

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes-November 1, 1994 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Roger Hanson, called the November 1, 1994 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. District Managers present were Jimmie Krogstad and Dan Wilkens. Craig Engelstad, Eric Engelstad, Doug Nolte, Greg Nolte, Jim Todahl, SHRWD Consulting Engineer Jeff LaDoux and SHRWD Executive Secretary Wayne Goeken were also in attendance.

2. **Agenda Review:** Hanson noted that several landowners would be coming in to discuss options to tree removal along the Sand Hill Channel that was previously approved by the Board.

3. **Minutes:** Motion by Krogstad to accept the minutes of the October 4, 1994 SHRWD Board meeting as mailed. Wilkens seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens handed out and reviewed the SHRWD's financial reports for October, 1994. The past month's checking account transactions, investment portfolio and current fund balances were reviewed. Motion by Hanson and seconded by Krogstad to accept the October 1994 Treasurer's Report as presented and authorize payment of the current month's bills as presented below. Motion carried unanimously.

Lois M. Plante-custodial	\$ 18.47
Roger Hanson-meetings & expenses	319.51
Jimmie Krogstad-meetings & expenses	113.23
Daniel Wilkens-meetings & expenses	346.72
Wayne Goeken—secretarial	461.75
Garden Valley Telephone Co.-phone & faxline	114.82
Fertile Bakery—rolls-meetings	6.00
Otter Tail Power Co.-Heat & Lights	89.97
Gordon's Spray Inc.—spraying for Liberty Onstad & Ditch 17-2	4,156.00
Polk County Auditor—copying charge for ditch maps	18.30
Fertile Journal-meeting notice	2.77
First State Bank of Fertile-Soc. Sec./Med.	<u>178.00</u>
Monthly Total	\$5,825.54

5. **Protect Reports:**

a.) Beltrami Project. Wilkens reported the landowners have retained an attorney and he is drawing up a petition to establish a legal system which will allow the SHRWD to investigate options for this area. It was noted that as this project proceeds that all affected parties, landowners and renters alike, will be notified of information meetings and project progress. In a related matter, FEMA flood plain maps for Beltrami will be necessary. Houston Engineering was directed to see if they had such maps in their office or they should obtain them from FEMA.

b.) Petition related to County Ditches 98 & 148. A legal petition entitled "Petition for Improvement and Consolidation of County Ditches 98 and 148" has been received by the SHRWD Board and reviewed by its attorney. All necessary elements of the petition were in order with a cash bond enclosed. The landowners have been informed of additional bonding requirements for the project and are in the process of obtaining them. As the petition was in order and minimum bonding requirements were met as per our attorney's advice, motion by Krogstad and second by Hanson to accept the petition and declare County Ditches 98/148 as Sand Hill River Watershed District Project #12 and further to authorize Houston Engineering to proceed with site surveying, engineering investigation and preparation of a project engineering report. Motion carried unanimously.

c.) The Board discussed plans for an informational meeting regarding options for ditching related to existing County Ditches 45, 93 and 6. The Board had previously indicated to landowners in this area that such a meeting would be held after harvest. Plans were made to have the meeting on November 22 at the Beltrami Mall Cafe.

Drainage problems that have been encountered in that area will be discussed as well as possible solutions, e.g. repair, major repair or improvement process. A meeting notice will be sent to all the landowners in the affected area from a mailing list obtained from the Courthouse. Landowners will also be asked to contact those renting their land and ask them to attend as well.

d.) Ditch mapping. Wilkens reported that he has been working with the person who did the Wild Rice Watershed District ditch recording and mapping. There was some confusion in initially finding the original viewers reports at the courthouse, but Polk County Auditor/Treasurer Jerry Amiot located all the necessary materials. These original viewer reports will be copied and used in making maps for ditches within the SHRWD.

e.) Logging along SH Ditch. Several landowners raised concerns about logging that had been approved by the SHRWD Board along portions of Sections 28 and 29 in Liberty Twp. The landowners noted that west of the bridge where there are no trees the channel fills with snow and causes ice jams whereas where the trees exist the hardpack snow is kept out of the channel. Wilkens explained that the SHRWD's responsibility is to maintain the channel. It was explained that trees along the riverbank cause problems with sloughing of the banks due to the weight that they bring to bear on the banks. If the Army Corp reviews this area and observes trees growing in the channel, it may not consider the channel to be maintained which could jeopardize cost sharing for future improvements. A future project under consideration is the addition of several drop structures downstream to control erosion. It was also noted that the SHRWD owns the right of way and that adjacent landowners are not paying taxes on this land. This right of way area is supposed to be covered by a grass filter strip and is not to be farmed. Options were discussed of clearing most of the trees but leaving one row for a windbreak in areas where groves are not present for five years which would give the adjoining landowners time to plant their own windbreaks. The Board will visit the site and further review options with local landowners.

f.) Eric Engelstad reviewed a situation with the Board involving drainage of an area that should be going into Ditch #72 in Section 20 of Godfrey Twp which is in the Red Lake Watershed District. The SHRWD Board noted three options that could be pursued: 1) have the landowners along the ditch petition the County to clean the ditch as a regular cleaning job; 2) initiate a petition to include the ditch in the legal system; or 3) clean the private ditch through an agreement between all the affected landowners in the area.

