

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
January 17, 1980

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 17, 1980 at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room, 1006 First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

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

Staff members present were:

John Millican, Assistant Executive Director
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs
James Moore, Engineer
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Hermon Petty, President, Association of Texas SWCDs
Harvey Davis, Texas Department of Water Resources
George Marks, Soil Conservation Service
Budd Fountain, Soil Conservation Service
Dale Allen, Soil Conservation Service
Dr. Bill Harris, Agricultural Extension Service
Dr. Earl Burnett, Science and Education Administration
Gilbert Kretzschmar, Sr., Little River-San Gabriel SWCD # 508

Chairman Wehman called the meeting to order.

Since each board member received by mail a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on November 15, 1979, and there being no changes, on motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Albert Roach, the minutes were approved.

A slide presentation on the Resource Conservation Act was shown by representatives of the Soil Conservation Service. Following the presentation Mr. Marks briefed the group concerning the RCA program and stated that public meetings are scheduled for February 26, 1980 in Arlington, March 4 in Lubbock, and March 6 in San Antonio. Final date for comments on the proposed program is April 10, 1980.

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

John H. Northcut - Dos Rios SWCD # 322
W. S. Chasteen, Jr. - Upshur-Gregg SWCD # 417
Clint Fancher - Trinity Bay SWCD # 434

On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Albert Roach the appointment of Billy Joe Broaddus to the Oldham County SWCD # 153 Board of Directors was approved contingent upon receipt of personal data sheet substantiating his qualifications.

A petition and supporting documents to transfer the portion of Tom Green County in the North Concho River SWCD # 208 to the Eldorado-Divide SWCD #212 was filed on January 14, 1980. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Henry Turney, the board determined the transfer to be practicable and feasible and approved the new subdivision lines for each district.

As a result of the Governor's Equal Employment Opportunity Office letter of November 12, 1979, a new EEO Policy Statement and Affirmative Action Plan were presented to the Board for their consideration. On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board adopted the Policy Statement. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Frank Gray, the board approved the Affirmative Action Plan.

James Moore informed the board that the Soil Conservation Service, USDA, had not collected sufficient data to make a determination of economic feasibility on the PL 83-566 watershed applications being considered for priority status. Board action was postponed until such determinations can be made.

The Board discussed RCA funding and development of a state program. On motion of Henry Turney, seconded by Albert Roach, the Board allocated funds not to exceed \$40,000 from the RCA grant monies to cover specific costs and expenses by the State Board in the development of the State program and the administration of grant funds to Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

James Moore reported on a meeting and tour of the Arroyo Colorado watershed in the Lower Rio Grande Valley held on December 12, 1979. It was reported that local people are of the opinion agriculture is not causing any significant pollution problem in this area.

Bob Buckley reviewed the proposed rules of the Federal Register, Vol. 44, No. 247, dated Friday, December 21, 1979 on the 1980 Experimental Rural Clean Water Program of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Concern was expressed over the vagueness of the problem identification procedures as written in the regulations. The Board agreed to submit comments to the ASCS to this effect.

Since Governor Clements' letter and resolution on employment reduction was received the day before the board meeting, action was postponed until the March 20, 1980 board meeting giving the Board time for adequate consideration of this matter.

Bob Buckley reviewed the 1980 travel funds for the Board members.

The 1980 National Association of Conservation Districts meeting will be held in Houston, Texas on February 10-14. Reservation confirmations at the Shamrock Hilton were given each Board member.

A called meeting of the Board will be held in Houston at the Shamrock Hilton on Monday, February 11, 1980 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Petty discussed the new regional alignment being proposed by the National Association of Conservation Districts. The South-Central region would be eliminated and Texas would be added to a region consisting of the Western and Pacific Coast States including Hawaii and Alaska. The board was not in favor of the change.

Mr. Petty expressed his desire to expand the statewide Public Information Program with added financial support from districts. He mentioned State

District 5 was in the process of organizing area associations.

Dr. Burnett thanked the Board for its favorable working relations with his agency. He will be assuming the position of Science Advisor to the Administrator of Science and Education Administration in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Harris discussed the possibility of additional personnel being made available to the Extension Service in the Section 208 nonpoint source pollution planning program and asked for the Board's view on this matter. After discussion of the subject it was the Board's opinion that such a position was not needed at the present time.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on March 20, 1980.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

E. W. Weisman sr
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

2/11/80
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 January 17, 1980.

2/11/80
Date

J. W. Zillian
Assistant Executive Director