

**Minutes
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
November 20, 1991**

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, November 20, 1991, at 8:00 a.m. in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Harvey Davis, Chairman
C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Vice Chairman
Joe Antilley, Member
Albert Evans, Member
Paul Robertson, Member

Staff members present were:

Robert G. Buckley, Executive Director
John W. Millican, Assistant Executive Director
William C. Neiser, Director of Programs
James M. Moore, Engineer
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Beade Northcut, Engineer
Janet Gonser, Planner
Stephen Deiss, Planner
Ramesh Chamala, Research Specialist
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Wes Oneth, Soil Conservation Service
Dr. Bill Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service
Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board
Charles "Buddy" Clark, Assn. of Texas SWCDs

Harvey Davis called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, the minutes of the September 18, 1991, Board meeting were approved as mailed.

John Millican presented District Director appointments for consideration and recommended they be approved. On motion of Joe

Antilley seconded by Paul Robertson, the following District Director appointments were approved:

Jack Thompson, Tule Creek SWCD #110
Billy Rank Cogdell, Cap Rock SWCD #126
Carlos Y. Benavides, III, Webb SWCD #337
Lofton Dunlap, Freestone County SWCD #424
Dale Spurgin, California Creek SWCD #545
Bobby J. Clark, Pecan Bayou SWCD #553

John Millican presented a petition to transfer all of the land in Somervell County from the Cross Timbers Soil and Water Conservation District #556 to the Hood-Parker Soil and Water Conservation District #529. The accompanying forms transferred funds in the amount of \$2,825.89, a small amount of equipment, and cooperator agreements to the Hood-Parker Soil and Water Conservation District and established new subdivision boundaries for each new district. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Albert Evans, the request for transfer of territory was approved.

Mr. Millican gave a report on the District Director elections held during October, 1991. A list of new and re-elected directors was provided the Board.

John Millican reported on attendance at the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors held in Corpus Christi on October 21-23, 1991. Total attendance at the meeting was 950 including 365 District Directors representing 150 soil and water conservation districts. The Board was provided a list of revenue and expenses for the meeting. Harvey Davis and other Board members expressed their appreciation to the staff for the hard work in preparing and conducting the state meeting.

A discussion was then held on future state meeting sites. Mr. Millican provided the Board with information collected from

various cities across Texas. After some discussion Dick Schendel suggested South Padre Island be used as the first choice for 1992 with Galveston being the second choice. Paul Robertson moved to select South Padre Island for 1992 contingent on assurance of availability of rooms and meeting space with Galveston to be used as a second choice. Dick Schendel seconded. Motion carried. On motion of Paul Robertson seconded by Dick Schendel Lubbock was chosen for the 1993 State meeting site. On motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Dick Schendel, Amarillo was chosen as the backup site.

Wes Oneth reported for the Soil Conservation Service and advised that the SCS now had an Information Committee with three Information Specialists in place in urban areas in Texas. He expressed his appreciation for Clyde Gottschalk's input into this committee. He also told the Board that the Texas RC&D Association will be hosting the southwestern states RC&D Association meeting in College Station on February 25-27, 1992. He said Texas would be hosting the national SCS Conference in San Antonio, August 16-20, 1992 and that Rick Perry had agreed to speak at the conference. He advised the Board that Governor Ann Richards had appointed George Cason, District Director from the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District #333 to replace Joe Dial on the Gulf of Mexico Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Oneth encouraged the Board to send in comments on the Federal Wetland Identification Manual.

Buddy Clark reported to the Board that the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts had sent out a letter with the Association's comments to all districts in Texas on the

to respond with their comments.

Clyde Gottschalk reported to the Board that two new director training conferences are to be held in Temple after the first of the year. One will be held on January 21-22 and the second on February 11-12, 1992. He also advised that the Board had been added as a member of the Texas Education Agency Advisory Committee. Mr. Gottschalk reported on his attendance of the National Steering Committee for Food, Land and People in Ohio recently. He said B. G. Welch, Director from the Central Texas Soil and Water Conservation District, also serves on the Committee on Agriculture Division.

Bill Neiser discussed the 1991 Supplemental Technical Assistance Payment Report. He said a total of 73 districts had requested supplemental payments with the following payments proposed for each area:

	<u>Districts</u>	<u>Amount Proposed</u>
Area I	21	\$ 9,467.48
Area II	13	4,259.10
Area III	18	5,208.42
Area IV	11	4,160.75
Area V	<u>10</u>	<u>3,645.40</u>
	73	\$26,741.15

Mr. Neiser then asked that the Board to approve a special supplemental payment of \$706.14 to Lamar Soil and Water Conservation District to correct an error made on a previous claim. Albert Evans moved, seconded by Paul Robertson, to pay Lamar SWCD the \$706.14 before any other supplemental claims are paid from available funds. Motion carried.

Mr. Neiser then discussed fiscal year 1992 Subchapter H

Technical Assistance funds. He presented the Board with requests from the Cross Timbers Soil and Water Conservation District #556 and Upper Leon Soil and Water Conservation District #525 for a special allocation of \$5,000 each to assist cooperators to improve water quality and water quantity. On motion from Dick Schendel, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board approved the special allocations of \$5,000 each. A proposal of suggested allocations for the balance of FY 1992 Subchapter H allocations was provided each Board member. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Paul Robertson, the Board approved the proposed allocations as presented. (Copy attached.)

