

The Board of Managers of the Sand Hill River Watershed District met for their regular monthly meeting August 2, 1977 at the Fertile City Hall. Members present - Wilkens, Gullekson, Olson. Also present - Bob Muscha and Gale Fraser of Houston Engineering; Werner Mahlum, Norman County Commissioner; Ronald Rasmussen, Norman County Engineer; Ray Carlson, Gordon Sonsteli, Harold Balstad, Steven Vesledahl of the Advisory Committee; Mr Mel Sinn, Engineer for the Water Resources Board; and interested public.

The meeting was called to order by Roland Gullekson. The secretary's report was given and approved as read. The agenda for the evening was read. The group was asked if they had anything to add to the agenda. Mr Charles Gustafson asked about the Ditch 65 problem and the chairman said he would put it on the agenda later as soon as they had something to present.

Mr Bob Muscha of Houston Engineering was then called on to give his reports. He reported first on the Ricard problem. He suggested the managers keep an eye on the project when the water was high. He thought maybe the boundary was not in the exact right place but it would have to be checked out. The managers should check to see if it is a ditch maintenance problem or poorly placed culverts or maybe a boundary change, Mr Muscha then discussed six steps to follow to keep engineering costs at a minimum for our upcoming projects.

1. Spend a couple of days checking over the area for farmsteads and other things that would limit our elevations for the pond.

2. Make use of ASCS photographs to estimate acreages of cultivated land.

3. Get all the land owners together for an informational meeting so they can look at the maps to see what they feel about the project the engineers have designed.

4. Make up an option for an easement paying a token sum for a two or three year duration to get plenty of time in case stumbling blocks arise.

5. After getting the land owners signed up, get detailed soils data.

6. Have a public hearing on the engineers report.

Ronald Rasmussen, Norman County Engineer, then asked how long it would take to cover these six steps. Bob Muscha thought it would take a couple of months to get the initial work done. Mr Muscha was also asked if he thought the \$100,000 estimate for the Bear Park project would still suffice. He answered that he thought it was still a good estimate, Werner Mahlum then asked if any land owners present were against the Bear Park project. No one objected so the Board then instructed the engineers to go ahead with the first two steps and present it at the next meeting.

Harold Balstad was then next on the agenda. He presented the idea of a project on Highway 59. The proposed lake would be 18 to 20 feet deep and approximately 6 miles long. He said the fall from the Sletten Town Hall, which is four miles upstream, is eleven feet and that the entire bottom is not used for anything but pasture at the most. In 1980 they are supposed to work on rebuilding Highway 59. He thought the Watershed Board should take a close look at this project and see if something could be coordinated and worked out in that area.

Dan Wilkens gave a report on the tour the Lower Red River Board will make soon of the Bear Park project, our dispensing of funds and how we are going to have problems getting it divided. He also discussed insurance through the association and the types of different easements - flood easement and operating easement.

The Town of Reis was next on the agenda. They had repaired a road on the Sand Hill ditch and had expended some money in the process. They requested the

Board to help them in paying this bill in whatever way it could. Members of the Town of Reis present were Loyal Gast, Ray Carlson, Eugene Billing and Harold Olson. The Board then took this problem under advisement.

The Board then discussed who should get copies of the minutes of our meetings. It was decided and the secretary was instructed to send copies to Houston Engineering; Erling Weiberg, secretary of the Water Resources Board; Stanley Olson, our attorney; all the Board members; and the Advisory Committee.

Dan Wilkens made a motion that we purchase three attache cases for the use of the chairman, secretary and treasurer and purchase stationery for the Watershed District and that the secretary and treasurer be authorized to buy stamps as needed for the Watershed business. Motion was seconded and duly carried.

Mr Mel Sinn went through our Overall Plan discussing the changes and additional information needed.

Motion was made, seconded and duly carried that the following claims be paid:

The Fertile Journal	\$ 30.72	Pam Wilkens	\$148.00
The Crookston Times	3.21	Gordon Sonsteli	10.80
Garden Valley Telephone	34.30	Harold Balstad	19.80
Gaffeneys	448.50	Ray Carlson	3.75
The Thirteen Towns	2.78	Roland Guilekson	242.40
Daniel Wilkens	631.97	Harold Olson	142.80

There being no further business, motion was made to adjourn.

Daniel Wilkens, Secretary