

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHED SPONSORS
SPONSOR LAND RIGHTS - ISSUES AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023
WAXACHACHIE CIVIC CENTER

Meeting Summary

TAWS held its first annual “Sponsor Land Rights- Issues and Possible Solutions” meeting on Thursday, November 9th in Waxahachie, TX.

The meeting consisted of multiple presentations on some of the issues from the perspectives of the SWCDs, Conservation Districts, WCID’s, the SA River Authority have been experiencing.

All of the presentations can be found on the TAWS website, under “documents”.

www.texaswatersheds.org

Topics covered during the meeting:

NRCS – Old and New Rules Regarding Land Rights by Mark Northcut, *NRCS*

TSSWCB – Recent Land Rights Issues by Steve Bednarz, *TSSWCB*

SPONSOR LAND RIGHTS ISSUES

a WCID’s Perspective

Alysha Girard, P.E, CFM
Upper Brushy Creek WCID

a SWCD’S Perspective

Jilane Carper, Conservation Tech
Collin County SWCD #535

a Water District’s Perspective

Daniel Meyer, Executive Manager
Plum Creek Conservation District

a River Authority’s Perspective

Tommy Mitchell, Watershed Operations
Xochil Rodriguez, Attorney
San Antonio River Authority

Managing Easement Information
in a Digital Age

Wendie Sharp, GIS Specialist
Oklahoma Conservation Comm

COUNTY REGULATIONS

By Ellis County

Kevin Korosis, Attorney
Wray, Willett & Stoffer, PLLC

By Wise County

Chad Davis, P.E., CFM
Wise County Engineer

SPONSOR EASEMENT PROTECTION

Easement Renewal Program

Kristen Hansen, Deputy Director,
San Antonio River Authority

Need for new legislation

Stephanie Albright, Attorney
Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, Acosta, LLP

Next steps: A smaller TAWS meeting will be held in the Spring 2024 to discuss the topics from the Fall meeting and to help sponsors deal with development in or near their dams. Many sponsors are just beginning to see requests for development and do not have the resources to start to protect their dams. The meeting that will be scheduled for the spring of 2024 will develop solutions for some of the issues discussed in this meeting.