

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING  
September 21, 1962

The State Soil Conservation Board met in regular session at its office in the First National Bank Building, Temple, Texas, on September 21, 1962, at 8:00 A.M.

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

Other present: H. D. Davis, Executive Director, Robert Carlisle, J. M. Norton, O. F. Armstrong, and Aubrey Dalrymple, staff members, A. L. Bading, Executive Director, Association of Texas Soil Conservation Districts, and C. W. Graham, Assistant State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service.

The minutes of the regular meeting of July 27, 1962 were read and approved.

A new watershed application under Public Law 566 on Salt-Mud Creeks in Upper West Fork Soil Conservation District near Olney, was reviewed for the Board. On motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by J. Frank Gray, the Board disapproved the application pending a field examination to determine economical feasibility.

Preliminary field examinations on the "North", "Central", and "South" watersheds in the Southmost and Willacy-Hidalgo Soil Conservation Districts were reviewed for the Board. On the basis of favorable reports, the three watershed applications for watershed protection and flood prevention projects were approved as being economically feasible for planning including an amendment to each application on motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by J. S. Sharp.

A public hearing held by the Oklahoma State Soil Conservation Board on the proposed Sweetwater Creek watershed project in Texas and Oklahoma was discussed by Norton. The local people are very interested in proceeding with this project which entails flood prevention and protection with perhaps some allocation for

municipal water supply and recreation. No opposition was expressed by some 100 people in attendance.

A ruling by the Attorney General's office in which Grayson County does not have funds which can be legally used for watershed development of Choctaw Creek was reviewed by Clyde W. Graham. It was the opinion of the WCID that Senate Bill 316 paved the way for counties to assist in financing such a project. A friendly suit between the WCID and the County is underway to determine if the county can assume such responsibility.

A report on the preliminary field examination of the Hitson, C. & L. and Washburn watershed at Dell City was reviewed for the Board. The Board then received visitors from Dell City and discussed the progress to date of their application. No action was taken by the Board as to approval of the project pending receipt of a favorable report from the Soil Conservation Service. Mr. Gene Lutrick, manager of the Hudspeth County Underground Water District # 1, Mr. J. D. Lee, County Commissioner, and Mr. F. W. O'Bannion, landowner were informed that they could proceed on the basis that the application would be approved. The watershed planning status was reviewed for their benefit and a "Criteria for determination of a planning priority" was discussed and given to the group. Group was advised of steps necessary to secure a planning cost estimate in the interest of raising local funds to finance a work plan.

Clyde Graham gave a report on progress and present status of watershed planning. Pine Creek and Nolan Creek watershed work plans are estimated to be completed about November 1, 1962. Upper Bosque River watershed plan is approximately 75% complete, with estimated completion date of December 15, 1962. Kent Creek and East Bay Bayou work plans were approved August 3, 1962 and September 4, 1962, respectively. Salado Creek and Valley Creek work plans are in congressional committee review with expectations of approval prior to adjournment of Congress. Big Creek watershed plan

is in the Bureau of Budget. Though the need is great for increased planning facilities, Graham stated there was no indication of an increase over last year in funds for that purpose.

On motion by Porter, seconded by Wehman, Board authorized Chairman Leesch to sign Contract Agreement with Soil Conservation Service to provide planning funds for Hondo Creek Watershed.

A "Report of the Farm and Stock Pond Water Policy Committee" as approved and distributed by the Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers was reviewed by A. L. Bading. The Texas Association of Soil Conservation Districts is going to prepare a letter objecting to the recommendations for distribution to legislators and other interested groups. The State Board suggested that their field men call the report to the attention of Soil Conservation District supervisors.

A request from Harris Soil Conservation District to change subdivisions within this district was approved on motion by E. W. Wehman, seconded by J. C. Porter, in accordance with the zone boundaries proposed by the Harris Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

Harvey Davis discussed the distribution of the \$35,000 allocated to Soil Conservation Districts for operation. He recommended that the distribution be made on the basis of equal allocation to each of 178 Soil Conservation Districts and if any declined to accept funds, those funds would be redistributed to districts in need. The Board approved this method of distribution.

Davis discussed the Annual State Meeting to be held in January 1963. Local Committees are doing a good job in arranging tours, door prizes, entertainment and other aspects. Problem of getting public officials of State and National level for a program at this time prompted discussion of change in date for the next Annual meeting. It was suggested that questionnaires be sent to supervisors relative to

setting date for State Meeting to the 1st of October. Outline of Program was presented. John Hutchison, Extension Director and H. N. Smith, State Conservationist have been asked to appear on the program. An invitation to Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson to appear on the program as principal speaker is to be made.

Davis discussed the State Boards' 1963 budget request and reviewed supplemental material to be submitted to the Budget Board in justification of the item for Soil Conservation District operational expense.

The U. S. Land & People Conferences now being held over the nation were reviewed. Chairman Leesch recognized the importance of representation of our Board in order to keep abreast of the policies and trends in agriculture. On motion by J. S. Sharp, seconded by J. Frank Gray, the Board approved the representation of three persons from the Board and staff.

Chairman Leesch reviewed the actions of the Governor's Water Committee. Of principal importance were the resolutions to support amendment No. 4 and to oppose amendment No. 14 on the General Election ballot. A resolution to support the entire budget for the Texas Water Commission was also passed by the Governor's Water Committee.

Mr. E. W. Wehman reviewed the meeting with the State ASC Committee as to policy changes and revisions to certain conservation practices.

Supervisor elections are to be held October 2, 1962. Information and election packets have been mailed to District Boards. Extension people are emphasizing elections on radio and in news releases.

Dalrymple reviewed sup  
Meeting adjourned at 4



Chairman

Nov. 30, 1962

Date

Dear Sir:

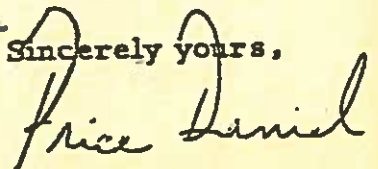
This is to acknowledge receipt of your

minutes dated September 21, 1962

**RECEIVED**

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,



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TEXAS STATE  
SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD  
TEMPLE, TEXAS