

Meeting Minutes
TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
January 16, 2008

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 16, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. in its Hearings Room at 311 North 5th Street, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

Jerry Nichols, Chairman
Reed Stewart, Vice Chairman
Aubrey Russell, Member
José Dodier, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Board Member absent was:

Larry Jacobs, Member

Staff members present were:

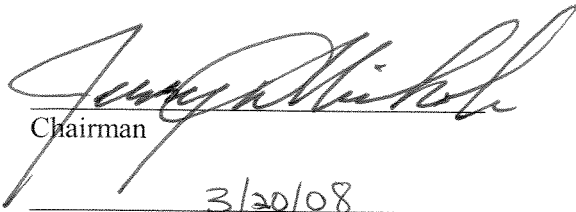
Rex Isom, Executive Director
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Andy Kuklish, Natural Resource Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Joe Freeman, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
John Foster, NPS Team Leader
T. J. Helton, NPS Grant Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, NPS Watershed Coordinator
Mitchell Conine, NPS Project Manager
Richard Egg, Engineer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Others present were:

Russell Gregorszyk, Jensen & Gregorczyk CPA
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Denise Gentsch, BASF

A work session was conducted which covered all agenda items in detail. Questions were taken and answered.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.



Chairman

Date

3/20/08

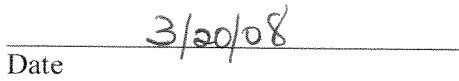


Secretary

Date

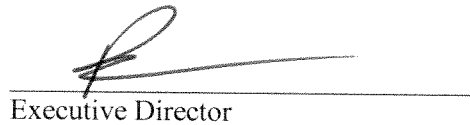
3/20/08

I 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 16, 2008.



Date

3/20/08



Executive Director

Meeting Minutes
TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
January 17, 2008

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 17, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. in its Hearings Room at 311 North 5th Street, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

Jerry Nichols, Chairman
Reed Stewart, Vice Chairman
Aubrey Russell, Member
José Dodier, Member
Barry Mahler, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Board Member absent was:

Larry Jacobs, Member

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Andy Kuklish, Natural Resource Specialist
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
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Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
John Foster, NPS Team Leader
Lee Munz, NPS SWCD Liaison
T. J. Helton, NPS Grant Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, NPS Watershed Coordinator
Pam Casebolt, NPS Project Manager
Donna Long, NPS Project Manager
Meredith McArthur, Information Specialist
Richard Egg, Engineer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Dawn Heitman, HR Coordinator
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Others present were:

Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Daren Harmel, USDA - ARS
Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General

Chairman Nichols called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. and welcomed those present.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments presented at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities

Daren Harmel, USDA-ARS discussed his agency's budget.

Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality reported on TCEQ contract with Dr. Rainwater to look into the Brush Program. He stated they will be working closely with State Board personnel on this issue.

Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service reported on: Farm Bill has not passed, EQIP extension with Texas receiving \$64 million which they are trying to obligate before the Farm Bill is passed, GSW, their work with the Corp of Engineers, WRDA Bill and its possible involvement with the State Board in the Bosque River Basin, and O&M on dams.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Comments from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Tamara Daniel reported on: Steve Robinson is acting director of NACD, national meeting in Reno in February, Texas receiving top 10 quota award, email survey and the Farm Bill.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Minutes from the November 28-29, 2007 Board Meeting

Chairman Nichols called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 28-29, 2007 Board Meeting as emailed. Mr. Dodier moved that the minutes be accepted as emailed. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5: District Director Appointments

Ms. Davis presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications with the exception of Mr. Goebel and Mr. Beavers being fax copies. Mr. Dodier moved the following appointments be approved contingent upon original paperwork being received in the Temple office. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Arlen Goebel, DeWitt County #339, Zone 5, Replace Jack Garrett **(FAX)**
Ricky Baird, Red River County #423, Zone 3, Replace E. H. Hausler
James Reynolds, Smith County #426, Zone 3, Replace Emily Waddleton
Robert H. Beavers, Coastal #432, Zone 3, Replace Grady P. Clubb **(FAX)**
Jim Blalock, Denton County #547, Zone 1, Replace Robert Henzler
Bill Fennell, Wise #548, Zone 2, Replace Dan B. Maeyers

