

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2012

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on July 25, 2012, at 2:45 p.m. at 4311 South 31st Street, Suite 125, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

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

Staff members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Steve Jones, Regional Office Coordinator
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
Richard Egg, Statewide Programs Engineer
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Loren Warrick, Public Affairs Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Coordinator
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Pat Hudson, 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 4:08 p.m.



Chairman

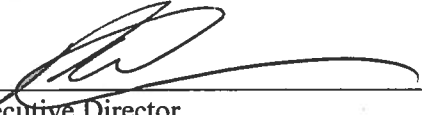


Secretary

September 20, 2012
Date

September 20, 2012
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 25, 2012.



Executive Director

September 20, 2012

Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2012

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on July 26, 2012, at 8:00 a.m. at 5247 S. General Bruce Drive, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

Barry Mahler, Chairman
Marty H. Graham, Vice-Chairman
Scott Buckles, Member
José Dodier, Member
Jerry Nichols, Member
Larry Jacobs, Member
Joe Ward, Member

Staff members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Steve Jones, Regional Office Coordinator
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Luis Pena, Program Supervisor
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist
Jack Foote, Program Specialist
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor
Melissa Grote, Program Specialist
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
Pam Casebolt, Nonpoint Source Grants Coordinator
Mitchell Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Ashley Alexander, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Jana Lloyd, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
David Reeves, Database Administrator
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer
Richard Egg, Statewide Programs Engineer
Ben Bowers, Flood Control Specialist
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Loren Warrick, Public Affairs Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Coordinator
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Pat Hudson, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
William Thomas, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Volney Hough, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Kelly Holligan, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Tomas Dominguez, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Jim Clarno, Texas Association Watershed Sponsors
Allen Berthold, Texas Water Resources Institute
Jennifer Mandel Buratti, River Systems Institute–Texas State Institute
Dr. Richard Haney, USDA-Agriculture Research Service Center
Dr. Ken Rainwater, Texas Tech University Water Resource Center

Chairman Mahler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and welcomed those present.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Mr. Allen Berthold, Texas Water Resources Institute, addressed the Board. Mr. Berthold commented on their staff, assignments, key watershed areas, Attoyac Bayou, feral hog program, working with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Stakeholder Meetings, manuals, and invasive species.

Mr. Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Mr. Turner commented on four new agriculture grants, and an August 21st webinar.

Ms. Jennifer Buratti, River Systems Institute – Texas State Institute, addressed the Board. Ms. Buratti commented on a meeting to be held on July 31, 2012, and reviewed the handout.

Ms. Monica Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Ms. Harris gave an update on Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). Ms. Harris commented on Copano Bay meetings, implementation plans, and the Nonpoint Source joint document that was signed by the Governor and submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Ms. Harris also commented that applications for 319 projects are due by July 31, 2012, water supply, and the retirement of Clyde Bohmfalk.

Mr. Tomas Dominguez, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Dominguez reviewed the handout. Mr. Dominguez commented on the use of Quickbooks on NRCS computers, State Innovation Grant, and EQIP funding of Technical Assistance.

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

Mr. Jule Richmond, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. Richmond commented on the forming of a committee at the 2011 State Meeting, and the attendance of the El Paso Association Meeting, their reverse osmosis tour, and the education portion of their water treatment plant that educates the youth. Mr. Richmond commented on the attendance of the District Director Training Workshop, the feedback of the committee meeting conference call, and the NACD Meeting. Mr. Richmond also commented on the Washington D.C. trip that included Joel Clark, TSSWCB Program Specialist. Mr. Richmond spoke about the Farm Bill, the tour of the Chesapeake Bay project, the briefing on the White House grounds, and the district's use of Quickbooks.

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

Dr. Richard Haney, USDA- Agriculture Research Service Center, addressed the Board. Dr. Haney commented on soil test, new technologies, new tests, new methods, and the research tool on their website.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Texas Poultry Federation

Mr. James Grimm, Texas Poultry Federation, addressed the Board. Mr. Grimm gave a presentation on the history of the poultry industry.