Mr. Neiser discussed the Fiscal Year 1990 State Board Audit done by the State Auditor's Office. Each Board member had previously received a copy of the audit. Mr. Neiser said two minor comments had been made by the Auditors and that corrective procedures have been put in place and that everything else appears to be in order.

Dr. Bill Harris reported that 13 nonpoint source pollution fact sheets prepared by the State Board and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service had been printed and were now ready for distribution. He advised the Board of a Plant Protection Conference to be held in College Station at the Hilton Inn on December 2-4, 1991. He said Congressman Charles Stenholm would be there and invited the Board and anyone else interested to attend the conference. He also invited the Board to attend Texas Agricultural Experiment Station Annual Conference at Texas A&M University in College Station on January 6-10, 1992. There will

be a Soil Survey Resource Workshop according to Dr. Harris at the Hilton Inn in College Station on February 19-21, 1992 and he welcomed the Board to participate.

Comer Tuck reported that the Texas Water Development Board now has six Board members. He advised that Lewis Chivey had been appointed as the newest member prior to their October 1, 1991 Board meeting. He said they have had requests for Subchapter H and conservation grants to districts pending for grants totaling \$130,000. A priority ranking system had been started in order to help rank how applications will be paid. He reported that the newly appointed Texas Water Commissioner is Pam Reed and that Buck Wynn is leaving the Texas Water Commission to become EPA Administrator for Region 6 effective January 1, 1992.

James Moore gave the Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report. He discussed the various grant programs and passed out a brochure entitled "Agricultural and Silvicultural Nonpoint Source Management" which was produced as part of the program. He also provided the Board with copies of 13 agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source pollution management fact sheets produced by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. He further informed the Board that informational material on Farm Bill Water Quality Programs had been provided to targeted districts, and that the final assessment report on agricultural drainage wells in the state had been submitted for approval by EPA. He advised the Board that the remaining work to complete the first round of NPS grants involves further development of mailing lists and conducting four wellhead

protection meetings in the Panhandle and South Plains.

Buddy Clark reported that the Association Board will meet on December 9th and provided the Board a list of newly appointed committee members.

Bob Buckley reported on a meeting he had attended of the Joint Interim Committee on the Environment. He advised the Board that the staff would be working with the committee concerning NPS agricultural water pollution. He said the objective of the committee is to develop legislative recommendations for the Legislation Session.

James Moore reported that no significant activity had occurred in Congress on the Clean Water Act since the last Board meeting and provided the Board with membership of the subcommittees of the House and Senate working on the reauthorization.

James Moore discussed the program development and approval guidance on the Coastal Zone Nonpoint Source Program prepared by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and provided the Board with a fact sheet on the guidance. Following a general discussion the Board directed the staff to work toward obtaining input into the program working toward the maximum use of voluntary efforts. James Moore then provided the Board with copies of revised comments previously approved by the Board on the Management Measure Guidance prepared by EPA and informed the Board that the comment period had been extended to December 16th.

James Moore and Mel Davis discussed the Federal Wetland Identification Manual and presented a revised copy of previously approved comments. The Board accepted the revision. Mel Davis

indicated that comments would be mailed by the December 14th deadline.

James Moore brought the Board up to date on activities relative to Senate Bill 818 Water Quality Assessments being carried out by river authorities under the direction of the Texas Water Commission. The Board was provided with an information sheet on Senate Bill 818 and asked if individual members desired to serve on steering committees. Dick Schendel asked to serve on the San Antonio River Authority steering committee; Albert Evans indicated he did not wish to be on the Sabine River Authority steering committee; Joe Antilley agreed to serve on any Colorado River Basin steering committees in his area; Paul Robertson indicated he would take it under advisement.

Beade Northcut presented an application for assistance under P.L. 83-566 on the Northeast Tributaries of the Leon River. He recommended it be disapproved pending a feasibility study. On motion of Dick Schendel, seconded by Joe Antilley, it was disapproved pending a feasibility study.

James Moore and Beade Northcut briefed the Board on a series of meetings held in Lometa under the direction of Senator Temple Dickson's office involving the General Land Office, State Board staff, local dairymen, and others dealing with the problem of dairy waste management in the Lampasas County area and seeking innovative ways of dealing with it before it became a problem of the magnitude now occurring in Erath County.

Bob Buckley briefed the Board on requirements of strategic planning called for in House Bill 2009 and indicated the plan would

be due by March 1, 1992. Buckley further indicated this might be a subject of the January board meeting.

Bob Buckley and Bill Neiser discussed Article 5, Rider 122 of the Appropriation Bill concerning the Incentive Productivity Plan. After discussion of possible savings it was the consensus of the Board to cut out partial per diem on travel of the State Board members and staff beginning January 1, 1992.

The next regular State Board meeting will be in Temple on January 15, 1992.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Henry Davis
Chairman

Lois Cain
Secretary

1-16-92
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on November 20, 1991.

1-16-92
Date

Robert G. Buckley
Executive Director