

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

October 4, 2005 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the October 4, 2005 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Gordon Sonsteli and Harold Vig. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby – Administrative Assistant, Lawrence Woodbury-Houston Engineering, and Joyce Downs.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** **Motion** was made by Manager Sonsteli to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on September 6, 2005, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the treasurer's report for the month of September. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to accept the treasurer's report as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried**.

Motion was made by Manager Brekke to approve and pay bills, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Engineer's Report:

Beltrami Slough: Woodbury displayed "before" and "after" pictures of the project. Houston brought in a geo-technical engineer for consultation after the slough gave way during construction. He suggested placing a row of sheet pile in the ditch and or removing the weight from the bank. The nearby farmstead constricts options for repair of the project. Driving sheet piling would possibly do more damage during construction. Woodbury recommended handling the North bank separately from the rest of the project. The board concurred.

Chairman Hanson informed the managers of the Beltrami citizen's dissatisfaction of the project. Citizens have told Hanson that they feel they were "better off" before the project began. Woodbury understood their concern but reiterated that we have not completed the necessary repairs.

A meeting needs to take place between the landowner and the Sand Hill River Watershed District. Chairman Hanson suggested utilizing the Sand Hill River Watershed District's ROW. The managers discussed the benefits of pulling the bank back an extra 20 feet and felt that would strengthen the weak side, making Beltrami significantly better off than before. The Managers suggested coordinating a meeting involving the Highway Department, the landowner and Houston Engineering.

Highway # 75: Houston Engineering distributed grades and culvert sizes. Bill Brekke will bring these plans to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Project # 17: Lawrence Woodbury expressed his concern regarding the road construction where the ditch turns away from the road and heads towards the river in section 28 of Vineland Twp. The Polk County Highway engineers have asked Houston Engineering for their perspective on the slough. Because this problem resides on the road side, it is under the County's jurisdiction. Houston Engineering reported signs of seepage and stated the material is very poor in this area. The Department of Transportation is planning to send a Geo-technical crew to assess the repair that will need to take place to correct the road sloughing.

Modeling: Brian Dwight gave Houston Engineering the format for the overall plan/modeling budget and worksheet. Upgrading the second generation overall plans including the modeling involve substantial costs.

Fish Passage: Houston Engineering met on September 24, 2005 with Luther Aadlund. Aadlund recommend adding a third 4x 10 culvert in the Texas Crossing which would match the width of the river in that location. He suggested the middle culvert be placed a little lower than the other two for fish passage in extremely low water periods. Three runs of 4x10 foot culverts are planned.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The project team will meet on October 11, 2005.

RRWMB: The RRWMB met September 20, 2005 at the Sand Hill River Watershed District office.

RBFDWGWG: The RBFDWGWG met in Crookston on September 7, 2005. Funding reimbursements are not to exceed \$12,000 per project team through December 31, 2005.

RRBC: The RRBC met in Grand Forks on September 1, 2005.

LID: Wilkens met with Larry Kramka on Sept 9, 2005 to develop options for the interconnect between Sarah and Union lakes and the pipe inlet at the pump site.

Jerde Erosion Control Project: Houston Engineering is planning to measure and stake the project for ROW markers. Sand Hill River Watershed District attorney is developing an option for easements. Downs inquired what that meant. Wilkens explained the staking is to locate the project ROW. One parcel is currently in CRP and the other parcel is enrolled in another program. When both parcels come out of the current programs the district will purchase a permanent easement on the property in the project ROW.

Ditch # 133. Wilkens met with Charles Balstad and Larry Kramka on September 9, 2005 to explain the proposed project.

Liberty Onstad Ditch: The culvert at the north end needs to be replaced. The frost has heaved it out of the ground and it is coming apart in all the seams. Pictures of the site were displayed. **Motion** was made by Manager Vig to replace the culvert and lower to grade, Seconded by Manager Brekke, **Carried**. Wilkens reported on the need for mowing the brush and trees along the ditch ROW. The board instructed Wilkens to mow the ditch at the state hourly rate.

7. Permits: One permit was presented:

2005-54 - American Crystal Sugar – Section 17 of Hubbard Twp. – clean existing ditch along Hwy. # 75

8. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2005**. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Manager Vig, **Carried**.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant