

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on November 19, 2014, at 3:13 p.m. at 4311 South 31st Street, Suite 125, Temple, 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
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
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
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Ashley Wendt, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Marshall, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
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
Amy Devereaux, Fiscal Services
Anita Brazzle, Accountant
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 3:13 p.m. and welcomed those present.

Chairman Graham presented service award plaques to the following staff:

Anita Brazzle - 5 years
Aaron Wendt - 10 years

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

AGENDA ITEM 19: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Clark commented on the increase in technology with electronic filing of forms to the State Board beginning October 1, SWCD technology assistance, the Groundwater Protection Committee, the Watershed Enhancement Plan, Texas Conservation Association for Water and Soil (TCAWS), seeking support from private industries, meetings with Field Representatives, and creating a video to explain TSSWCB.

Dawn Heitman introduced Lesa Wright, Administrative Assistant in Temple, to Board Members and staff.

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.



Marty H. Graham, Chairman

January 22, 2015

Date

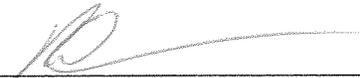


Karen D. Preece, Secretary

January 22, 2015

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 November 19, 2014.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

January 22, 2015

Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2014

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on November 20, 2014, at 8:05 a.m. at 5247 South General Bruce Drive, Temple, 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
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
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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
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Ashley Wendt, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Marshall, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
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
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Andrew Lutostanski, Office of Attorney General
Mark Habiger, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Volney Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Vicki Riser, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
David Basinger, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environment Quality

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed those present.

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. Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Mr. Turner reviewed the handout.

Mr. Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environment Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Niemann commented on the TMDL Program, their annual report due in January, water quality standards, and the Clean Rivers Program.

Chairman Graham introduced Andrew Lutostanski from the Office of the Attorney General.

Mr. Mark Habinger, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Habinger commented on staffing issues, funding issues, new guidance effective the first part of January for the EQIP program, continued support of award meetings, and 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 reelection of officers, Annual State Meeting Resolutions, the upcoming March 3rd Legislative Day, and the NACD Conference in New Orleans.

Mr. Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. James stated that he appreciated the efforts of the State Board, and thanked the Board Members, Mel Davis, and staff for a successful Annual State Meeting in Galveston.

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 September 17-18, 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

Mr. Dodier moved that the State Board withdraw the appointment of Enrique Garza Padilla due to issues with his citizenship status and his failure to complete the required paperwork, and that this motion also include the

appointment of James Smith to fill the unexpired term in subdivision 4. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Smith, Maverick County #253, Subdivision 4, Replace Douglas Fletcher

Ms. Preece presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications.

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

Lonnie Blackard, Upper Colorado #115, Subdivision 3, Replace Ted Crenwelge
Zane Mayfield, Caprock #126, Subdivision 1, Replace Billy Cogdell
Don Robinson, Donley County #127, Subdivision 4, Replace Jim Stevenson
Erik Spain, Lamb County #130, Subdivision 1, Replace Ricky Smith
Delfino Lozano, IV, Zapata #335, Subdivision 1, Replace Juan A. Medina
Donald Brown, Gonzales County #338, Subdivision 3, Replace Oren C. Remmers
Patrick W. Jarzombek, Karnes County #343, Subdivision 1, Replace Paul Brysch, Jr.
Bobby Hobson, Nacogdoches #401, Subdivision 3, Replace Larry Allen
Laura Gay Burdick, Palo Pinto #518, Subdivision 1, Replace Kay Ragle

AGENDA ITEM 6: Fiscal Report

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Business Continuity Plan

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Sunset Legislation Implementation Status Report

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Legislative Update

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

AGENDA ITEM 10: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2015 Allocation for Flood Control Program O&M Funding

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

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

AGENDA ITEM 12: 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 13: Consider Approval of Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the requests as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Consider Approval of the Water Quality Management Plan Program Approved Practice List

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the list as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Poultry Water Quality Management Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Ms. Wendt reviewed the agenda information. Ms. Wendt stated that a member of the Wetland Restoration Projects staff went to Washington D.C. to present information to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Gibson addressed the Board and answered questions on the Bastrop reforestation process.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information at the previous work session.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Review 2014 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Review Plans for 2015 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Review, Amend, or Reaffirm State Board Fraud Policy

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved to reaffirm the policy as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Review, Amend, or Reaffirm State Board Ethics Policy

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved to reaffirm the policy as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Davis stated that the TSSWCB received \$350,000 from NRCS to go toward the Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative, along with \$116,000 state funds making it a \$466,000 project through 2017. Public meetings are in the planning stages.

AGENDA ITEM 26: National Association of Conservation Districts Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

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

AGENDA ITEM 28: Public Information and Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Buckles commented on the 75th Anniversary commemorative coins that were created and purchased by the State Board Members. All coins are numbered on the back, have the TSSWCB logo and name on the front, and a gold star with '75th Anniversary' and '1939-2014-' inscribed on the back. Mr. Buckles presented the #1 coin to the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and the #2 coin in the name of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Mr. Buckles stated that all staff members would also be receiving a coin.

Chairman Graham read a thank you note from Ms. Lois Cain expressing appreciation for the plant sent to her husband's funeral, and a thank you note from James D. Bradbury for including Waters of the United States in our annual meeting.

Chairman Graham presented service award plaques to the following staff:

Jared Bowen – 5 years

Ben Wilde – 15 years

AGENDA ITEM 33: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

January 21-22, 2015 to be held in Temple.

Mr. Ward stated that holding the work session at 3:00 for future meetings would be the best time if possible.

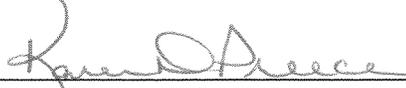
Meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.



Marty H. Graham, Chairman

January 22, 2015

Date



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

January 22, 2015

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 November 20, 2014.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

January 22, 2015

Date