

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
December 1, 1977

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on December 1, 1977 at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room, 1016 First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

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

Staff members present were:

John Millican, Acting Executive Director
Sonny Kretzschmar, Engineer
Charles Rothe, Engineer
James Moore, Hydrologist
Lois Cain, Secretary

Others present were:

Dr. Bill Harris, Soil and Water Use Specialist, Agricultural
Extension Service
George Marks, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service
Harvey Davis, Executive Director, Texas Department of Water Resources
Carl Spencer, State Board Executive Director appointee

Since minutes of the meeting held on October 31, 1977 were mailed to each Board Member, on motion of E. W. Wehman, seconded by Frank Gray, the minutes were approved without being read.

Room reservations for the NACD meeting to be held in Anaheim, California on February 5 - 9, 1978 were discussed. The Board members had been advised that a \$30 deposit was needed to hold their rooms.

John Millican reviewed a financial statement covering the income and expenses of the Annual Statewide Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors held in Lubbock on October 11, 12, and 13, 1977.

On motion of Albert Roach, seconded by Henry Turney, the Board approved the following district director appointments:

Raymond Hicks - Bandera SWCD No. 229
Chester Willis - Long Leaf SWCD No. 439

Harvey Davis reported on activities of the Texas Department of Water Resources in regards to Public Law 92-500, Section 208 and the Governor's Executive Order DB 18A.

A letter from Wynn Hamilton, chairman of the Toyah-Limpia Soil and Water Conservation District No. 209 was read asking to have their matching fund allocation increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000. The Board agreed that funds for such increases were not available at this time. It was suggested a letter be written to this district advising them that no funds were available for this request but it was anticipated that funds would be available for supplemental request at the end of the fiscal year.

Dr. Bill Harris reported that all papers were in from the 208 Conference held at A & M on August 29 and 30, 1977 and the Proceedings were in the process of being printed. He expected the proceedings to be completed soon and expressed appreciation to the Board for their help and sponsorship of the conference.

John Millican presented information that had been received concerning possible meeting sites for the 1978 Annual Statewide Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors. Mr. Wehman reported on a suggestion he had received to hold the State Meeting later in October in order to give each district a chance to hold their elections prior to the meeting. The Board requested that the staff investigate

further facilities in El Paso, Austin and Corpus Christi and determine what dates were available from the last week in September to the last week of October. The Board agreed that these locations, plus Abilene, should also be checked out as possible sites for the 1979 State Meeting.

Draft copies of the main component, Chapter 3, of the Statewide Control Strategy for the Control of Agricultural Non Point Source Pollution pursuant to P. L. 92-500, Section 208, being prepared by the State Soil and Water Conservation Board were distributed to members of the State Board. Sonny Kretzschmar discussed the report and explained that this responsibility had been delegated to the State Board by Governor Briscoe's Executive Order DB 18A. Mr. Kretzschmar expressed appreciation for the help of Dr. Bill Harris and Dr. John Sweeten in preparation of some of this material.

Kretzschmar advised the Board concerning the possibilities of developing a Model Implementation Program Project Area. Nominations for project areas are due by November 30, 1977. The program, established by joint agreement between USDA and EPA, would demonstrate the ability of USDA agencies to support the installation of "best management practices" for control of nonpoint source pollution. Kretzschmar noted that it was unlikely that a nomination for a project area in Texas would be submitted due to the apparent unavailability of adequate cost-share funds for an MIP Project Area.

Mr. Kretzschmar reported on his attendance at the National Association of Conservation District's District Outlook Committee meeting held in Denver, Colorado on November 17 and 18, 1977.

John Millican discussed the recently enacted Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act - P. L. 95-192. George Marks reported there was to be a

training session in Fort Worth, Texas on January 31 and February 1, 1978 for Soil Conservation Service people regarding this law and invited State Board members and staff to attend.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following federal legislation: S. B. 1952, the Culver Amendment to the Clean Water Act; S. 896, the extension of the Great Plains Conservation Program; Youth Employment and Project Act of 1977.

Suggested Memorandum of Understanding being distributed by the State Office of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service to Soil and Water Conservation Districts was discussed. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that no further action by the State Board was necessary at this time.

John Millican reported on S. B. 411 passed in the last legislative session which created a Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief and Retirement Fund. Millican advised the Board he had checked with the Attorney General's Office and the Commissioner of the Fireman's Pension Fund and in their opinion it was not the intent of the Legislature to include soil and water conservation districts in this legislation. Mr. Millican advised the Board that a letter to soil and water conservation districts suggesting they pass a resolution to exempt themselves from this law would be mailed shortly.

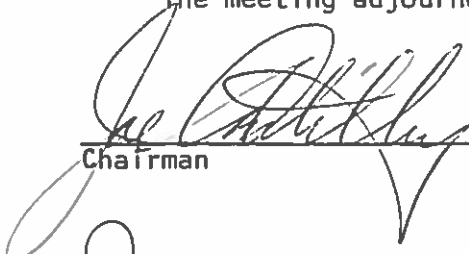
Joe Antilley acknowledged the presence of Carl Spencer who will become the Executive Director of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board on January 1, 1978.


John Millican distributed to the Board members a report on expenditures of the State Board for the first two months of fiscal year 1978.

A copy of the newly printed "Texas Soil Conservation Laws" was also passed out to each Board member.

The next regular meeting of the State Board is scheduled for January 19, 1978.

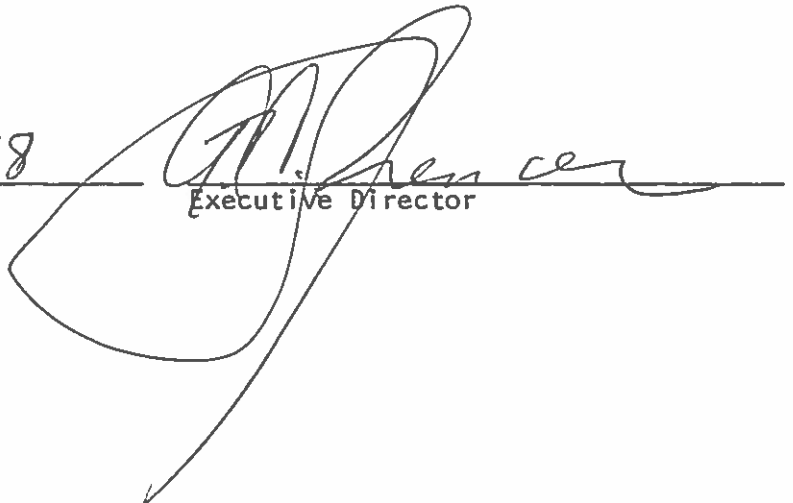
The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.


Chairman
January 19, 1978
Date


Secretary

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 December 1, 1977.

January 19, 1978
Date


Executive Director