

Minutes
TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
May 19, 1993

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on May 19, 1993, at 1:00 p.m. in the Kenedy City Hall Auditorium at 305 W. Main, Kenedy, Texas.

Board members present were:

C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Chairman
Albert Evans, Vice Chairman
Paul Robertson, Member
Charles D. "Buddy" Clark, Member
Harvey Davis, Member

Staff members present were:

Robert G. Buckley, Executive Director
John W. Millican, Assistant Executive Director
William C. Neiser, Director of Programs
James M. Moore, Engineer
Mel Davis, Soil Conservationist
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Rex Isom, Soil Conservationist
Robert Gruner, Soil Conservationist
Joe Freeman, Soil Conservationist
Johnny Oswald, Soil Conservationist
Roy Freeman, Soil Conservationist
Andy Garza, Soil Conservationist
David Powell, Soil Conservationist
Joe McKay, Soil Conservationist
Don Brandenberger, Soil Conservationist
W. T. "Dub" Crumley, Soil Conservationist

Others present were:

Wes Oneth, Soil Conservation Service
Atlan Pflugger, Texas Water Development Board
Guillermo Benavides Z., Jr., Association of Texas SWCDs
Arthur Fenner, Chairman, Karnes County SWCD #343
Walter Busby, Secretary, Karnes County SWCD #343
Jo Chupik

Chairman Schendel called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

On motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Albert Evans, the

minutes of the March 17, 1993 board meeting were approved as mailed.

John Millican presented district director appointments for consideration. He advised the Board all appointments appeared in order and recommended they be approved. On motion of Buddy Clark, seconded by Albert Evans, the following appointments were approved:

Norman Grenwelge, Llano County SWCD #233
John C. Little, Llano County SWCD #233
Marshall Ellis, Trinity Neches SWCD #422

John Millican presented a petition for division and reorganization from the Little Wichita Soil and Water Conservation District #532 for consideration. He advised the Board what was requested in the petition and that the petition appeared in order. He recommended a public hearing be held to determine the desirability and necessity of the division and reorganization of the district. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board accepted the petition and authorized the staff to proceed with the division including scheduling public hearings in each of the proposed districts.

John Millican reviewed information on various meeting sites for future annual meetings of soil and water conservation district directors. On motion of Albert Evans, seconded by Harvey Davis, the Board selected Austin as the site for the 1994 Annual State Meeting of District Directors. The meeting will be held September 26-28, 1994, using the facilities of the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Palmer Auditorium. The Board also instructed the staff to review additional sites and prepare recommendations for presentation at an

upcoming summer meeting for a decision on meeting sites in 1995 and beyond.

Mr. Millican reviewed planning for the 1993 Annual State Meeting scheduled October 18-20 in Lubbock. Chairman Schendel named a planning committee to aid in developing the program for the meeting. Those named to be planning committee are:

Chairman of State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Paul Robertson
President of the Auxiliary
President of the Association
A member to be appointed by the Association President
Bob Buckley

The Board indicated they should be headquartered at the Holiday Inn Civic Center in Lubbock while conducting the Annual State Meeting.

Mel Davis reviewed the Conservation Awards Program and recent area awards banquets. Paul Robertson indicated that staff should review the NACD National Poster Contest and determine if the state poster contest can be coordinated to provide additional recognition to participants. The staff was instructed to prepare recommendations for the Board to consider for conducting the 1994 Awards Program.

Clyde Gottschalk presented a report on the Public Information/Education Program. He reported that the grant application to EPA for a public information/education program was rejected for funding; he has been reviewing the availability of portable exhibits for use at the Lubbock Farm Show and other events; Texas Education Agency has recently approved the teacher conservation workshops conducted by the State Board for advanced academic training hours; a Memorandum of Understanding is being

proposed and drafted by the Texas Farm Bureau consortium for consideration of the board; the Project Food, Land and People Program has begun to pilot test some of the material developed; and he was working on a Central Texas Area Field Day that would be conducted near Temple. Mr. Gottschalk reviewed a letter from the Collin County SWCD indicating they were conducting a bookcover project. Mr. Gottschalk also reported that the Association's Public Information/Education Committee recently met and had reviewed and recommended several conservation videos for purchase to start building a library for use by districts. Mr. Gottschalk indicated that a letter would be going out soon to districts to inform them of this action.

Bill Neiser reported that only four district audits have not yet been approved and indicated only minor problems prevented their approval. He reported that district bookkeeper and district director training sessions have been scheduled for each area during July. The scheduled sessions are:

- Area I to be held July 1 in Plainview
- Area II to be held July 8 in San Angelo
- Area III to be held July 6 in Kenedy
- Area IV to be held July 15 in Crockett
- Area V to be held July 29 in Stephenville

Mr. Neiser discussed the 1993 district allocations for matching funds and technical assistance funds. Mr. Neiser reviewed a letter from the Matagorda SWCD that released \$3,000 of their technical assistance allocation and \$329.43 of Subchapter H allocations that they were unable to utilize due to weather conditions. On motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Buddy Clark,

the Board reallocated the released technical assistance funds to:

Technical Assistance

Wilson County SWCD #301	-	\$500.00
Lavaca SWCD #334	-	\$500.00
Colorado SWCD #333	-	\$500.00
Karnes County SWCD #343	-	\$500.00
Victoria SWCD #346	-	\$500.00
Washington SWCD #348	-	\$500.00

Subchapter H Technical Assistance

Alamo SWCD #330 - \$329.43

Mr. Neiser advised the Board that additional Subchapter H Technical Assistance funds were available for allocation to those districts qualified. On motion of Buddy Clark, seconded by Paul Robertson, the Board accepted staff recommendations on the allocation of the available Subchapter H Technical Assistance Funds.