AGENDA ITEM 26: State District IV Report

TSSWCB employees gave a powerpoint presentation on State District Area IV. Mr. Steffey reviewed the dairy cattle operation, and Mr. Cochran reviewed the poultry operation. Mr. Watson commented on district information, the feral hog program, watershed protection plan, wildfires, and the flood control projects for his districts. Mr. Clark commented on Washington D.C. trip, district information, flood control projects, and State Capitol contacts.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Sunset Legislation Implementation Status

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Water Supply Enhancement Program Presentation

Dr. Ken Rainwater, Texas Tech University Water Resource Center, gave a powerpoint presentation to the Board. Dr. Rainwater commented on brush removal and the criteria involved in water yield.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Minutes from the May 23-24, 2012 Board Meetings

Chairman Mahler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 23-24, 2012 Board Meetings. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Graham 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 exception of Mr. Griffith's being fax copies. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the following appointments contingent upon all original paperwork being received in the Temple office. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lloyd Arthur, Rio Blanco #107, Zone 2, Replace Gene Chappell
Gene Chappell, Rio Blanco #107, Zone 3, Replace Robin Robertson
Jake Timmons, Cochran #149, Zone 5, Replace Edward Dewbre
Dan Dibrell, Andrew Kent #170, Zone 1, Replace George Alderman
George Alderman, Andrew Kent #170, Zone 2, Replace Jim Roby
Debbie Ferguson, Concho #201, Zone 4, Replace C. Wade Clifton
Michael Grisham, Matagorda County #316, Zone 4, Replace James Grisham
Robert E. McPherson, Calhoun #345, Zone 5, Replace James A. Abraham
Charles V. Brown, III, LaSalle County #354, Zone 3, Replace Chris Hinojosa, III
Tammy Moss, Lamar #415, Zone 3, Replace William R. Justiss
John K. Griffith, Cherokee County #427, Zone 3, Replace Morris Dixon (fax copies)
Mike Parrish, Piney Woods #429, Zone 4, Replace Gloria Christell Wall
Julie David, Shelby #449, Zone 2, Replace S. W. Carter
Keith Brooks, Mills County #554, Zone 5, Replace Wayne Wilcox

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of the budget as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Conservation Implementation Assistance (TA) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Buckles moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Matching Fund Allocations for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Graham moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider District Director Mileage & Per Diem Allocations for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Baseline Request and Rider Revisions for the 2014-2015 Biennial Legislative Appropriation Request

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the request and revisions as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider Ten Percent Biennial Base Reduction Option Schedule

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of schedule as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider Exceptional Item Request for Flood Control Operation, Maintenance, and Structural Repair Program

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

AGENDA ITEM 13: Consider Exceptional Item Request for Fire Mitigation

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Graham moved that no request be made at this time. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Consider Exceptional Item Request for Conservation Implementation Assistance (TA) and Matching Funds

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

AGENDA ITEM 15: Consider Revising Conservation Implementation Assistance (TA) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2012

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 17: S. B. 503 Resolution Committee Report

Mr. Gruner reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Water Quality Management Plan Program Report

Mr. Jones reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Consider Approval of Requests for Waivers as per 31 TAC §523.6(E)(2)(A) thru (F)

Mr. Jones reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the requests for waivers as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Cost Share Allocations for Water Quality Management Program

Mr. Jones reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Consider Statewide Water Quality Management Plan Cost Share Requests

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

AGENDA ITEM 22: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Bowers reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 23: Consider Approval of Flood Control Dam Rehabilitation Projects for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Egg reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the projects as presented. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 24: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Report

Ms. Casebolt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Water Supply Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Consider Revision of Board Policy for Approving the Appointment of District Directors and Policy on Submission of Election Papers

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Ward moved for approval of the revision as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Approve 2013 Texas Conservation Awards Program

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Nichols moved for the approval of the program as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Consider Conservation Awards Program Survey

Mr. Davis stated that there is no consideration at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Consider Re-adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 5417, Subchapter B, Cost Share Assistance for Water Supply Enhancement (§§517.22-517.37)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the consideration as presented. Mr. Buckles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Consider 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 for the approval of the consideration as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Review TSSWCB Conservation Outreach Draft Guidelines

Ms. Warrick reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 35: Review Plans for 2012 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Davis commented that at present time there is only one tour scheduled which is the Bastrop State Park to tour the wildfire recovery, and will check on a second tour at a local winery. Mr. Davis commented on the possibility of creating another CEU course on Wednesday morning instead of a second tour.

AGENDA ITEM 36: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

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

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 38: National Association of Conservation Districts Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 39: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 40: District Director Elections in Colorado County SWCD #333 Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 41: June 2012 Customer Service Survey

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 42: July 2012 Semi-annual Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 43: Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 44: Human Resources Report

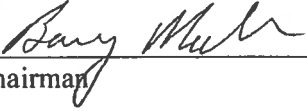
Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 45: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

September 19-20, 2012, to be held in Temple.

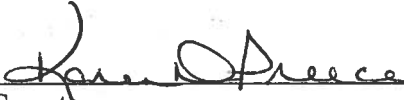
Chairman Mahler awarded Ms. Casebolt and Mr. Steffey with their 5 year service awards.

Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.



Chairman

September 20, 2012
Date



Secretary

September 20, 2012
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 26, 2012.



Executive Director

September 20, 2012
Date