

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

February 6, 2001 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the February 6, 2001 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke and Stuart Christian. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, Naomi Jagol-Administrative Assistant, Jim Larsen-Houston Engineering, and Rudy Applequist.
2. **Agenda Review:** No additional items were added to the agenda.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Manager Christian to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on January 2, 2001 as mailed, Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the Treasurer's report. Motion by Manager Brekke to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried.

Wilkens reviewed the bills to be approved. Motion by Manager Brekke to approve and pay bills, Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Project Reports:

- a. Randy Hamre/Hydraulic Study: Larsen distributed a draft report for board review. He explained the various design parameters used in the initial calculations and presented a design drawing showing culvert sizes and ditch grades. The board discussed several recommendations for the draft report. Larsen noted that the recommendations would be incorporated into the final plan for presentation at the next regular monthly meeting.
- b. Polk County #41 rebuild: Wilkens reported that he has contacted Kurt Deter, Rinke Noonan Law Firm, and tentatively scheduled a meeting for March 27, 2001 with the Polk County Commissioners, Polk County Highway Department, Sand Hill River WD Board of Managers, and interested landowners. The purpose of the meeting is to address the legal questions prior to making a decision on whether or not to proceed with an improvement project. A meeting notice will be forwarded to all interested participants when the date has been finalized.
- c. Project Team: Wilkens explained that the last project team meeting was conducted on September 12, 2000. He stated that the upcoming meeting scheduled for February 13, 2001 would involve updating the project team on the status of the various projects that had been discussed previously.

Wilkens reported on a meeting he attended with Don Hultman, Regional Manager-U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Paul Swenson, Regional Manager-Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Union Lake/Sarah outlet to the north possibility was discussed. Wilkens stated that Swenson had dismissed this option as not viable. Wilkens noted that Hultman agreed that the Lake Improvement District (LID) must apply for a right-of-way (ROW) easement as soon as possible in order to have a permanent solution in place by the expiration date of the temporary permit. Wilkens added that Hultman reported that no adverse effects could be concluded from the summer pumping that occurred during the past season. Wilkens explained that Hultman stated he would contact Mark Chase, Regional Director-USFWS to assist in this process. Wilkens stated that Mark Chase had contacted the District recently and noted that he would attend the project team meeting in order to discuss the permanent ROW easement with the LID.

Other issues to be discussed by the project team include the Maple Creek area, Garden Slough, and the Ogaard Impoundment.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

- a. Rinke Noonan Drainage Workshop: Manager Hanson reported on the workshop he attended on February 1, 2001 in St. Cloud, MN. The conference addressed drainage, wetlands, and recent rule changes. Manager Hanson noted the importance of the individual watershed district's comprehensive watershed management plans.

Manager Hanson also discussed the changes that could occur in rural Minnesota following the process of redistricting. He stated that it is estimated that rural Minnesota would lose one-third to one-half of its representation.

Manager Hanson suggested that all board members and staff attend these workshops in order to be updated on the field of water management in Minnesota.

- b. Vesledahl Mitigation Land: Wilkens stated that a meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on February 22, 2001 in Bemidji, MN with representatives from the Board of Water & Soil Resources and the DNR to discuss the maintenance agreement for the community ditch that is located on the mitigation land.
- c. Red River Watershed Management Board Meeting (RRWMB): The next regular monthly meeting of the RRWMB is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on February 20, 2001 at the Red Lake Watershed District office in Thief River Falls, MN.
- d. 2001 MAWD Legislative Breakfast & Day at the Capitol: The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for March 15-16, 2001 at the Kelly Inn, St. Paul, MN.

7. Permits:

- a. No permits came before the Board this month for review.

- 8. Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 6, 2001. As there was no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

Naomi L. Jagol, Administrative Assistant