

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes-July 12, 1994 Regular Meeting

L. Attendance: Roger Hanson, called the July 12, 1994 meeting to order at 8:00 am. District Managers present were Ray Baatz, Jimmie Krogstad, Harold Vig, and Dan Wilkens. Paul Engelstad, Roland Gullekson, Rory Hamre, Kurt Larson, Alfred Olson, Mike Skaug, and Wayne Goeken-SHRWD Executive Secretary and Lawrence Woodbury-SHRWD Consulting Engineer were also in attendance.

2. Agenda Review: Discussion of the Sand Hill Riverwatch Proposal was added to the agenda.

3. Minutes: It was noted that in the June 7, 1994 SHRWD meeting minutes the permit that was approved for Walter Nolte should have identified the property as "SW 1/4 of Sec. 17." Motion by Krogstad and second by Vig to adopt the minutes of the June 7, 1994 Sand Hill River Watershed District Board meeting as corrected above. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report: Wilkens handed out and reviewed the SHRWD's financial reports for June, 1994. The past month's checking account transactions, investment portfolio and current fund balances were reviewed. Wilkens reported on his recent discussions with our auditor. She would like more information on a few items and then should be able to complete the audit. Wilkens also requested the board give some direction on investing the excess funds in the checking account. Motion by Vig and seconded by Baatz to accept the June, 1994 Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the current month's bills as presented below and direct the treasurer to invest the excess funds for a one year term with concurrence from the chair... Motion carried unanimously.

Gateway 2000-486 computer	\$ 3,281.48
Lois M. Plante—custodial	16.17
Wayne Goeken—secretarial	323.23
Danyelle Gregor-annual reports clerical work	50.91
Raymond Baatz-meetings & expenses	59.93
Roger Hanson-meetings & expenses	195.71
Jimmie Krogstad-meetings & expenses	51.68
Daniel Wilkens-meetings & expenses	204.02
Harold Vig-meetings & expenses	59.83
Roland Gullekson-consult ing	65.86
David Searles-computer consultant fees for 1993 & reimbursed expenses	617.47
Houston Engineering-Maple Creek	93.00
Houston Engineering-Beltrami Diversion Project	5,717.00
Houston Engineering-General	3,166.00
Otter Tail Power Co.-Heat & Lights	105.60
Garden Valley Telephone Co.-phone(2 mos)	295.44
Christian Excavating-hauling concrete and fill to erosion site W. of Hwy 32 bridge	2,180.00
Hartz-Janitorial Supplies	8.79
Fertile Bakery—rolls-meetings	7.30
Fertile Journal-meeting notice	2.77
Olson and Sons Excavating	46.00
Otter Tail Power Co.-Heat & Lights	87.69
City of Fertile-utility bill	43.45
First State Bank of Fertile- Soc. Sec./Med.	168.64
Mac's Cafe—meals-meeting	38.00
Monthly Total	\$16,885.97

