

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes—November 5, 1991 Regular Meeting

1. Attendance; Roland Gullekson, President, called the November 5, 1991 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. District Managers present were Roger Hanson, Orley Jevning, Francis LaVoi and Dan Wilkens. The District's Consulting Engineer Lawrence Woodbury and Executive Secretary Wayne Goeken and Miron Widrig were also in attendance.

2. Minutes: Corrections were noted as follows: Pg.1-spelling of Kohn to Conn; Pg. 2-permit 1991-10 is between Sec. 31 & 30; Pg. 3-correct spelling of "judicial." On motion by LaVoi and seconded by Jevning, the minutes of the November 5, 1991 meeting were approved as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Treasurer'a Report; Hanson reported on the fund balances of the Watershed's accounts. A billing by Twin City Testing was discussed. TCT had charged for testing and interest expenses due account. It was agreed that the bill would be paid, but not the interest expense and Woodbury will forward the payment along with a letter stating the past problems with TCT's error in handling a sample and an invoice to TCT for expenses incurred by the District for this error. There was also discussion of the charges for computer consulting provided by Crist Services. On motion by Wilkens and second by Jevning it was agreed to pay the \$1,237.50 for the consulting time already delivered, but not to accept the bid for further training at this time. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was then made by Wilkens and seconded by LaVoi to accept a separate billing of \$876.35, which includes installation, for a package of hardware and software including a tape backup system. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Wilkens and seconded by Jevning to accept the Treasurer's Report and to pay all current vouchers as shown below. Motion carried unanimously.

Mahnomen Pioneer-Notices-Budget hearing	58.80
U.S. Postal Service-100 stamps & box rent	36.25
Garden Valley Phone Company-phone service	42.59
Otter Tail Power Company-electric service	61.43
Tony Dorn, Inc.-copy meter & supplies	35.82
Ada Feed and Seed-Liberty/Onstad spraying	338.40
Mac's Cafe-meal-SHRWD Board	27.00
MN Assn of Watershed Dist. Annual Mtg-2 reg.	30.00
Twin City Testing-Winger Dam Lab tests	874.00
Crist Services-Computer Consulting Services,	1,237.50
Crist Services-Computer Hardware & Software	876.35
Lois Plante-custodial	27.70
Wayne Goeken-Secretarial, office & mtgs.	616.30
Roland Gullekson-Meetings & expenses	410.72
Roger Hanson-Meetings & expenses	149.82
Orley Jevning-Meetings & expenses	59.92
Francis LaVoi-Meetings & expenses	62.67
Dan Wilkens-Meetings & expenses	557.95
Monthly Total	\$5,503.22

4. Winger Dam

In response to issues raised by the Army Corps of Engineers at the September 6, 1991 meeting, the SHRWD had submitted supplementary information to the Corps which was sent on October 1, 1991. It was the understanding of the SHRWD Board that upon receipt of this information the Corps would proceed with the permit application process, which at this time would be the issuance of public notice by the Corps. However, as of this meeting date, no response has been received by the Corps. The Board directed that a letter be sent to Mr. Wopat, Chief of the Corps Regulatory Branch in St. Paul requesting that the Corps take immediate action in continuing the processing of the Section 404 permit application for the proposed Winger Dam and reservoir.

5. Reports on Recent Meetings and Activities:

- a. Goeken reported on attendance at a Lake Management and a River Watch Conference in the past month. The Lake Management conference had several good concurrent sessions. Some work was done with the MINLEAP computer model which the MPCA will provide for our use and help set it up. This will be used along with the data gathered through the past summer's citizen monitoring program for Union Lake/Lake Sarah. Information on setting goals for lake management and effective communication was also received. The River Watch conference focused on how to incorporate citizen river monitoring with local schools. To have valid, usable results a good system of quality assurance/quality control needs to be designed into the project. If the goal of your project is more of an educational nature and not specifically data collection then the QA/QC is not quite as critical. Options for adapting the programs presented to the Sand Hill River and involving local schools will be explored.
- b. Gullekson noted that he had been contacted by John Lenz again regarding operation of the ditch control structure between his land and the County ditch. The notches that are in the structure now that make it non-operative have not been removed as previously discussed. Lenz restated that he accepts water that's in the cross channel leading to the county ditch, but he's concerned about damage from water that's over and above this cross channel. He believes that the gate should be lowered in the spring when the County ditch is full and opened again when the County ditch goes down. This will help prevent erosion from water going overland when the County ditch is full of snow and ice. The SHRWD Board discussed the situation and agreed that first the structure needs to be made operational and then an operation agreement needs to be agreed upon by all impacted parties including who is to control the gated structure and in what situations.
- c. River Clean-up. Jevning noted that there was some interest from the Hubbard Town Board in doing some tree snagging through the DNR Stream Maintenance Program. He will check further with Vineland township and the City of Climax and also further identify specific river segments that could be targeted. Goeken reported that there is interest in cleaning a segment of the Sand Hill River upstream of Polk County 1 just east of Fertile. There is a housing development in this area and a nature trail that is used by the Fertile Summer

5. Recent Meetings and Activities(Continued);

Outdoors Program for bird nesting structures. The residents of this area expressed interest in helping with tree snag removal. A motion was made by Wilkens and seconded by LaVoi to submit an application to the DNR Stream Maintenance Grant program for \$1,500 which would be matched by local in-kind and cash contributions for river cleanup. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Other Business;

- a. Minnesota Assn. of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting: Gullekson and Wilkens were designated to attend the MAWD annual meeting at Cragun's near Brainerd on December 6 and 7. Gullekson noted that his term on the MAWD Board is up this year and that he is not very interested in continuing for another term due to the Board's inactivity. The Board meets four times per year and is not an active force in addressing issues impacting watersheds.
- b. The International Coalition Annual Meeting: Gullekson and Wilkens were designated to attend the TIC annual meeting at the Civic Auditorium in Grand Forks on November 13-15.
- c. Miron Widrig informed the Board of beaver damming up a culvert at the Kittleson Creek-Sand Hill Ditch junction. The Board noted they will have the beaver dam removed. Wilkens will contact Olson & Sons Excavating regarding removal of this debris.
- d. SHRWD Credit Card. Options of getting a credit card for the District were discussed. The card would primarily be used for conference expenses such as motel and travel. This would help in keeping these type of expenses separate from regular reimbursements to the Board. Upon further discussion, the issue was dropped.
- e. Beltrami Cut-Off Ditch Project: Woodbury reviewed preliminary specs for this project. It is proposed that there would be 2.5 feet of drop per mile for the ditch with the ditch bottom being about 20 feet wide with side slopes of 4:1. Maximum water depth in the channel at high water is estimated at 4-5 feet. There would be a 12 '7" drop to the Sand Hill Ditch at the end of the channel. This could be handled by either a rock chute or piping that would drop and then angle over to the Sand Hill Ditch. The 10' riser section is projected to be 54" diameter with the vertical section being 66". An estimated 35,000 cubic yards of dirt would be excavated. Including excavation, the outlet structures, a diversion dam, seeding, right of way, engineering and miscellaneous expenses, the total project cost is estimated at \$83,000. It was agreed that at this time more information needs to be provided to all the affected parties and discuss cost-sharing options to see if this could be feasible.

7. Adjournment: The next regular monthly meeting of the Board is scheduled for December 1, 1991. As there was no further business to come before the Board, motion by Hanson, seconded by Jevning to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.