

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Work Session Minutes
July 19, 2017

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on July 19, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. at 1497 Country View Lane, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

José Dodier, Jr., Chairman
Barry Mahler, Vice Chairman
Scott Buckles, Member
Marty H. Graham, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Tina Y. Buford, Member
Carl Ray Polk, Jr., Member

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Beverly Krause, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Dave Morris, GIS Specialist
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Molly Dutton, Information Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
Chris Moore, Intern
Karen Preece, Accountant

General Counsel:

Assistant Attorney General Veena Mohan, Office of the Attorney General

Others Present:

Chad Gagliardi, Pedernales SWCD
Cody York, Pecan Bayou SWCD
Jule Richmond, Pecan Bayou SWCD
Phillip Wright, Pecan Bayou SWCD
Honorable Danny Dunn, City of Temple Mayor

AGENDA ITEM 1: Swearing in of Gubernatorial Appointed State Board Members

Chairman Dodier called the meeting to order, and recognized our two new Governor State Board Member Appointees: Tina Y. Buford and Carl Ray Polk, Jr.. Chairman Dodier stated that with their appointments, they must be administered the Statement of Officer and Oath of Office prior to participating on the Board. Chairman Dodier introduced the Mayor of Temple, the Honorable Danny Dunn, to administer these oaths to our new Board Members. The Honorable Danny Dunn administered both the Statement of Officer and the Oath of Office for both new governor appointees.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Dodier previously called the meeting to order. Chairman Dodier stated that there was a full Board present.

Chairman Dodier introduced guests.

Chairman Dodier handed the meeting over to Mr. Isom to conduct the Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Comments from the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Approval of Minutes from May 17-18, 2017 State Board Meeting

Ms. Preece reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Approval of Soil and Water Conservation District Director Appointments

Ms. Preece reviewed the handout.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2018

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Conservation Implementation Assistance (Technical Assistance) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Conservation Assistance (Matching Funds) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider District Director Mileage and Per Diem Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider Approved Budget for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the handout. Mr. Zajicek stated that the lapse of funds due to hiring freeze is to be returned to the state.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster stated that the Legislature is currently in Special Session.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz and Mr. Bednarz reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Bednarz stated that cost estimates are much lower than expected.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Consider Approval of Flood Control Dam Rehabilitation Projects for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Bednarz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Consider Fiscal Year 2018 Allocations for Flood Control Program Funding

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Water Quality Management Plan Program Cost-Share Incentive Priorities, Allocations, and Application Ranking Procedures

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Consider Approval of the Water Quality Management Plan Program Approved Practice List

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider Approval of Requests for Additional Cost-Share Incentive Funding for Water Quality Management Plans in Accordance with 31TAC §523.6(f)(2) Relating to Criteria for Waivers

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Consider Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Consider Adoption of Proposed Amendments of 31 TAC, Chapter 523, §523.6(f)(2), Agricultural and Silvicultural Water Quality Management

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Poultry Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Consider Reallocation and Allocation of Fiscal Year 2017 Funds for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Conservation Plans to Restore Health of the Gulf Coast

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie Chicken

Mr. Gibson reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Consider Approval of Request by Trans-Pecos SWCD #231 for Subdivision Changes

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Consider Approval of Request by Davy Crockett-Trinity SWCD #404 for Subdivision Changes

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Website Update Status Report

Ms. Dutton reviewed the agenda information. Ms. Dutton showed a clip presentation of the new website.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Review Plans for 2017 Annual State Meeting

Ms. Dutton reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 35: Approve Texas Conservation Awards Program Packet for the Coming Year

Ms. Dutton reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 40: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 36: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 37: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 38: Public Information and Education Status Report

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 39: Public Relations and Information Status Report

There were no comments at this time.

Mr. Isom handed the meeting over to Chairman Dodier.

