

Sand Hill River Watershed District

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Board of Managers

Bill Brekke, Jr.-Nielsville Stuart Christian-Erskine Roger Hanson-Beltrami Gordon Sonsteli-Erskine Harold Vig-Fosston
Daniel Wilkens-Administrator April Swenby-Administrative Assistant

SAND HILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 29, 2010

Attendance: Chairman Todahl called the March 29, 2010 meeting of the Sand Hill Advisory Committee (SHAC) to order at 8:00 a.m. at the Sand Hill Supper Club in Fertile, MN. Other advisory members present were Bruce Stromstad, Steve Taylor, Scott Balstad, and Scott Tollefson. Others in attendance were Wayne Goeken – Riverwatch Coordinator, Craig Bunes – Polk County Commissioner, Roger Hanson, Sand Hill River Watershed District Manager, Daniel Wilkens-Administrator and April Swenby – Administrative Assistant.

Annual Reorganization: The Annual Organization of the SHAC was conducted. Chairman Todahl turned the meeting over to Scott Tollefson who asked for nominations for Chairman of the SHAC. Bruce Stromstad nominated Jim Todahl for Chairman. Nominations were called for three times by Tollefson. No further nominations were made. **Motion** to cease nominations and have the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Jim Todahl for Chairman by Steve Taylor, **Seconded** by Scott Balstad, **Carried**. Tollefson returned the chair to Jim Todahl.

Minutes: A **Motion** was made by Scott Tollefson to approve the March 30, 2009 meeting minutes, **Seconded** by Bruce Stromstad, with a few recommended changes, **Carried**.

Board Reappointments: Chairman Todahl stated that Stuart Christian is up for reappointment on May 17th of 2010. Todahl reviewed his role as a watershed board member. Todahl informed the advisory committee that he was assured he was fulfilling his duty as a Sand Hill River Watershed District Manager and his attendance is good. Christian is willing to run another term. A **Motion** was made by Scott Balstad to recommend Stuart Christian to the Polk County Commissioners for reappointment, **Seconded** by Bruce Stromstad, **Carried**.

It was noted that Scott Balstad is currently following the district activities and plans on running as a board manager in the future.

Todahl suggested that the advisory committee rotate the position of the chair in the future.

He also suggested that the Sand Hill River Watershed District managers also rotate the chair position much as the county does. This was a suggestion that the managers could discuss at a future meeting.

Other Business:

Garden Slough: The Corp of Engineers permit has been difficult to obtain. The project team is working on the required purpose and need statement to obtain the permit.

Riverwatch Report: Goeken reported that the “Home Schoolers” in the Fertile area are getting prepared for this monitoring season. The F-B school district does not participate in the program at the present time. The group discussed the possibility of opening up the Riverwatch program to 4-H and the Boy Scouts.

Beltrami and further west have displayed turbidly impairments. Goeken is interested in following the sediment basin projects and is anxious to report the impacts of the sediment basins on turbidity. He is hoping that turbidity will be improved in the eastern area of the district. He expects turbidity to drop.

Sediment Basin Projects: Scott Balstad reiterated that the sediment basin projects that are coordinated between the district and the SWCD have been a huge success. Balstad informed the committee that the rain gardens have been a tough sell. It was suggested to ask the county to participate in the cost share for the sediment basin projects. Bunes will check on that suggestion.

Adjournment: The next meeting of the SHAC will be at the call of the chair as needed. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40AM.

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant