

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**May 12, 2010**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on May 12, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at 303 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas.

Board Members present were:

José Dodier, Chairman  
Barry Mahler, Vice-Chairman  
Aubrey Russell, Member  
Marty Graham, Member  
Jerry Nichols, Member  
Larry Jacobs, Member  
Joe Ward, Member

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Executive Director  
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator  
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor  
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor  
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor  
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor  
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor  
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor  
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer  
John Foster, Programs Officer  
Lee Munz, Flood Control Programs Coordinator  
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator  
Richard Egg, Statewide Programs Engineer  
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist  
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist  
Meredith Whitley, Information Specialist  
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present were:

Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Bill Thomas, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Volney Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Ben Bono, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 May 12, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**May 13, 2010**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on May 13, 2010, at 8:00 a.m. at 1100 N Congress, Austin, Texas.

Board Members present were:

José Dodier, Chairman  
Barry Mahler, Vice-Chairman  
Aubrey Russell, Member  
Marty Graham, Member  
Jerry Nichols, Member  
Larry Jacobs, Member  
Joe Ward, Member

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Executive Director  
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator  
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor  
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor  
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor  
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor  
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor  
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist  
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor  
Jack Foote, Program Specialist  
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist  
Joe Freeman, Program Specialist  
Ben Wilde, 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, Programs Officer  
Aaron Wendt, Statewide Watershed Planning Coordinator  
Lee Munz, Flood Control Programs Coordinator  
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist  
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist  
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator  
Meredith Whitley, Program Specialist  
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present were:

Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board  
Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General

Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Bill Thomas, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Volney Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Ben Bono, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Pat Hudson, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Sarah Kinkle, Texas Sunset Advisory Commission  
Scott McWilliams, Upper Colorado River Authority  
Jim Davenport, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Phillip Wright, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Mickey Black, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Alfonso Leal – Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Allison Scott – Representative Swinford  
Jonathon Stinson – Senator Huffman  
Susan Nold– Senator Watson  
Kyle Kamrath – Senator Huffman  
Patsy Clapper – Representative Frost  
Debi Sheeran – Representative Vo

Chairman Dodier called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and welcomed those present.

**AGENDA ITEM 1:** Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Comer Tuck, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board, commented on the 2011 Regional Water Plans, High Plains Water Enhancement Program, and Sunset Review.

Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board, commented on the Texas Service Water Quality Standards, Integrated Public Report, MOU, and Sunset Review.

Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service, addressed the Board, reviewed the NRCS Activity Report and commented on the NRCS's upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

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

Jule Richmond addressed Board, commented on the NACD Meeting in Orlando, Florida, the Farm Bill in Washington, D.C., Sunset Review, and a 5 year Strategic Plan.

**AGENDA ITEM 4:** Minutes from the March 17-18, 2010 Board Meeting

Chairman Dodier called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 17-18, 2010 Board Meeting. Mr. Mahler moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 5:** District Director Appointments

Ms. Preece presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications with the following exceptions: Mr. Anderson's Personal Data Sheet is missing, and Ms. McNeely's original Approval Request is missing. Mr. Graham moved the following appointments be approved contingent upon all original paperwork being received in the Temple office. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dave Anderson, Canadian River #160, Zone 3, Replace Andrew Bivins (**Missing Appointee Personal Data Sheet**)

David A Long, Bandera #229, Zone 4, Replace Vernon Porter

Charles T Reagan, Goliad County #352, Zone 1, Replace Michael J Reagan

Cynthia G McNeely, Marion-Cass #433, Zone 4, Replace Johnny R McNeely (**Missing original Approval Request**)

Wade Ross, Brazos County #450, Zone 4, Replace Freddie Wolters

**AGENDA ITEM 6:** State Board Member Elections

Agenda item covered under Agenda Item 20.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:** Sunset Advisory Committee Status Review

Mr. Dodier clarified the date of the final hearing to be held on May 26, 2010 with the time to be announced.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:** Biennial Budget Process

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 9:** Consider Approval of Supplemental Requests for S.B. 503 Cost Share Assistance

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the requests as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 10:** Consider Approval of Waivers as per 31 TAC §523.6(E)(2)(B),(E)

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of waivers as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 11:** Poultry Water Quality Management Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information. Discussion ensued about litter storage and cost share assistance. Mr. Mahler complimented Poultry Staff on publications.

**AGENDA ITEM 12:** Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:** Consider Statewide Water Quality Management Plan Cost Share Requests

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the request as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:** Consider Adoption of Standardized Rates for In-Kind Contributions of Match Funding Related to Flood Control Operation and Maintenance Activity Reimbursement Requests

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the standardized rates as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 15:** Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 16:** Water Supply Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Oswald introduced Mr. Phillip Wright, Natural Resources Conservation Service, who presented a power-point presentation on Effects of Selective Brush Management on Water Quantity and Quality in the Honey Creek State Natural Area, Comal County, Texas. Mr. Oswald then introduced Mr. Scott McWilliams, Upper Colorado River Authority, who presented a power-point presentation on Aerial Spraying at Mesquite Paired Watershed Site.

**AGENDA ITEM 17:** Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Report

Mr. Davis stated that there is nothing to report at this time..

**AGENDA ITEM 18:** Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 19:** Revision of Cooperative Working Agreement between the USDA-NRCS, the TSSWCB and Individual SWCD's

Mr. Davis requested to skip this agenda item and present at July Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 20:** Texas Conservation Awards Program

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jerry Nichols and Mr. Marty Graham were both reelected to another 2 year term.

**AGENDA ITEM 21:** Review Plans for 2010 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Guest Speaker to be determined at July Board Meeting. Mr. Davis to verify prices. Mr. Davis to mail invitation to Senator Ellis. Headquarter hotel will be the Overton Hotel.

**AGENDA ITEM 22:** Consider Future State Meeting Sites

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Davis to verify dates. Mr. Graham moved to accept the Hyatt Regency Hill Country in San Antonio as the 2011 Annual State Meeting site with Mr. Davis to negotiate the proposed meal minimum of \$37,000. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahler requested to table the 2012 Annual State Meeting until the July Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 23:** National Association of Conservation Districts Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 24:** National Association of State Conservation Agencies Report

Mr. Davis stated there is nothing to report at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM 25:** Consider Re-Adoption, Revision or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 517, Subchapter A, Conservation Assistance (§§517.1-517.12)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved to publish the scheduled rule and proposed amendments in the *Texas Register* as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 26:** Consider Re-Adoption, Revision or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 519, Subchapter A, Technical Assistance (§§519.1-519-12)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved to publish the scheduled rule and proposed amendments in the *Texas Register* as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 27:** Consider Re-Adoption, Revision or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 521, Subchapter A, Agricultural Water Conservation (§§521.1-521.13)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved to publish the scheduled rule and proposed amendments in the *Texas Register* as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 28:** Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 29:** Human Resources Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 30:** Set a Date for the Next State Board Meeting

July 21-22, 2010 in Temple, Texas

Mr. Mahler moved the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Date

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Executive Director