AGENDA ITEM 41: Deliberation and Possible Vote Regarding Salary, Employment and Evaluation of Executive Director


Chairman Dodier called for a Closed Session for discussion on the agenda information at 4:08 p.m. until 4:13 p.m.. Chairman Dodier reopened Session at 4:14 p.m..

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the Executive Director's salary as approved by the Legislative Budget Board. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 42: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

There were no comments at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



José Dodier, Jr. Chairman

August 29, 2017

Date



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

August 29, 2017

Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on July 19, 2017.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

August 29, 2017

Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2017

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on July 20, 2017, at 8:00 a.m. at 1497 Country View Lane, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

José Dodier, Jr., Chairman
Barry Mahler, Vice Chairman
Scott Buckles, Member
Marty H. Graham, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Tina Y. Buford, Member
Carl Ray Polk, Jr., Member

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Beverly Krause, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Tony Franklin, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Dave Morris, GIS Specialist
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Molly Dutton, Information Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist

Chris Moore, Intern
Karen Preece, Accountant

General Counsel:

Assistant Attorney General Veena Mohan, Office of the Attorney General

Others present:

Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kerry Niemann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Kelly Holligan, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Matthew Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Blair Fitzsimons, Texas Agricultural Land Trust
Lucas Gregory, Texas Water Resources Institute
Chad Gagliardi, Pedernales SWCD
Cody York, Pecan Bayou SWCD
Jule Richmond, Pecan Bayou SWCD
Phillip Wright, Pecan Bayou SWCD
Joe Bach, Pecan Bayou

AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Dodier called the meeting to order, and stated that there was a full Board present.

Chairman Dodier acknowledged guests.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities

Mr. Niemann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Niemann provided updates on TCEQs implementation status, the Nonpoint Source Program, and Water Quality Standards.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Texas Agricultural Land Trust Presentation

Ms. Fitzsimons addressed the Board, and gave a powerpoint presentation.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities

Mr. Gregory, Texas Water Resources Institute, addressed the Board. Mr. Gregory thanked the Board for support of the Texas Water Resources Institute, and stated that he would be replacing Dr. Kevin Wagner as he is moving to take a position in Oklahoma.

Mr. Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Salinas reviewed the handout. Mr. Salinas provided updates on funding, land easements, Technical Assistance Program, hiring freeze and vacancies, and the possibility of office closures. Mr. Salinas stated that he had received a memo that District Conservationists can no longer attend SWCD meetings outside of normal business hours. Mr. Salinas also commented on additional funding for the Fever Tick, but no applications.

Chairman Dodier introduced our two new Governor State Board Member Appointees: Tina Y. Buford and Carl Ray Polk, Jr..

AGENDA ITEM 4: Comments from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Ms. Daniels, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Ms. Daniels stated that there has been a lawsuit filed by one of the District Conservationists to not attend SWCD meetings outside of normal business hours, and that there is some reorganization of customer service between FSA and NRCS. Ms. Daniels stated that Texas will be hosting the 2019 National Association Conservation District National Meeting in San Antonio. Ms. Daniels also commented that the Resolution process has been started, and that there are Miracle-Gro fertilizer packets that have been donated for the State Meeting.

Mr. Richmond stated that there is a National Association Conservation District South Central Regional Meeting August 2-4 in Louisiana.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Approval of Minutes from May 17-18, 2017 State Board Meeting

Ms. Preece previously emailed a copy of the minutes to Board Members for their review.

Chairman Dodier called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 17-18, 2017 Board Meetings. Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Approval of Soil and Water Conservation District Director Appointments

Ms. Preece presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications.

