

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**October 2, 2003**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on October 2, 2003, at 8:00 a.m. in its Hearings Room at 311 North Fifth Street, Temple, Texas.

Board members present were:

Edward G. Albrecht, Member  
Guillermo (Memo) Benavides, Member  
Jerry Nichols, Member  
W. T. (Dub) Crumley, Chairman

Board members absent:

Aubrey Russell, Vice-Chairman

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Interim Executive Director  
Mark Cochran, Program Specialist  
Dawn Heitman, Program Specialist  
Richard Egg, Engineer  
John Foster, Natural Resources Specialist  
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer  
Johnny Oswald, Program Specialist  
Tim Sims, Program Specialist  
Kevin Wagner, NPS Team Leader  
Jay Bragg, 319 Grant Coordinator  
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist  
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist  
Joe Freeman, Program Specialist  
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist  
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist  
David Powell, Program Specialist  
Joel Clark, Program Specialist  
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist  
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist  
Carter Miska, Program Administrator  
Andy Garza, Program Administrator  
Judy Albus, Program Administrator  
Steve Jones, Program Administrator  
John O'Connor, Program Administrator  
Mel Davis, State Meeting Coordinator  
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Others present were:

Norman Bade, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Kraig Gallimore, Texas Water Development Board  
Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General  
Blake Traudt, General Land Office  
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas SWCDs

Chairman Crumley called the meeting to order at 8:05, welcomed those present and asked any visitors to sign in. He then welcomed Jerry Nichols as the new board member from Area IV and asked Bob Gruner for a report on Aubrey Russell.

**AGENDA ITEM 1.** Minutes from the August 21, 2003 Board Meeting

Mr. Crumley called for a motion to approve minutes of the August 21, 2003 Board Meeting as mailed.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Benavides seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 2.** District Director Appointments

Ms. Davis presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they met all qualifications and were in order with the exception of a resignation letter for Mr. Merrit.

Mr. Benavides moved the appointments be approved contingent upon all paperwork being received. Mr. Nichols seconded and the following appointments were unanimously approved:

Monty Merrit, Cochran #149, Zone 1, Replace Doug Zuber  
David Schubert, Kleberg-Kenedy #356, Zone 2, Replace Edward A. Schubert

**AGENDA ITEM 3.** Reports from Agencies and Guests

Norm Bade, Natural Resource Conservation Service discussed: NRCS operating on a continuing resolution due to the fact that their budget has not been approved, end of fiscal year report on programs and funds spent, Technical Service Providers, Cropland Reserve Program.

Kraig Gallimore, Texas Water Development Board discussed the Water Conservation Task Force and distributed a list of stakeholder meetings for Senate Bill 1053.

Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality discussed: Chairmanship of their board, CAFO rules, TMDL's.

Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas SWCDs discussed the Association newsletter.

**AGENDA ITEM 4. Coastal Coordination Council Report**

Mr. Benavides introduced Mr. Blake Traudt, Coastal NPS Grants Coordinator, who made a presentation on the Coastal Coordination Council and its activities. Mr. Benavides then deferred to Mr. Egg who reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 5. Brush Control Program Status Report**

Mr. Oswald deferred to Mr. Sims who reviewed the agenda information, commended Karen Preece for her work in closing out the fiscal year and took questions from the board.

**AGENDA ITEM 6. Mountain Creek Brush Project**

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board with input from Mr. Bade.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the Board approve extending the funding criteria date to include applications received through August 31, 2003 for the Mountain Creek Project, but to not add any additional priority areas to the project. Mr. Nichols seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 7. Brush Control Program Monitoring Proposal**

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board with input from Mr. Isom.

