

Minutes
State Soil and Water Conservation Board
November 14, 1990

The State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on Wednesday, November 14, 1990, in its Conference Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Joe Antilley, Chairman
Harvey Davis, Vice Chairman
C. F. "Dick" Schendel, Member
Fred Squyres, Member
Albert Evans, 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
Beade Northcut, Engineer
Clyde J. Gottschalk, Information Specialist
Janet Gonser, Planner
Steven Deiss, Engineering Technician
Leonard Pietzsch, Chief Accountant
Joe Camp, Hydrologist
Lois Cain, Office Services Supervisor
Rex Isom, Soil Conservationist
Robert Gruner, Soil Conservationist
Johnny Oswald, Soil Conservationist
Joe Freeman, Soil Conservationist
Roy Freeman, Soil Conservationist
Andy Garza, Soil Conservationist
David Powell, Soil Conservationist
Joe McKay, Soil Conservationist
Don Brandenberger, Soil Conservationist
Dub Crumley, Soil Conservationist

Others present were:

Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board
Dr. Bill Harris, Texas Agricultural Extension Service
Dr. Clarence Richardson, Agricultural Research Service
Kenton Inglis, Soil Conservation Service
Ray Abbott, City of Temple
Buddy Clark, Association of Texas SWCDs
Clyde Hale, Association of Texas SWCDs

Chairman Antilley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Buddy Clark was welcomed as the new president of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

On motion of C. F. Schendel, seconded by Fred Squyres, the minutes were approved as read.

John Millican reviewed information on appointees for district directors for consideration and recommended they be approved. On motion of Fred Squyres and seconded by C. F. Schendel, the following district directors were approved.

Robert Boston, Donley SWCD #127
Russell K. Fleming, Upper Llanos SWCD #225
James Painter, Nueces-Jim Wells-Kleberg-Kenedy SWCD #311

Mr. Millican then discussed the division and reorganization of the Bosque Soil and Water Conservation District #522. Public hearings had been held on November 8 in Stephenville and Meridian. He reported that all comments received at the hearings were favorable and had good attendance from county officials. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Albert Evans, the Board approved the division as being practicable and feasible; approved the appointments of Phillip E. Munden to Zone 2 and Raymond Whitney to Zone 4 of Bosque SWCD #555; and Douglas C. Eberhart to Zone 2 and Kenneth Lesley to Zone 4 of Cross Timbers SWCD #556; approved the subdivision boundaries of both new districts; approved Transfer of Assets and Liabilities; approved transfer of Cooperator Agreements to each district. Motion carried.

Harvey Davis requested that Board members be sent notices of all Area Association meetings. Other Board members agreed.

John Millican reviewed the annual state meeting held in Austin on October 22-24, 1990. He advised the Board that total attendance was 986. There were 13 districts with 100% attendance of their board members. A statement of revenues and expenses were provided to the Board. Bob Buckley expressed his appreciation to the Board members and staff for all the work done at the state meeting. A list of newly elected Association officers and alternates was provided the Board. Mr. Buckley reported that 18 legislators attended the State meeting.

Selection of future state meeting sites was discussed. The 1991 meeting will be in Corpus Christi on October 21-23. On motion of C. F. Schendel, seconded by Fred Squyres, the staff was instructed to look into available dates and sites in Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, El Paso, Fort Worth and McAllen.

Bill Neiser reported to the Board that 59 districts had filed supplemental claims for unexpended FY 1990 Technical Assistance funds. A total of \$27,927.20 was paid with the maximum amount paid to any district being \$738.24.

Bill Neiser discussed several requests from districts requesting additional technical assistance funds for the 1991 fiscal year. Mr. Neiser advised the Board there were no available funds at this time since all funds have been allocated. On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Albert Evans, the staff will survey districts after January 1, 1991, to determine any excess allocations and any further needs. All requests for additional allocations will be reviewed again if funds become available.

Mr. Neiser then discussed Subchapter H Technical Assistance

funds and presented an allocation plan as follows:

Area I	- \$10,334.10
Area II	- \$ 6,692.56
Area III	- \$ 8,365.70
Area IV	- \$ 2,952.60
Area V	- <u>\$16,692.56</u>
Total	\$45,037.52

On motion of Fred Squyres, seconded by Harvey Davis, the Board approved the allocations as outlined by Mr. Neiser. The soil conservationists were then excused to further allocate the Subchapter H Technical Assistance funds to eligible districts within each area.

Mr. Don Cook, Director, Resource Management and Development for the General Land Office briefed the Board on the Coastal Zone Management Program and provided the Board with draft copies of the plan and a schedule of public hearing dates and places.

Bill Neiser reported on the Uniform Statewide Accounting System Implementation. Since the last Board meeting the agency had received \$8,143.00 from the Comptroller's Office to purchase additional equipment.

Clyde Gottschalk showed the Board the shoreline erosion video entitled "Texas Shores...Saving What's Left" which was a cooperative effort of the Public Information/Education Committee of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, Soil Conservation Service, Moody Foundation, Texas A&M Sea Grant Program, Texas Marine Advisory Service. He also advised the Board of a recent writing conference for Project Food, Land and People in which 16 teachers from Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas took part to

get agriculture in the school curriculum from Kindergarten to 12th grade. He also discussed the possibility of developing a training program for newly elected or appointed district directors.

