Headwater which had previously been disapproved. A motion was made by S. J. Payne and seconded by E. W. Wehman to approve Kent Creek. The motion carried.

A motion was made by S. J. Payne and seconded by A. F. Leesch that priority be set on the Upper Lake Fork Watershed. The motion carried.

Chairman Martin appointed A. F. Leesch to represent the State Board at a meeting of the Texas Water Resources Committee in Austin on November 1 and 2, 1956.

A. C. Spencer reported that a recent survey shows that as of August 31, 1956 Texas Soil Conservation Districts had \$717,722 in their State Fund and \$1,182,879 in their Local Fund. He also reported that a recent Attorney General's Ruling affirms the necessity for reappropriating the unexpended balance in State Funds.

A. F. Leesch reported on his attendance at the "Water for Texas" Conference held at A & M College September 17, 18 and 19, 1956. Mr. Leesch stated that the conference was devoted almost entirely to expounding the professional engineers viewpoint on water storage and use. The exception to this was the slide illustrated talk on watershed protection in the Brandywine Valley of Pennsylvania and Delaware.

E. W. Wehman reported on attendance of a recent tour of some of the drouth stricken range country of Southwest Texas. He stated that outstanding results have been obtained from root-plowing and seeding to Blue Panic and Buffel Grass.

Mr. H. N. Smith stated that at the hearing on the petition for the organization of a water control and improvement district for the Upper Bosque River; Mr. R. M. Dixon, Chairman of the State Board of Water Engineers, stated that in his opinion the State

Board of Water Engineers must approve work plans and designs of structures before construction can be begun. Mr. Smith said that he replied that Districts and the Soil Conservation Service operate within State laws and that if such approval is required by law the plans will be submitted to the Board of Water Engineers.

J. C. Porter stated that the State Soil Conservation Board has been invited to hold its next regular meeting at A & M College at 7:30 P.M. on December 10, 1956. This meeting is for the purpose of reviewing and ratifying the Memorandum of Agreement between the State Board, A & M College System and Local Soil Conservation Districts.

There being no further business the meeting recessed at 9:30 P.M. All members and employees of the State Board attended and participated in the dedication of the new Headquarters Building of N.A.S.C.D. at League City, an area 4 meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors and a tour of the Mathieson Fertilizer Plant on October 22, 1956.

On October 23 the State Soil Conservation Board was host to a National Meeting of Executive Officers of State Soil Conservation Boards, Committees and Commissions. Twenty eight States were represented by 47 Executive Officers or Board Members. It is believed that this is the first National Meeting of its kind in the United States. Copy of the program is attached.


Secretary


Chairman
12-10-56