Mr. Neiser reviewed the Fiscal Year 1993 Expenditure Report ending April 30, 1993, that was provided each Board member.

Mr. Neiser reported on the status of the Uniform Statewide Accounting System that all state agencies are to begin using September 1, 1993.

Bob Buckley reported on the status of the 1994-95 fiscal years Legislative Appropriations. He indicated that if approved that travel would be reduced across the board by 10% of 1993 fiscal year travel expenses except for new program travel expenses.

Mr. Neiser presented proposed rules for Technical Assistance Program administration for the 1994 fiscal year. Following discussion and suggested changes, motion was made by Albert Evans, seconded by Harvey Davis, and approved by the Board that the

proposed rules as amended be submitted for publication in the TEXAS REGISTER and mailed to districts for review and comment. Mr. Neiser suggested one additional change relating to the date for districts to file quarterly reports. Motion was made by Albert Evans, seconded by Harvey Davis, and approved by the Board to accept the change to the proposed rules. (Proposed rules as finally approved for publication attached as Attachment I).

Mr. Neiser presented proposed rules for Subchapter H Technical Assistance Program administration for the 1994 fiscal year. Following discussion and suggested changes, motion was made by Harvey Davis, seconded by Paul Robertson, and approved by the Board that the proposed rules as amended be submitted for publication in the TEXAS REGISTER and mailed to districts for review and comment. (Proposed rules as finally approved for publication attached as Attachment 2).

Wes Oneth reported on the USDA reorganization efforts. He reported that Jim Lyons had been named the new USDA Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and would be working with the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a reorganization plan. He also indicated that he had recently met with Farmers Home Administration and ASCS on the possible co-location of field offices in 11 counties. He also reported that the East Texas Plant Material Center at Nacogdoches has scheduled a June 2, 1993 open house and that Congressman Jim Chapman would be the principal speaker. State Board members were invited to attend.

Atlan Pfluger reported that the Texas Water Development Board

had met April 15 and approved \$43,000 in grants to soil and water conservation districts and other special districts.

Bob Buckley presented a legislative update to the Board on various bills of interest to soil and water conservation districts and the State Board.

James Moore presented an update on the nonpoint source program and gave a status report on on-going projects. He discussed the revision of the Nonpoint Source Management Plan and recommended it be published for public comment in the TEXAS REGISTER. On the motion of Paul Robertson, seconded by Buddy Clark, the Board authorized submission of the revised NPS Management Plan to the TEXAS REGISTER.

Mr. Moore reviewed the Texas Coastal Zone Management Program. He indicated the Coastal Coordinating Committee would be considering a proposal to designate the coastal zone management area as the first tier of counties on the coast plus Hidalgo and Fort Bend Counties. Additionally, he discussed a proposed Policy Development Document that would establish program goals and policies of the Coastal Zone Management Program.

Mr. Moore provided the Board with an update on the implementation of SB 503 and indicated that staff is proposing to develop draft rules for consideration of the Board to approve for publication in the TEXAS REGISTER by September. Mr. Moore recommended that he meet with staff in the Attorney General's Office to determine what sections of SB 503 need to be addressed by rules. By consensus, the Board agreed to the proposed time table

and course of action outlined by Mr. Moore.

Chairman Schendel reviewed the NACD Quota Statement and called for discussion. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board agreed to pay the NACD quota as soon as the Executive Director feels that funds are available in the budget.

Mr. Neiser provided the Board with a status report on their travel funds. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board approved reallocating \$1,000 each to those Board members in need from the allocation of Harvey Davis.

Chairman Schendel called for an Executive Session to consider personnel matters as provided under provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, Article 6252-17. The Executive Session began at 5:15 p.m. and was recorded. At 6:00 p.m. Chairman Schendel called the meeting back into regular session.

Chairman Schendel opened the nominations for election of a chairman. Paul Robertson nominated Albert Evans as chairman, seconded by Buddy Clark. Harvey Davis moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. Albert Evans elected as chairman. Mr. Schendel opened nominations for election of a vice chairman. Albert Evans nominated Paul Robertson for vice chairman, seconded by Buddy Clark. Buddy Clark moved that nominations cease. Motion carried. Paul Robertson elected as vice chairman.

Location and date of the next Board meeting will be June 21, 1993 at 1:00 p.m. in the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board Conference Room in Temple, Texas.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Albert Evans

Chairman

M. J. Durr

Secretary

6-21-93

Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on May 19, 1993.

6-21-93

Date

Robert A. Buckley

Executive Director