Bill Neiser provided the Board members a checklist of District audits for the 2-year period ending August 31, 1990 that have been received as of November 13, 1990.

Bob Buckley and Mr. Neiser discussed a meeting with the finance audit division of the State Auditors Office concerning district audits and their cost.

The Board then reviewed the allocation of Subchapter H Technical Assistance Funds to eligible districts as recommended by the State Board Soil Conservationists. On motion of Harvey Davis, seconded by Albert Evans, the Subchapter H Fund allocations were approved as presented. Motion carried. (Copy attached)

John Millican discussed the results of the District Director elections held October 1-15, 1990 in Zones One and Two of each district.

Kenton Inglis present the Soil Conservation Service report. He reported that SCS has applied for \$1 million in emergency money. He also gave a presentation on the 1990 Food Security Act and discussed the Farm Bill.

Dr. Bill Harris reported that a proposal has been presented to the Board of Regents of Texas A & M University to change the name of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service to Texas A & M Cooperative Extension. He also said two more hydrologic units may be approved soon - those being Lake Fork Creek and Seymour Aquifer.

Comer Tuck advised that grants had been approved for four soil

and water conservation districts since September and six grants had been approved to underground water districts. He also reported that a public hearing on the Revised Draft of the Texas Water Plan would be held on December 4 at 2 pm in the Stephen F. Austin Building in Austin. He said written testimony could also be handed in at that time. He said the Texas Water Development Board plans to adopt the Water Plan at their December 13th Board meeting and have ready to present to the Legislature in early January, 1991.

Buddy Clark, newly elected president of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, told the Board he was looking forward to working with them and offered his services as needed. He reported on the Association's Directors meeting of November 13, 1990 and advised the Board they had initiated a Waterfowl Task Force Committee.

Dick Schendel reported on the Galveston Bay Project and said Eddie Seidensticker, District Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, in Anahuac was looking for sites in Galveston Bay for demonstration projects to use grant funds of \$130,000 to find ways to slow down erosion in Galveston Bay.

James Moore reported on the Gulf of Mexico Program and advised the Board that chlorophyll meters had been ordered with the \$7,000 grant the agency had received. These meters will help rice producers with proper fertilizer management and as soon as they are received training sessions will be scheduled.

Mr. Buckley discussed legislation that needed to be approved to make necessary changes in the Ag Code to correct the audit process; the need to adjust state meeting fund law to allow

donations; addition of the cost-share program; and amendment to the law in case a district has only two directors eligible to conduct district business.

Joe Camp reported on the status of the Watershed Study. He said a lot of good comments had been received and heavy editing was being done to the plan. Plans are to have 1,000 copies of the complete plan printed along with 1,000 copies of an Executive Summary. After all changes are in and corrections made, the Board will be provided copies for their final approval.

Beade Northcut brought the Board up to date on the PL 83-566 project West Laterals of the Trinity. This project has been approved as feasible but has not been given a priority. He also reported interest in two new watersheds.

James Moore discussed the Middle Colorado River Basin Study conducted by the Soil Conservation Service. He indicated that the final draft was much improved over previous drafts. The major concern expressed involved the treatment of sediment as a pollutant without adequate information to quantify water quality impacts.

James Moore discussed comments sent to the Texas Water Development Board on the latest revision of the Texas Water Plan. He pointed out some remaining concerns, discussed them with the Board members and asked for direction. Mr. Schendel proposed that the agency response be prepared and presented in person by Mr. Buckley at the December 4th public hearing. Fred Squyres seconded. The motion carried.

Mr. Moore discussed the status of Nonpoint Source Work Plans and handed out a brochure prepared for the Texas Groundwater

Protection Seminar.

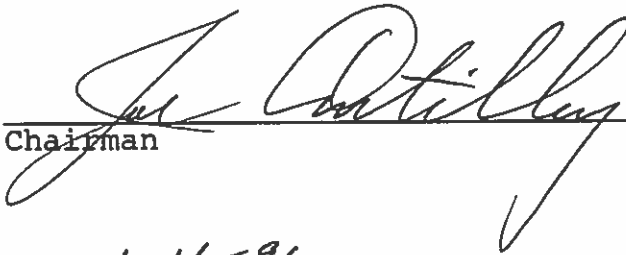
James Moore discussed the content of the Agricultural Chemicals and Groundwater Management Plan. He advised the Board of a request to enter into a contract with the Texas Water Commission to perform work relative to the plan. On motion of Harvey Davis seconded by Albert Evans and Dick Schendel the Executive Director was authorized to enter into a contract with the Water Commission to perform the work discussed. Motion carried.

Beade Northcut reported on the Erath County Groundwater Study. He said 60 interviews had been completed and water samples taken from 50 wells. Preliminary reports from the lab indicated that no samples from Erath County had pesticides in them and only five wells had high nitrates reported.

Board travel was discussed and reservation forms passed out for the National Association of Conservation Districts' national meeting to be held in Atlanta, Georgia on February 3-6, 1991. All Board members plan to attend.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for January 16, 1991.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary

1-16-91
Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Board meeting held on November 14, 1990.

Date 1/16/99

Robert A. Buckley
Executive Director