Mr. Graham moved for the approval of the following appointments as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Garrett Clark, Parmer County #140, Subdivision 1, Replace Danny Allen
Whitney Whitworth, Kendall #216, Subdivision 2, Replace Sue Whitworth
Paula Russ, Kerr County #217, Subdivision 3, Replace Charles Flach
Julie Martin, Edwards Plateau #222, Subdivision 3, Replace Susan Bloodworth
Danny M. Dugosh, Bandera #229, Subdivision 1, Replace Travis Langford
Robert Kosub, Wilson County #301, Subdivision 2, Replace Vernon Ramzinski
Jackie Nolte, Comal-Guadalupe #306, Subdivision 3, Replace Larry Damerau
Charles "Chuck" Spellman, Davy Crockett-Trinity #404, Subdivision 5, Replace John H. LaRue

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Conservation Implementation Assistance (Technical Assistance) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Conservation Assistance (Matching Funds) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Polk, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider District Director Mileage and Per Diem Allocations for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Polk, Jr. moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider Approved Budget for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the budget as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Foster stated that the Legislature is in Special Session, and that there are no items that should affect TSSWCB. Mr. Foster also stated that Senate Bill 14 concerns the cutting of live oak trees, and that we are following that bill.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz and Mr. Bednarz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 15: Consider Approval of Flood Control Dam Rehabilitation Projects for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Bednarz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Buckles moved for the approval of the projects as presented. Ms. Buford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Consider Fiscal Year 2018 Allocations for Flood Control Program Funding

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Water Quality Management Plan Program Cost-Share Incentive Priorities, Allocations, and Application Ranking Procedures

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the recommendations as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Consider Approval of the Water Quality Management Plan Program Approved Practice List

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Polk, Jr. moved for the approval of the list as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider Approval of Requests for Additional Cost-Share Incentive Funding for Water Quality Management Plans in Accordance with 31TAC §523.6(f)(2) Relating to Criteria for Waivers

Mr. Munz stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Consider Water Quality Management Plan Cost-Share Requests from the Allocation for Statewide Use

Mr. Munz stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 22: Consider Adoption of Proposed Amendments of 31 TAC, Chapter 523, §523.6(f)(2), Agricultural and Silvicultural Water Quality Management

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Buckles moved for the approval of the amendments as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Poultry Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Consider Reallocation and Allocation of Fiscal Year 2017 Funds for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Oswald stated that there is no information to present at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information. Discussion ensued about timelines, costs, funding, and sources of spraying of chemicals or hand clearing.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Conservation Plans to Restore Health of the Gulf Coast

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie Chicken

Mr. Gibson reviewed the agenda information. A discussion ensued about wildfires.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Consider Approval of Request by Trans-Pecos SWCD #231 for Subdivision Changes

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Polk, Jr. moved for the approval of the changes as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Consider Approval of Request by Davy Crockett-Trinity SWCD #404 for Subdivision Changes

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the changes as presented. Mr. Polk, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Review Plans for 2017 Annual State Meeting

Ms. Dutton reviewed the agenda information. Ms. Dutton requested a committee to be named for making decisions. This committee has been customarily the TSSWCB Board Chairman, ATSWCD Board President, the TSSWCB Board Member from the hosting area, and the TSSWCB Executive Director, with the Board Chairman and the Executive Director being able to make minor decisions. This committee would consist of Chairman Dodier (also the Board Member from the hosting area), Mr. Volney Hough, and Mr. Rex Isom.

Ms. Buford moved for the approval of the committee as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Approve Texas Conservation Awards Program Packet for the Coming Year

Ms. Dutton reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the packet as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 35: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 36: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 37: Public Information and Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 38: Public Relations and Information Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 39: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

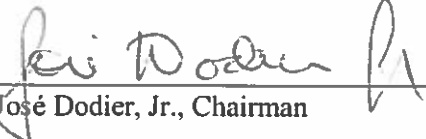
AGENDA ITEM 40: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

Mr. Buckles moved to change from the usual September meeting to August meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Nichols. The motion passed unanimously.

August 28-29, 2017

Chairman Dodier thanked the new Board Members for joining our Board of Directors.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.



José Dodier, Jr., Chairman

August 29, 2017

Date



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

August 29, 2017

Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on July 20, 2017.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

August 29, 2017

Date