

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD
JULY 17, 1965

The State Soil Conservation Board met at 2:00 p.m. in the Baker Hotel, Dallas, Texas on July 17, 1965.

Board Members present: J. C. Porter, Chairman; E. W. Wehman; A. F. Leesch; J. Frank Gray; and J. S. Sharp.

Others present: Harvey Davis, Executive Director, and S. E. Jones, Assistant Executive Director, State Board; and C. W. Graham, Deputy Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Temple, Texas.

The minutes of the May 1, 1965 and May 31, 1965 State Soil Conservation Board Meetings were read and approved.

Harvey Davis presented a brochure and letter that had been mailed by the North Texas Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America to all Area Conservationists and Work Unit Conservationists in Texas in support of the Fort Worth Press "Save the Soil and Save Texas" Conservation Awards Program. A motion was made by A. F. Leesch and seconded by E. W. Wehman to express the Board's appreciation to the North Texas Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America for taking this action in support of the "Save the Soil and Save Texas" Conservation Awards Program. The motion carried. The Board also asked Harvey Davis to contact Mr. Dewitt Huckabee and see if these brochures could be furnished to each Soil Conservation District in Texas.

J. C. Porter discussed the groundbreaking ceremony and progress of work being done in the Upper Bosque Watershed. He pointed out that the interest in the program is still high and cooperation from all groups is extremely good.

Mr. Davis reviewed the three new watershed applications received since the last Board Meeting:

- (1) Hog Creek - McLennan, Hamilton-Coryell and Bosque SCDs (58,460 acres)
- (2) Faulkenberry Creek - Limestone-Falls SCD (37,800 acres)
- (3) Lyford-Los Coyotes - Willacy-Hidalgo SCD (196,403 acres)

After discussion by the Board, Mr. Wehman made a motion to disapprove the three applications pending a field examination of each. Motion seconded by A. F. Leesch and carried.

Mr. Davis reviewed the field examination of the Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed located in the Kendall County Soil Conservation District. It was reported to be a favorable and economically feasible watershed project. On motion by A. F. Leesch, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board approved the application for assistance under Public Law 566.

Harvey Davis presented a request from the sponsors of the Mill Creek watershed located in the Kaufman-Van Zandt and Neches-Sabine Soil Conservation Districts for a planning priority. In the request the City of Canton offered the sum of \$5,000.00 for completion of the plan. Whereas, a major portion of the planning for the Mill Creek watershed had already been accomplished under the Sabine River Basin plan and whereas, the completion of this plan would not interfere with the planning of watersheds previously granted priorities under Public Law 566, a motion was made by E. W. Wehman seconded by A. F. Leesch to recommend a planning priority contingent upon the sponsors furnishing the necessary funds to complete the plan and assuming all of the responsibilities required by local sponsors as required in Public Law 566. It being further understood that the completion of this plan will not interfere with the planning of other watersheds with priorities granted previously. The motion carried.

Harvey Davis reported that he had transferred \$2,000 of watershed planning funds from Rush Creek to Choctaw Creek. Clyde Graham gave a planning report and suggested that the Board should probably consider transferring \$5,500 from Bennett Creek to Pecan Creek and \$10,000 from Bennett Creek to Choctaw Creek. One reason for the need of transferring these state funds was due to Graham receiving additional federal funds over his regular allocation and he expended them planning Bennett Creek. A motion was made by Frank Gray and seconded by J. S. Sharp to ratify the \$2,000 transfer from Rush Creek to Choctaw made by Davis and also to approve the transfer of \$5,500 from Bennett Creek to Pecan Creek and \$10,000 from Bennett Creek to Choctaw Creek and to authorize Harvey Davis to sign the necessary agreements to effectuate this action. The motion carried.

Mr. Graham reported that the Donahoe, Castleman and Attoyac Creek plans had been approved by Congress. That the Williams Creek plan was either in the Governor's Office, the Bureau of the Budgets Office or in review. The Escondido and Duck Creek plans are complete and in inter-agency review. Rush Creek is 95% complete. Farmers Creek planning has been slowed down temporarily but planning is in progress at the present time and approximately 50% complete. Rancho Viego watershed is 75% complete, Los Fresnos Resaco watershed is 45% complete, Arroyo Colorado watershed is 20% complete, Choctaw Creek is 85% complete with the possibility of 3 multipurpose structures. Upper Running Water Draw is 45% complete and Lower Running Water Draw is 35% complete.

Mr. Graham reported to the Board on the non-discrimination clause required for watershed application - no action by the Board was necessary on this matter.

Mr. Porter thanked Mr. Graham for the good watershed reports and his being able to participate in the Board meeting.

Mr. Davis read the Attorney General's opinion concerning the using of tax money

on Attoyac Bayou WCID for use in multipurpose structures which included recreational use. Board action not required.

The Cornudas & North Draw watershed group requested their application be amended to include Culp Draw comprising approximately 18,000 acres. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by A. F. Leesch the application was disapproved pending an investigation to determine the effect this amendment would make.

