

OFFICIAL MINUTES
STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
September 17, 1981

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on September 17, 1981 at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room, 1006 First National Building, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Albert Roach, Chairman
Joe Antilley, Vice Chairman
Hermon Petty, Member
Frank Gray, Member
C. F. Schendel, Member

Staff members present were:

A. C. Spencer, Executive Director
John Millican, Assistant Executive Director
Bob Buckley, Director of Programs
James Moore, Engineer
Clyde Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Josephine Chupik, Office Services Supervisor

Others present were:

Budd Fountain, Soil Conservation Service
Dr. Bill Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service
Dr. Earl Burnett, Agricultural Research Service

Chairman Roach called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the July 10, 1981 meeting were approved as read.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board approved the following district director appointments:

Robert Greener - Cochran SWCD # 149
Dick Edwards - Upper Clear Fork SWCD # 165
Kent Deputy - El Paso-Hudspeth SWCD # 205
Robert R. Buescher, Jr. - Tom Green SWCD # 248
B. K. Guyler - Winter Garden SWCD # 326
J. Lindsey Green - Bee SWCD # 344
A. B. McBay - Limestone-Falls SWCD # 501
Billy Tindle - Denton SWCD # 547

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board denied the appointment of Wayne Hofferichter to the Alamo SWCD # 330 since Mr. Hofferichter does not own agricultural land as required by State law.

Mr. Spencer explained the final printed document, "Soil and Water Conservation the Texas Approach" and its contents. This State Plan assesses soil and water

conservation needs as well as serving as a long range plan to protect and conserve renewable natural resources. Each individual soil and water conservation district can use it for reference. Each districts' critical problems and indirect problems as relates to soil and water are included in the publication.

A 24-page pictorial documentation and 15 minute film will be made on this publication for distribution.

Mr. Spencer stated that Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, John Crowell, has asked certain groups to comment on a recent speech he made concerning priorities to be recommended in a, soon to be released, RCA Program Report and Environmental Impact Statement. On motion by Joe Antilley, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board voted to recommend that priorities on implementation strategies and objective contained in the public participation summary be followed. The Board felt money spent on public hearings and written comments would be useless if the consensus is not followed.

Budd Fountain stated the printed recommendations will be out on October 19 or soon thereafter and that there will be a 90-day review and comment period.

Mr. Spencer urged support of S777, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. A copy of the legislation was given each member.

A public hearing will be held on September 19, 1981 on the Corpus Christi Ship Channel Project. The Board supports the plan to construct disposal areas in the Nueces Bay Plan (NB-TL-A) instead of the alternative to dispose of dredge material on productive agricultural land. On motion of Frank Gray, seconded by Joe Antilley, the Board authorized C. F. Schendel to represent the Board and testify in its behalf at the hearing.

James Moore reviewed PL83-566 watershed activity. A detailed report was given each board member.

Data was handed out on the Devers Canal System application received July 16, 1981 sponsored by Lower Trinity and Trinity Bay Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Trinity River Authority of Texas located in Liberty, Chambers

and Jefferson Counties. The benefit cost ratio is 1.3 to 1.0. On motion of C. F. Schendel, seconded by Frank Gray, the Board approved the application as feasible for planning. The Board instructed the staff to make arrangements for a public hearing in conjunction with its next regular board meeting on/or near November 19.

A petition in opposition to the Big Creek watershed project in Falls, Limestone and McLennan Counties was discussed. On motion of Hermon Petty, seconded by C. F. Schendel, the Board instructed that a letter of response be written giving the history of the project and explaining State Board jurisdiction and the fact that after the plan is completed a public hearing and comment period will be provided for.

James Moore gave a status report on statewide activity pursuant to Section 208.

John Millican updated the Board on the arrangements and program detail of the Annual State Meeting to be held in Amarillo on October 26, 27 and 28, 1981.

House Bill #1623 passed by the 67th Legislature requires that all funds on deposit in local banks by State agencies be deposited in the State Treasury. This includes the State meeting account.

The group recessed for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with the same people in attendance.

House Bill #444, the State soil and water conservation law is now in H.B.1436, the new Agricultural Code Law. The Board was given a copy of the Texas Agricultural Code.

Each Board member was given a detailed summary of the matching fund account for fiscal year 1981 showing the allocation and amount claimed by each SWCD.

Requests were discussed from three Soil and Water Conservation Districts asking for additional allocations in conservation assistance for the 1982 fiscal year. On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by Hermon Petty, the Board approved additional allocations in the amount of \$400.00 to the Canadian River

SWCD # 160, \$2,450.00 to the Crockett SWCD # 235 and \$3,100.00 to the West Nueces-Las Moras SWCD # 236. The maximum amount for each district for the 1982 fiscal year is \$4,000.00.

Mr. Spencer informed the Board a request for an Attorney General's opinion on dual office holding has been acknowledged by that office and an opinion will be forthcoming.

Mr. Fountain, Dr. Harris, and Dr. Burnett each reported on current activities of their organization.

The Board conducted an executive session to discuss personnel matters. It considered additional field personnel and confirmed A. C. Spencer's recommendation to employ M. J. "Whitey" Spears as Soil Conservationist in the East Texas area beginning employment on October 12, 1981.

On motion of Joe Antilley, seconded by C. F. Schendel, the 1982 fiscal operating budget was approved by the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Albert Roach
Chairman

Josephine Chupik
Secretary

November 10, 1981
Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on September 17, 1981

November 10, 1981
Date

A. C. Spencer
Executive Director