

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2016

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on August 3, 2016, at 1:37 p.m. at 1497 Country View Lane, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

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

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, 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
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Ashley Wendt, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Information Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Jared Bowen, Flood Control Specialist
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist
April Sease, Natural Resources Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Russell Gregorczyk, CPA
Jim Clarno, Texas Association of Watershed Sponsors
Lori Hazel, Texas Forest Service

Chairman Buckles called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m. and welcomed those present.

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

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Approval of Internal Audit of Information Resources Systems and Controls

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Approval of Internal Audit of Human Resources Systems and Controls

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Approval of Internal Audit of Performance Measures Reporting

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Internal Audit Plan

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 14: Consider Legislative Appropriation Request for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 15: External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information, and spoke of tours with Representatives and meeting with Senator Perry's staff.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Consider Approval of Brush Control Feasibility Studies for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 30: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda handout.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Consider Subdivision Boundary Change Request of Eldorado-Divide Soil and Water Conservation District #247

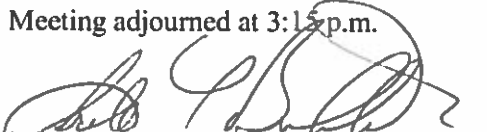
Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information, and will provide hard copies for Board Members at State Board Meeting on August 4th.

AGENDA ITEM 41: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda handout.

Mr. Isom went over schedule with staff for August 4th events.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.



Scott Buckles, Chairman



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

November 17, 2016
Date

November 17, 2016
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 August 3, 2016.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

November 17, 2016
Date

TEXAS STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Board Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2016

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on August 4, 2016, at 8:07 a.m. at 1497 Country View Lane, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present:

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

Staff Members present:

Rex Isom, Executive Director
Glenn Baker, Program Supervisor
Carl Steffey, Program Supervisor
Todd Oneth, Program Supervisor
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor
Ricardo Chapa, Program Supervisor
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor
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Kendria Ray, Program Specialist
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist
Joel Clark, Program Specialist
Trey Watson, Program Specialist
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist
John Foster, Statewide Programs Officer
T. J. Helton, Nonpoint Source Programs Coordinator
Mitch Conine, Nonpoint Source Project Management Coordinator
Ashley Wendt, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Wesley Gibson, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Liza Parker, Nonpoint Source Project Manager
Dave Morris, GIS Specialist
Steve Bednarz, Statewide Programs Engineer
Kenny Zajicek, Chief Fiscal Officer
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator
Aaron Wendt, Special Projects Advisor
Loren Warrick, Information Specialist
Molly Dutton, Information Specialist
Rusty Ray, Public Affairs Specialist
Lee Munz, Flood Control Program and Regional Office Coordinator
Tony Resendez, Flood Control Specialist
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist
Dawn Heitman, Human Resources Specialist

April Sease, Natural Resources Specialist
Karen Preece, Accountant

Others present:

Andrew Lutostanski, Office of the Attorney General
Rickey James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Salvador Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Kerry Neimann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Dr. Kevin Wagner, Texas Water Resources Institute
Dr. Lucas Gregory, Texas Water Resources Institute
Cameron Turner, Texas Water Development Board
Jim Clarno, Texas Association of Watershed Sponsors
Mickey Black
Todd Kercheval
J. Pete Laney
Jay Bragg, Texas Farm Bureau
Ryan Vise, Office of the Governor
Dr. Ryan Banta, United States Geological Survey
Dr. Doug Schnoebelen, United State Geological Survey
Chad Hajda, USDA Agricultural Research Service
Nancy Isom
Kenda McCaffey, District Employee

Chairman Buckles called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m., welcomed those present, and acknowledged guests.

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Dr. Wagner, Texas Water Resources Institute, addressed the Board and congratulated State Board on new office.

Mr. Salinas, Natural Resource Conservation Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Salinas reviewed the handout. Mr. Salinas commented on Environmental Quality Incentives Program funding, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program funding, Conservation Stewardship Program, NRCS travel cap, Civil Rights personnel visit, overall conservation funding, and Conservation Client Gateway.

Mr. Neimann, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, addressed the Board. Mr. Neimann commented on the Memorandum of Understanding between TSSWCB and TCEQ, the Total Maximum Daily Load Program, the Nonpoint Source Program, the 2016 Annual Report, the 2014 Integrated Report, Water Quality Standards, the Recreational Use Attainability Analyses, and the Clean Rivers Program. Mr. Neimann, on behalf of TCEQ, presented the State Board with a picture of all our joint publications for the new office.

Mr. Turner, Texas Water Development Board, addressed the Board. Mr. Turner congratulated the State Board on the new office. Mr. Turner commented on their Board approving a State Water Plan on May 19, that they have named Mr. Jeff Walker as their new Executive Administrator, and that there will be a Water for Texas Conference in January.

Mr. Schnoebelen, United States Geological Survey, addressed the Board. Mr. Schnoebelen stated that USGS is committed to the work of the TSSWCB, and congratulated the State Board on the new office.

Mr. Hajda, USDA Agricultural Research Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Hajda congratulated the State Board on the new office.

Dr. Banta, United States Geological Survey, addressed the Board. Dr. Banta congratulated the State Board on the new office.

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

Mr. James, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts, addressed the Board. Mr. James stated that Ms. Tamara Daniel and Mr. Jule Richmond were currently in a meeting in Minnesota. Mr. James commented on the upcoming Soil Health meeting, the upcoming South Central Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, the sponsorship program, and creating of websites for the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Texas Conservation Association for Water and Soil.