Mr. Albrecht moved the board approve allocating \$60,364.00 of FY 04 funds to UCRA for monitoring in the Texas Brush Control Program. Mr. Benavides seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 8. Funding Criteria and Allocation of Brush Control Funds**

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the Board.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the two motions listed for agenda item 8 be combined, Mr. Benavides seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Albrecht moved that the board reallocate \$236,897.00 from Mountain Creek and \$123.00 from Pecan Creek Projects to the Pedernales Project in the amount of \$237,020.00 and remainder of FY 04 to the Ballinger Lake Project in the amount of \$61,636.00. Also that the board approve extending the funding criteria date to August 31, 2003 for the North Concho, Twin Buttes, Pedernales, Lake Champion, Ballinger Lake, Oak Creek, Pecan Creek and Spring/Dove Projects. Mr. Benavides seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Albrecht questioned work being done on public lands and asked Mr. Bade for a map on acres treated with EQIP funds.

**AGENDA ITEM 9. Human Resources Report**

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information and stated that she would provide the board with copies of executive director applications received since their last update.

**AGENDA ITEM 10. Public Information/Education Report**

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information and discussed upcoming bookkeeper and district director workshops. Chairman Crumley suggested that these could be held as two day, back to back workshops.

**AGENDA ITEM 11. Separation Policy**

Mr. Isom reported that Ms. Heitman was researching the separation policy of other state agencies with input from Mr. Noelke. A rough draft will be presented at the next scheduled board meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 12. New TSSWCB Logo**

Mr. Foster presented a newly designed logo for the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board. He requested it be approved as the agency's official logo.

After discussion, Mr. Benavides moved that the board accept the presented logo as the official logo for the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board. Mr. Nichols seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 13. State Meeting Report**

Mr. Davis discussed: pre-registration numbers, program, presentations by GLO and EPA, changes to program as presented. Mr. Benavides suggested that special recognition be given to Harry Holland for 55 years of service on his local board.

**AGENDA ITEM 14. Clean Water Act 319(h) Status Report**

Mr. Bragg reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the board.

**AGENDA ITEM 15. North Bosque River Watershed Status Report**

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 16. TMDL Program Status Report**

Mr. Wagner reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the board.

**AGENDA ITEM 17. Fiscal Report**

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the board.

**AGENDA ITEM 18. Board Member Travel Form and Reporting Guidelines**

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 19. Texas Water Development Board Grant Application**

Mr. Isom stated that this agenda item did not need to be covered.

**AGENDA ITEM 20. Senate Bill 1339 Status Report**

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the board.

**AGENDA ITEM 21. Senate Bill 503 Program Status Report**

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information and took questions from the board. He then presented a letter from the Upper Leon SWCD #525 which explained why a FY 01 payment was not made to a producer and requested the board approve its payment from FY 04 statewide funds.

After discussion Mr. Nichols moved that the board authorize payment to Mr. Tom D. Crowder in the amount of \$1,499.03 from FY 04 statewide funds. Mr. Benavides seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 22. Burleson-Lee SWCD #313 Division**

Mr. Benavides reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Benavides moved that the board approve the division of Burleson-Lee SWCD #313 as practicable and feasible. Mr. Albrecht seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Benavides moved that the board approve the new district boundary maps and descriptions. Mr. Albrecht seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Benavides moved that the board approve the new district subdivision boundary maps and description. Mr. Albrecht seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Benavides moved that the board approve the appointment of the following directors to each new district: Burleson – Joel Cowan, Zone 2 and Johnnie Stefka, Zone 4  
Lee – Jon Walther, Zone 2 and Doug Symanak, Zone 4

Mr. Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 23. Executive Director Salary**

Chairman Crumley announced that the Board would go into executive session concerning this agenda item. The Board reconvened with no action being taken.

**AGENDA ITEM 24. Set Date of Next Board Meeting**

Mr. Albrecht moved that the date of the next Board meeting be set as November 20, 2003 at 8:00 a.m., Mr. Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Crumley called for a motion to declare the meeting adjourned. Mr. Albrecht so moved, Mr. Nichols seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was declared adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

W. J. "Dub" Crumley  
Chairman

Dicki Davis  
Secretary

11/20/03  
Date

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 October 2, 2003.

11/20/03  
Date

[Signature]  
Executive Director