Frank Gray gave a report on a meeting held in Plainview, Texas, June 24, 1965. Those in attendance were: Frank Gray and Aubrey Dalrymple of the State Soil Conservation Board, State Representatives Bill Clayton of Springlake and Ralph Wayne of Plainview, A. L. Black, Vice President of ATSCD Area I, F. F. Calhoun, Lee Scrivner and Earl Laney, District Supervisors, and A. L. Bading, Executive Director, ATSCD. Mr. Gray stated that the group felt the differences between Bill Heatley and the Soil Conservation Service were critical as far as Soil Conservation Districts were concerned and that the group felt it would be good if Mr. Heatley and Mr. H. N. Smith, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, could get together for a conference and also that certain Soil Conservation Service personnel adjustments would be of benefit.

Mr. Davis read a recent letter from Mr. Heatley concerning certain ASCS practices. Mr. Graham read a letter from Mr. Smith to Mr. Westal Fuchs concerning the ASCS practices in which Mr. Heatley opposed the position of the Soil Conservation Service on these practices. No Board action necessary on the Plainview report or letters concerning the ASCS practices.

S. E. Jones reviewed the status of RC & D applications in Texas to date. The Southeast Texas R C & D project composing 8 SCDs and 9 counties being the first application has had the concurrence of the Governor and was recently inspected by Soil Conservation Service people from Washington, Ft. Worth & Temple. It was the

feeling of the group that the application would be recommended to the Administrator, SCS for approval. The application for the Eastern Hill Country Area, Blanco and Gillespie Counties, sponsored by the Gillespie County Soil Conservation District and the Pedernales Soil Conservation District has been approved by the Governor and is in Washington for approval. Two other areas in the State are working on R C & D applications, one is composed of Erath, Comanche, Eastland, Bosque and Somerville Counties with the Upper Leon, Bosque and Palo Pinto Soil Conservation Districts being sponsors of the project. The other is located in Lavaca, Gonzales and Dewitt Counties with the Lavaca, Gonzales and Dewitt Soil Conservation Districts sponsoring the project. There is a lot of interest in all of the project areas with the SCDs, County Commissioners Courts, City Governments and other agency and associations actively participating in the project applications.

Harvey Davis reported a lack of agreement between Governor Connally and the Neighborhood Youth Corps on the rate of pay per hour for enrollees. Governor Connally's position is that the rate should not be \$1.25 across the Board but should be based on local community wage scales. Chairman Porter reported that he had written to the Governor stating the Board would cease actions toward establishing a NYC Program until a satisfactory agreement could be reached by the Governor. A letter from Governor Connally to Chairman Porter was read in which the Governor expressed his appreciation to the Board for its support on this problem. Members of the Board expressed their concurrence in Mr. Porter's action.

Mr. Davis read a letter from the Tierra Blanco Soil Conservation District requesting a change in the spelling of the its name, from Tierra Blanco to Tierra Blanca Soil Conservation District. On motion by A. F. Leesch and seconded by J. Frank Gray the Board authorized Mr. Davis to prepare a Resolution and Statement in order to change the spelling of the Tierra Blanca SCD as requested by the

District and to notify the Secretary of State.

Mr. Davis read a petition from the Willacy-Hidalgo Soil Conservation District for the annexing of approximately 30,000 acres of land in Kenedy County to the District on motion by E. W. Wehman and seconded by Frank Gray, the Board authorized Mr. Davis to set a hearing.

The annual Statewide meeting of Soil Conservation District Supervisors to be held in Corpus Christi, October 12, 13, 14, 1965 was discussed with J. C. Porter reviewing the planning meeting held with the program Committee. Governor Connally has been invited as speaker for the banquet. Mr. Porter discussed the thinking of the planning committee in relation to guests to be invited to the meeting to be honored representing the different groups of agencies, businesses and organizations that have been outstanding supporters and friends of Soil Conservation Districts. He asked that all Board Members think of different groups and people to represent them so that a complete list of the major groups of people that have helped in the SCD movement will be invited and be represented at the State Meeting.

Mr. Davis reported on the planning meeting held in Corpus Christi with representatives present from three SCDs, Chamber of Commerce, and Robert Driscoll Hotel. It was pointed out that Dick Hartman was appointed Chairman of the overall Steering Committee for local activities and that Committees were set up to take care of the different phases of the program requiring local help. It was stated that another meeting of State Board representatives and representatives of the ATSCD would meet in the near future to finalize the program. No official Board action was necessary.

Mr. Davis reviewed the actions taken by Directors of the Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts at a meeting held June 16, 1965. Sustaining

membership for District Cooperators and an Insurance Plan was adopted at the meeting. No State Board action taken.

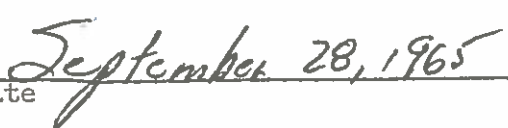
The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and reconvened at 7:45 p.m. for further business. Mr. Davis reported on his trip to Washington, D. C. to appear as a guest with the NACD District outlook Committee, June 21 and 22. The working paper of the NACD Special Committee was discussed. No action necessary from the State Board.

J. C. Porter, J. Frank Gray, Harvey Davis, and S. E. Jones were to attend the South Central Area NACD meeting in Oklahoma City on Sunday, July 18, 19, and 20th.

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary


Date

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of
your minutes dated July 17, 1965.

Thanks very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