AGENDA ITEM 6: Subdivision Boundary Changes for Roberts County Soil and Water Conservation District #145

Mr. Gruner reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the subdivision changes be approved as presented. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Subdivision Boundary Changes for Freestone Soil and Water Conservation District #424

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the subdivision changes be approved as presented. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Subdivision Boundary Changes for Coastal Soil and Water Conservation District #432

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the subdivision changes be approved as presented. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Subdivision Legal Description Changes for Lower Clear Fork of the Brazos Soil and Water Conservation Districts #551

Mr. Upchurch reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the subdivision legal description changes be approved as presented. Mr. Ward seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Deliberation and Possible Action on Strategic Planning and the Legislative Budget Request for the 2010-11 Biennium

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Deliberation and Possible Action on Internal Audit of Purchasing, Property and Fleet Management Functions

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Russell moved the Board approve the Internal Audit of Purchasing, Property and Fleet Management Functions as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Review and Approval of Requests for Waiver as Per 31 TAC §523.6 (E)(2)(B),(E)

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the waivers be granted to Hutchinson, Southmost, Cross Timbers, Wharton County and Sulphur-Cypress Districts as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Deliberation and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Allocations for Districts in the Mt. Pleasant Region

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the Board approve supplemental allocations to the Nacogdoches, Upshur-Gregg and Wood districts in the amount of \$50,000 as presented. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Re-adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 517, Cost-Share Assistance for Brush Control §§517.22-517.37

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Stewart moved the Board re-adopt the rule as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Re-adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 527, Removal of a District Director §§527.1 - 527.7

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the Board re-adopt the rule as presented. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 16: State Board Member Elections

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Review State Board Fraud Policy

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the Board reaffirm the current Fraud Policy as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Semi-Annual Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Review and Consider Future State Meeting Sites

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. The Board instructed Mr. Davis to check into availability and cost of the Hyatt Resort in Bastrop and the Hill Country Marriott.

AGENDA ITEM 20: NACD Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information and announced that Bea White will be retiring from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts as of February 29, 2008.

AGENDA ITEM 21: NASCA Report

Mr. Davis stated State Board employees were working with NASCA on the South Central Meeting to be held in March.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Consider Adoption of State Brush Plan

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Stewart moved the Board adopt the State Brush Control Plan as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Interim Committee Studies

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Coastal Coordination Council Report

Mr. Egg reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Clean Water Act (CWA) §319(h) NPS Grant Program Report.

Mr. Helton reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) Program Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Deliberation and Possible Action Regarding Revision to TSSWCB Policy for Nonpoint Source Agricultural and Silvicultural Water Quality Complaints

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the Board approve the revised complaint process contingent upon review and approval by the Office of the Attorney General. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Poultry Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Program Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Water Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Deliberation and Possible Action Regarding Allocation of Fiscal Year 2008 General Revenue Water Enhancement Funds

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Russell moved the Board approve the allocations as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Human Resources Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

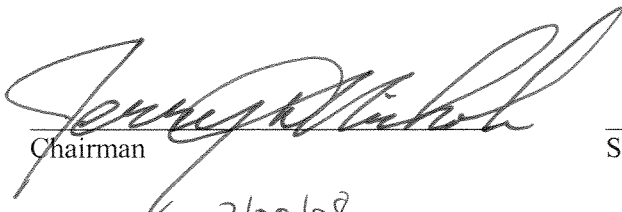
AGENDA ITEM 33: Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

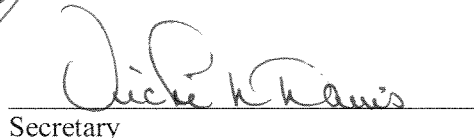
AGENDA ITEM 34: Set a Date for the Next State Board Meeting

Board set the next Board meeting date as March 19-20, 2008.

Chairman Nichols called the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.


Chairman

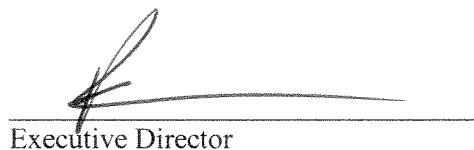
Date 3/20/08


Secretary

Date 3/20/08

I 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 16-17, 2008.

Date 3/20/08


Executive Director