5. Project Reports

- a.) Beltrami Diversion Project: Jeff LeDoux has submitted permit applications to the MnDNR along with the preliminary Engineering Report. There was further discussion of the project design and how to proceed Providing further information to impacted landowners and obtaining approval needs to be done. District Engineer Lawrence Woodbury was directed to draft a letter to send to Ilia Cast explaining the project and its benefits and that the preliminary investigation is underway.
- b.) Hanson noted a situation that needed immediate attention in Scandia Twp west of Beltrami where the bank was collapsing near where a County Ditch enters the Sand Hill Ditch. Hanson authorized Slager Construction to go in with their heavy equipment and remove the slough from the County Ditch to alleviate the problem. The local landowner will spread the spoils in the adjacent field and seed it down along the ditch when it dries up this fall.
- c.) Hanson reported a situation in Scandia Twp where the landowners would like to clean the ditch going into the Sand Hill River. There appears to be a 300-400' area that has filled in which prevents drainage into the river. A motion was made by Wilkens to direct a survey crew to get some shots of the area and get the information back as soon as possible and further to reposition the culvert if needed. Motion was seconded by Baatz and carried unanimously.
- d.) Hanson noted that he was at the Reis Twp Board meeting on July 11, 1994 and the Reis Twp Board was asking for assistance from the SHRWD to fix the Twp road that is along the Sand Hill Ditch that has been damaged from erosion. Normally the right of way is 150' from the centerline of the river. Reis Twp was given permission to build their road on the ROW, but the District would not be responsible for any road maintenance. The District has not provided road maintenance assistance in the past. The Board discussed options regarding adding another drop structure in the area of Reis Twp where there has been problems with channel erosion and the adjacent road Handling this as a flood control channel may allow for Corp assistance. Channel sideslope shaping would be done. A very speculative estimate of project costs was projected to be approximately \$100,000.
- e.) Motion was made by Wilkens and seconded by Krogstad to authorize Woodbury to proceed with the annual inspection of the Sand Hill Ditch as has been done in the past. Motion carried unanimously.
- f.) Kurt Larson brought a ditching request to the Board for discussion. It involves cleaning and improving two miles of County Ditch 90 on the north side of Sections 32 and 33 of Russia Twp. The cleaning would allow the flow to go off at high water. Discussion followed regarding the assessment area affected by this drainage as some of the land involved is assessed into Ditch 90 and some into Ditch 9. To work from the west end of Ditch 9 would require petitioning the County to clean it or the SHRWD if improvements were to be done. To initiate cleaning of the ditch, one landowner would need to contact the County. The County would inspect the situation to see if work is needed and if so would go through the ditch cleaning process. In addition to the above project, ditch cleaning is also being considered further to the west along Ditch 9 which would require analysis of County Ditch 6 also as it affects its drainage. It was also noted that Alfred Olson's quarter already has 5 field ditches and still has water standing. An additional culvert in the field crossing would help considerably. Motion by Wilkens and second by Baatz to approve the permit for cleaning and improving the 2 miles of ditch on the north side of Section 32 and 33 with the condition that the ditch will have an 8' bottom with a 4:1 sideslope which will help reduce future erosion problems. Motion carried unanimously. A one rod filter strip on the top of the ditch bank was also recommended Drop pipes will also be installed as needed. Hanson had authorized Gullekson to inspect the above project and take photos. Gullekson reviewed the slides with the Board which showed the flooding and reported on field conditions in the project area being discussed above. Related to the above project, Woodbury reviewed the history of the Maple Creek proposed diversion project and how it would affect the volume of water going into the Sand Hill Ditch. The DNR has been interested in holding more water at Chicog Lake. The SHRWD will continue to pursue options to hold back water at the upper end of Maple Creek,

It was reported that while a beaver dam was being removed in the Kitteson Creek diversion last fall a plug was inadvertently removed and now the water appears to be escaping west across the wildlife area which has resulted in flooding of farm fields to the west. The bank along the channel needs to be plugged to keep the water

in the channel. A field road should be kept along the top of the bank to allow access for inspection. It was also discussed that Terry Wolfe should be contacted about the possibility of building a dike / access road combination west and parallel to Kittleson Creek to the north end of their property as this has been a major problem area for years.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business

a.) Sand Hill Riverwatch Proposal: Gullekson reported on the proposal that will be submitted to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for chemical and macroinvertebrate monitoring of the Sand Hill River. The four schools in the SHRWD will be doing the monitoring with assistance from other agencies. This information will help provide some baseline data for the Sand Hill River and will supplement limited data that will be collected by the MPCA and other agencies. Students from the schools will report the results to the SHRWD. The total project budget is \$89,905 with \$32,169 being requested in grant funds. A smaller scale project of macroinvertebrate analysis only would total \$44,636. Motion by Vig and second by Krogstad to approve support of this project and provide a matching amount of \$3,000 to the overall project or \$1,500 if only the macroinvertebrate portion of the project is done contingent on Board of Water and Soil Resource funding of the grant proposal. Motion carried unanimously. Goeken noted that all interested parties are invited to a meeting on July 13 at 7:30 p.m. with the MPCA, Mississippi Headwaters Board and others to explain the procedures and use of macroinvertebrate analysis.