6. Other Business

a.) A retirement dinner for past Board members and staff who have worked with the District for over two terms of office was planned for late November with Goeken directed to coordinate dates and make arrangements. This will include Francis LaVoi (33 years from 1961-1994), Roland Gullekson (18 years from 1976-1994), Vernon Larson (16 years from 1975-1991) and Conrad Carlson (8 years from 1982-1990).

b.) On behalf of the Sand Hill Snowcruisers, Craig Engelstad asked the Board what options existed for putting in a culvert to make a crossing by Little Andrew Lake along Highway 32. It was noted that to install a culvert would require a DNR permit and be very complicated due to flow study requirements for the DNR permit and existing fiber optic cable. A bridge such as a township bridge or flatbed trailers that could be put in to cross the span and stay out of the water and not restrict flow would be preferred to avoid complicated permit needs.

c.) There was discussion regarding when a permit is needed from the SHRWD. It was noted that to do work related to township road ditches you need to get permission from the respective township board. A permit is needed whenever something is being done that is considered an improvement such as moving a crossing or installing a culvert. To do regular cleaning and maintenance of field ditches a permit from the SHRWD is not technically required but it is recommended as it documents the actions of the landowner or renter which can be beneficial to the landowner or renter in the future if questions would ever come up about work that had been done in relation to compliance with farm programs. There is a great deal of confusion about permit needs due to the many levels of programs and regulatory agencies that have rules and/or programs related to drainage. It was noted that the Rules and Regulations of the SHRWD will be reviewed and possibly revised to better define permit conditions. This will be done in coordination with the SHRWD Advisory Committee after the first of the year.

d.) The International Coalition will be holding their annual conference in Grand Forks from November 16-18. Motion by Wilkens to authorize all Board members to attend if possible. Motion seconded by Krogstad and carried unanimously.

e.) The Minnesota Assn. of Watershed Districts will be holding their annual conference in Wilmar on December 2-3 at Alexandria. Motion by Wilkens and second by Hanson authorizing all Board members to attend if possible and that Jimmie Krogstad and Roger Hanson serve as SHRWD delegates for voting matters at the conference. Motion carried unanimously.

f.) Hanson noted that the Minnesota State Environmental Education Conference was upcoming in Alexandria on November 18-19 and that the SHRWD should attend to keep abreast of what is going on in this area. Motion by Krogstad and second by Wilkens to authorize Board attendance at this conference. Motion carried unanimously.

g.) Hanson conveyed a request from Scandia Township requesting cost sharing from the SHRWD for cleaning of silt from township ditches that is due to siltation from the Sand Hill Ditch. Slager has cleaned the township ditches which was the first time they have been cleaned. Motion by Krogstad and second by Wilkens to authorize payment of a portion of this cleaning when the bill comes in from the township. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Permits:

14 Permits that came before the Board for review were approved as follows.

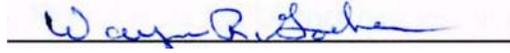
- 1994-33 Jim Todahl E 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Sec 3, Liberty Twp. Clean existing ditch in woods as it has grown in with trees and brush.
- 1994-34 Orris Moen E 1/2 of NE 1/4 of Sec 3, Liberty Twp. Lower culvert on Twp. road to proper level to make ditch work.
- 1994-35 Jim Todahl & Craig Engelstad Sec 14, Liberty Twp. Correct culvert level in field crossing as it is now 5" higher on north end than on south end.
- 1994-36 Milo Ystenes SE 1/4 of Sec 22, Garden Twp. Clean ditch along Twp road as it is filled in with grass and silt. *SHRWD Board noted that Twp. Board permission is still needed.*
- 1994-37 Roger Black South side of Sec 36 in Garden Twp. and Sec 31 in Winger Twp. Clean Twp road ditch as water is backed up in field. *SHRWD Board noted that Twp. Board permission is still needed.*
- 1994-38 Robert Rude NW 1/4 Sec 7, Scandia Twp. Clean north to south ditch along Twp line as water is not draining well to the south county ditch.
- 1994-39 Scott Tollefson West side of Sec 18, Scandia Twp. Clean ditch and lower culvert in field crossing in ditch to allow drainage of adjacent properties directly into Sand Hill Ditch.
- 1994-40 Craig Engelstad N 1/2 of SW 1/4 of Sec 14, Liberty Twp. Clean and maintain all field and county road ditches as the ditches are filled in and not in working order.
- 1994-41 Craig Engelstad Sec 15, Liberty Twp. Clean and maintain all field and county road ditches as ditches are filled in and not in working order.
- 1994-42 Craig Engelstad W 1/2 of Sec 28, Liberty Twp. Clean and maintain all field and township road ditches as the ditches are filled in and not in working order.
- 1994-43 Craig Engelstad E 1/2 of Sec 29, Liberty Twp. Clean and maintain all field and township road ditches as the ditches are filled in and not in working order.
- 1994-44 Craig Engelstad Sec 1, Reis Twp. Clean and maintain all field and county road ditches as the ditches are filled in and not in working order.
- 1994-45 Liberty Twp. Sec 5, Liberty Twp. Clean ditch of brush, small trees and dirt so culvert will not have water standing in it
- 1994-46 Eric Engelstad Sec 30, Godfrey Twp. Clean county road ditch going west and put new ditch in from field to county road ditch as there is about 1,800 acres drained through the existing 18" culvert, silt has settled in the ditch and this would be a shorter route for the water. *SHRWD commented that the culvert in the Pembina Trail and Highway 41 must not be changed.*

8. Adjournment The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8:00 a.m. December 6, 1994 at the SHRWD

office. As there was no other business to come before the Board, motion by Krogstad and Second by Wilkens to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jimmie Krogstad", written over a horizontal line.

Jimmie Krogstad, Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne R. Goeken", written over a horizontal line.

Wayne R. Goeken, Exec. Secretary