

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
May 17, 1979

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on May 17, 1979 at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room, 1006 First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

Frank Gray, Chairman
E. W. Wehman, Sr., Vice Chairman
Joe Antilley, Member
Albert Roach, Member
Henry W. Turney, Member

Staff Members present were:

A. C. Spencer, Executive Director
John W. Millican, Assistant Executive Director
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs
James Moore, Engineer
Jay Kuykendall, Engineering Technician
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Budd Fountain, Soil Conservation Service
Jimmy Hill, Soil Conservation Service
Bill Harris, Agricultural Extension Service
Jim Webster, Texas Forestry Ass'n
Dr. Earl Burnett, Science & Education Administration
Clark Bolt, KCEN-TV, Waco

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order.

Since each Board member received by mail a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on April 19, 1979 and there being no changes, on motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Henry Turney, the minutes were approved.

On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the following district director appointments were approved:

Paul Robertson - Hale County SWCD # 132
D. W. "Jack" Matthews - Nueces-Frio-Sabinal SWCD # 221
J. K. Wipff, Jr. - Chaparral SWCD # 240
James H. Grisham - Matagorda County SWCD # 316
Guillermo Benavides, Z, Jr. - Webb SWCD # 337
B. A. Puig, III - Webb SWCD # 337
I. L. Powers - Trinity-Neches SWCD # 422

On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board authorized transfer of \$15,000.00 additional funds to the Soil Conservation Service for planning assistance on PL 83-566 watershed protection and flood prevention projects from its 1979 fiscal year budget.

James Moore reported on a permit application under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 had been made for a portion of the Tehuacana Creek PL 83-566 watershed project. A letter sent to the Governor's office conveying the Board's position on the permit application was distributed to the Board members. The letter will be used to help the Governor prepare his comments to the Corps of Engineers.

James Moore reported on a meeting held in Huntsville on April 25 concerning a potential PL 83-566 watershed project on the Dever's Irrigation System. In attendance were representatives of Trinity River Authority, Soil Conservation Service, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The meeting was concerned with discussing environmental aspects of the proposed work.

James Moore reported on Public hearings concerning PL 83-566 planning in Snyder, Texas and Garrison, Texas.

Other watershed activity included a report from Jimmy Hill on the de-authorization of several watersheds that are not feasible for planning; therefore, removing them from the backlog of inactive watersheds.

Jimmy Hill passed out a report on the "Status of watershed activities in Texas" and "Status of construction contracts in watersheds".

James Moore reviewed an application for PL 83-566 watershed protection and flood prevention assistance on the North Fork Hubbard Creek in Albany. Sponsoring organizations for the 26,100 acre watershed are the Lower Clear Fork of the Brazos SWCD, Shackelford County Commissioners Court and the City of Albany. The project has a 1.5:1 benefit-cost ratio. On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board approved the project as being practicable and feasible.

Bob Buckley reviewed the draft of the planning guidelines on agricultural/silvicultural nonpoint source pollution. In the last board meeting each Board member had received a copy to review to allow for any needed changes to be incorporated before the final draft. On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board approved the planning guidelines. (copy attached)

James Moore discussed a special project on water quality being considered under cost-sharing by ASCS on Lake Fork Creek in Wood, Rains, and Hunt Counties. Tentative dates of June 5 & 7 are set for meetings in Sulphur Springs.

Executive Order WPC-5 establishing procedures for implementing the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, PL 92-500, Section 208, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto repealing Executive Order DB-18A was given to each Board Member.

Mel Davis reported on the Texas Conservation Awards Program covering the five areas of the State. Favorable comments were reported in each area. The conservation awards, attendance and program has been well accepted and participated in by Soil and Water Conservation District Directors in each area. Mr. Antilley suggested that Area II might have two in its area since it covers such a large area. The Board left a change to the discretion of Area II but took note that the Awards program is a joint undertaking with the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts and a final decision should be made in conjunction with their directors.

John Millican discussed the 1979 Annual Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors to be held in El Paso, October 2, 3, and 4, 1979. The program committee consisting of E. W. Wehman, Carl Spencer, John Millican, and Kenneth Kuykendall will arrange for speakers for the meeting.

On motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the 1980 Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors will be held in San Antonio, Texas on September 29, 30 and October 1.

John Millican reported that Houston, Texas will be the site of the 1980 National Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors to be held at the Shamrock-Hilton on February 10-14, 1980. Mr. Roach has been selected to give an invocation during the meeting.

Bob Buckley discussed claims received on the Resource Conservation Act program informing the Board that all districts will not be able to claim their allocations by the end of the 1979 fiscal year. Since grant money does not lapse, on motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board agreed to give districts an opportunity to request extension of time to claim their allocations. A deadline of August 10, 1979 was suggested for both the requests for extensions and claims for supplemental payments.

Bob Buckley passed out expenditures and balances of the State Board's appropriation for the 8 month period of the 1979 fiscal year. Two-thirds of the matching fund appropriations to districts has been expended.

The Salt Fork Soil and Water Conservation District # 133 had submitted its matching fund claim for \$3,000.00 which was allocated to this district. It has not submitted its audit; therefore, due to the policy set by the board is ineligible to receive funds without an audit. The audit has been delayed because of illness of the auditor. Due to this circumstance, on motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Albert Roach, the board agreed to hold the claim for \$3,000.00 and pay the full amount instead of cutting back one-third of the allocation until the audit is received.

The South Central Area meeting of the NACD will be held at the Hilton Hotel in New Orleans, La. on August 5, 6, and 7, 1979. All Board members will attend. Reservations are to be made at the Hilton. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by E. W. Wehman, the Board authorized Carl Spencer and his designees from the staff to attend the meeting.

Mr. Spencer informed the board that the 1980-81 appropriations bill was in Conference Committee at this time.

Clyde Gottschalk informed the Board that the Public Information activity is underway and Soil and Water Conservation Districts will be using educational promotions on TV. Same procedure will be followed on radio spot announcements.

The Board decided to hold its July Board Meeting on the morning of July 13, 1979 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Dr. Earl Burnett extended a special invitation to the Board to participate in the tour of conservation research at the Grassland Soil and Water Research Laboratory on the afternoon of July 12, 1979 in conjunction with the Texas Council of the Soil Conservation Society of America.

Bill Harris expressed appreciation to the group for its support of the State 4-H Judging Contest.

On May 1, 1979, Frank Gray was re-elected to serve another 5 year term as the Board member representing Area I of the State.

On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board elected E. W. Wehman as chairman and Henry Turney as vice chairman.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

E. W. Wehman Sr.
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

June - 11 - 79
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on May 17, 1979.

June 11, 1979
Date

Carl Spencer
Executive Director