b.) Wilkens noted that he had been informed that the MAWD summer tour that was in the Ortonville area on June 24-25 was excellent. Options are being considered to have the 1995 MAWD summer tour taking in portions of the Wild Rice and Sand Hill Watershed Districts.

c.) Wilkens explained the beaver control project that is being coordinated by the Red Lake Watershed District. For this project it is up to the Township Boards to approve the individuals controlling the beavers in their township and to identify the control areas. The authorized controllers turn in their beaver tails to the townships and receive a voucher which is submitted to the Polk County Auditor who pays the controller in full. The Polk County Auditor then bills the participating entities for their share, which is 10 percent for the SHRWD. This applies to Polk County only, thus beavers controlled in portions of the District that are in Mahnomen or Norman counties will be dealt with under the District's regular beaver control program if an agreement is in place with that township. The Red Lake Watershed District is sending notices out to Townships explaining this situation.

d.) It was noted that the District's ditches should be sprayed for cattails. Liberty-Onstad can be done as a drive by with Ditch 2 & 17 requiring aerial application. This will be lined up for late August when the cattails are putting reserves back into their roots. An application is good for about 4 years.

e.) Hanson initiated a discussion regarding hiring Roland Gullekson to inspect projects and review conditions in the District as needed when board members are unable to accomplish necessary duties in a timely matter. Motion by Krogstad to retain Gullekson for projects as needed at a rate of \$20.00 per hour plus mileage and expenses. Motion seconded by Baatz and carried unanimously.

f.) Wilkens noted that currently Gullekson is still the District's alternate to the Red River Water Management Board and asked if there was interest from any of the other Board members in taking this position. Vig noted that he would be interested in going along with Wilkens to some of the RRWMB meetings on a trial basis to see if it may be something that he would be interested in.

7. Permits: Four permits came before the Board for review and were approved as follows:

1994-9 Kurt Larson Sec 32 & 33. Russia Twp. Clean the ditch that runs on the north side of Sections 32 & 33 to keep water from gathering in this area and sitting too long. The Board stipulated that the ditch is to have an 8' bottom with a 4:1 sideslope with drop pipes installed where necessary. A one rod grass filter strip was also recommended.

1994-10 Polk County Highway Dept. Sections 2-5. Garfield Twp. Work in the road ditches related to reconstructing County Road 211 between TH 102 and CSAH 12. The work is an improvement for service and safety reasons to a roadway that is geometrically and structurally

deficient.

1994-11 Rory & Steve Hamre. E 1/2 of N 1/4, Sec. 19, Reis Twp. Put a culvert with a gate on the line between Sec 19 & 20 (along Co. Rd. 232) 1 mile west of Beltrami. Presently water backs up in this ditch and floods the land. The Board recommended that a 24" pipe be used in this location.

1994-12 Mike Skaug. SW 1/4, Sec 2, Reis Twp. Clean 1/2 mile of ditch along east side of Co. Rd. 48 as the ditch has filled in.

-The SHRWD Board had no comment regarding notification from the Black Bros, of gravel excavation in Bear Park Township of Norman County.

-The SHRWD Board reviewed notification from Woodside Twp regarding cleaning of a ditch in the NW 1/4 of Sec. 36 and requested that an application for permit from the District be filled out and returned for review and action.

8. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be on the August 2, 1994 at the Sand Hill River Watershed District Office. It was agreed to begin the meeting at 7 am. due to the harvest season. As there was no further business to come before the Board, motion by Baatz and seconded by Krogstad to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.



Jimmie Krogstad, Secretary



Wayne R. Goeken, Exec. Secretary