On a personal note, Mr. James thanked everyone for the cards, flowers, and prayers sent on behalf of his mother's passing.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Consider Approval of Minutes from Previous State Board Meetings

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

Chairman Buckles called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18-19, 2016 Board Meetings. Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Buckles introduced guests Mr. Andrew Lutostanski, J. Pete Laney, and Todd Kerchevel.

AGENDA ITEM 5: 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. Mahler moved for the approval of the following appointments as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ricky Smith, Lamb County #130, Subdivision 1, Replace Erik Spain
James Wischkaemper, Wheeler #141, Subdivision 3, Replace Paul T. Macina, Jr.
Cary Anthony, Upper Pecos #213, Subdivision 1, Replace Arnold Braden
Jack D. Thorn, Jr., Kerr County #217, Subdivision 2, Replace Charles Bierschwale
David Chandler, Mustang #242, Subdivision 2, Replace Myrl Mitchell
Courtney Nash, Southmost #319, Subdivision 5, Replace Wayne Halbert
Dwain Harbers, DeWitt County #339, Subdivision 1, Replace Tim Voelkel
Gilbert B. Janner, Washington #348, Subdivision 3, Replace Howard Kuecker
Stacey Howell, Bowie County #408, Subdivision 5, Replace James A. Davis
Wesley Bennefield, Piney Woods #429, Subdivision 4, Replace Mike Parrish
Luke A. Scamardo, Robertson County #451, Subdivision 4, Replace Joe Stratta

AGENDA ITEM 6: Consider Approval of Internal Audit of Information Resources Systems and Controls

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the audit as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Consider Approval of Internal Audit of Human Resources Systems and Controls

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

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

AGENDA ITEM 8: Consider Approval of Internal Audit of Performance Measure Reporting

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the audit as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Internal Audit Plan

Mr. Gregorczyk reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the audit as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Consider Conservation Implementation Assistance (Technical Assistance) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Jacobs moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Consider Conservation Assistance (Matching Funds) Allocations for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

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

AGENDA ITEM 12: Consider District Director Mileage and Per Diem Allocation for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the allocations as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Consider Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

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

AGENDA ITEM 14: Consider Legislative Appropriation Request for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019

Mr. Zajicek and Mr. Kerchevel reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Kerchevel gave a brief statement on the State's budget.

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

Mr. Kerchevel congratulated the State Board on the new office.

AGENDA ITEM 15: External Funds

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 16: Legislative Update

Mr. Foster reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 17: Flood Control Programs Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 18: Consider Fiscal Year 2017 Allocations for Flood Control Program Funding

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

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

Mr. Vise, Office of the Governor, addressed the Board. Mr. Vise congratulated the State Board on the new office, and told the Board that our staff has been tremendous on working with the Governor's Office.

Mr. Isom thanked Mr. Vise and the Governor's Office for a working relationship.

AGENDA ITEM 19: Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 20: Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Water Quality Management Plan Program Cost-Share Incentive Priorities, Allocation, and Application Ranking Procedures

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the agenda item as presented. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 21: Consider Approval of the Water Quality Management Plan Program Approved Practice List

Mr. Munz reviewed the agenda item.

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

AGENDA ITEM 22: 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.

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

AGENDA ITEM 23: 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 24: Poultry Water Quality Management Plan Program Status Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 25: Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Status Report

Mr. Conine reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 26: Agency Strategic Plan Fiscal Years 2017-2021

Ms. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 27: Water Supply Enhancement Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 28: Consider Approval of Brush Control Feasibility Studies for the Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval of the studies as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 29: Consider Approval to Publish for Public Comment the 2016 Revision of the State Water Supply Enhancement Plan

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

AGENDA ITEM 30: Rio Grande Carrizo Cane Eradication Program Status Report

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 31: Long Range Planning Status Report

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Clark stated that out of the 25 projects, 19 have been completed.

AGENDA ITEM 32: Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 33: Conservation Plans to Restore Health of the Gulf Coast

Ms. Parker reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 34: Consider Subdivision Boundary Change Request of Eldorado-Divide Soil and Water Conservation District #247

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

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

AGENDA ITEM 35: Consider Re-adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 517, Subchapter B, Cost-Share Assistance for Water Supply Enhancement (§§517.22-517.37)

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

Mr. Mahler moved for the approval to publish in the Texas Register for a 30 day public review and comment period. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 36: Consider Plans for 2016 Annual State Meeting

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 37: Consider Approval of 2017 Texas Conservation Awards Program Guidelines

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

Mr. Dodier moved for the approval of the guidelines as presented. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 38: Customer Service Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information at the previous day's Work Session.

AGENDA ITEM 39: Conservation Plans for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken

Mr. Black reviewed the agenda information and the handout.

AGENDA ITEM 40: Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 41: Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 42: National Association of State Conservation Agencies Status Report

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 43: Public Information and Education Status Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 44: Public Relations and Information Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

AGENDA ITEM 45: Texas Prescribed Burn Board Status Report

Mr. Ray reviewed the agenda information.

Chairman Buckles presented service award plaques to the following staff:

April Sease – 5 years

Rusty Ray – 5 years

Jana Lloyd – 5 years

Loren Warrick – 10 years

AGENDA ITEM 46: Human Resources Status Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information. Ms. Heitman expressed her gratitude for the new office, the builders, the superintendent, and staff.

AGENDA ITEM 47: Set Date for Next State Board Meeting

September 14-15 or 21-22, 2016 with date discretion to the Executive Director.

Chairman Buckles thanked everyone for coming and asked that everyone stay to enjoy the festivities at the Open House, Building Dedication, and luncheon.

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.



Scott Buckles, Chairman



Karen D. Preece, Secretary

November 17, 2016

Date

November 17, 2016

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 August 4, 2016.



Rex Isom, Executive Director

November 17, 2016

Date