

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes-April 6,1993 Regular Meeting

1. **Attendance:** Roland Gullekson, President, called the April 6, 1993 meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. District Managers present were Roger Hanson, Orley Jevning, Francis LaVoi and Dan Wilkens. Wayne Goeken-SHRWD Executive Secretary, and Lawrence Woodbury-SHRWD Consulting Engineer were also in attendance.

2. **Minutes:** Motion by Wilkens and seconded by LaVoi to adopt the minutes of the March 2, 1993 SHRWD Board meeting as mailed. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens reviewed the expenditures from the past month. Motion was made by Wilkens and seconded by LaVoi to authorize purchase of additional memory for the computer printer, a utilities software program and upgrade of an existing word processing program. Motion carried unanimously. Wilkens noted that there has been no change in the SHRWD investment portfolio over the past month. Motion by LaVoi and seconded by Jevning to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and authorize payment of the current month's bills as presented below. Motion carried unanimously.

Fertile Journal-meeting notice	2.77
Mac's Cafe-meals	35.15
Fertile Sand & Gravel-snow removal .	15.00
Coast to Coast-janitorial supplies	6.36
City of Fertile-Utility bill	43.45
First State Insurance Agency-building insurance	557.00
Otter Tail Power Co.-electricity & heat	158.49
Garden Valley Telephone Company	45.86
Tony Dom, Inc.-toner for copier	64.00
U.S. Postal Service-4 rolls stamps	116.00
U.S. InternalRevenueService-SocialSecurity/Medicare	757.76
MN Assn of Watershed Districts-Legislative Breakfast	20.00
Dennis Habeck-tree snag cutting along river	2,160.00
Houston Engineering-General & Special Meetings	2,052.00
Houston Engineering-Winger Dam	1,155.00
Lois Plante-Custodial	23.09
Wayne Goeken-Secretarial & consulting expenses	397.11
Roland Gullekson-Meetings & expenses	1062.35
Roger Hanson-Meetings & expenses	58.68
Orley Jevning-Meetings & expenses	119.85
Francis LaVoi-Meetings & expenses	62.68
Daniel Wilkens-Meetings & expenses	<u>255.58</u>

Monthly Total \$9,168.18

4. **Red River Valley Environmental Assessment:** Wilkens reported that the meeting held March 19-20 in Thief River Falls was useful in helping the Corps of Engineers to better understand water issues in the Red River Valley and the commitment of the Red River Water Management Board to be actively involved in water management for the Valley. There is on-going discussion regarding which agencies and groups are going to be involved in the assessment process and how they will be involved. It is unclear if North Dakota will be involved at this time. If they are not involved now, they may need to do an environmental assessment on their own in the future, thus it may be desirable to get involved now.

5. SHRWD Overall Plan: An example of watershed goals and policies were handed out for the Board's review as they formulate specific goals and policies pertaining to the SHRWD. It was noted that the goals and policies need to be general enough to allow flexibility, but specific enough to address the District's characteristics and needs. The Board will review the sample goals and policies as a basis for further discussion of goals and policies for the SHRWD at the next Board meeting.

6. Winger Dam: Gullekson reported that a conditional permit has been received from the MN DNR Division of Waters authorizing construction of the dry dam alternative for the Winger Dam as proposed by the SHRWD. However, at this time, construction will be delayed until the Corps of Engineers' environmental assessment for the Red River Valley is completed. Gullekson reviewed discussions he had with Senator Roger Moe in St. Paul on March 25 regarding options involving the bonding funds that have been held for the Winger Dam. Wilkens reported on recent conversations he had with the Minnesota Department of Transportation regarding TH 59 road conditions.

7. Project Reports:

a.) Tree snagging: Wilkens reported that the Minnesota Conservation Corp had completed their work in the Climax area. They noted that there is a major tree snag in the Climax area that should be cleared out with a backhoe this summer and perhaps some riprapping done before further problems are created. It was not clear from the final report by the MCC exactly what work was done and what their charges related to. It was directed that a letter be sent to the MCC supervisor Mark Robbins requesting a more detailed accounting of work performed and hours worked. Wilkens also reported on tree cutting along Sand Hill River in the Fertile area by two workers from the Ada area. They are cutting overhanging trees in small chunks and letting them flush out in the spring. These chunks do not seem to be catching in culverts or other areas this spring. There has been some citizen concern raised that some of these snags should be left for habitat. Motion by Wilkens and seconded by LaVoi to proceed with clearing of the major tree snag in the Climax area. Motion carried unanimously. It was also noted that the stream maintenance grant needs to be wrapped up by June.

b.) Maple Creek Project: Wilkens reported on where the water was flowing when he visited the project area during this spring's high water and possible project options. Woodbury has pulled together past information that has been prepared for the project and will review this with DNR Area Wildlife Manager Terry Wolfe.

c.) Bear Park Beaver Dams: Gullekson reported that beavers have again dammed up the SH River in the Bear Park area. Motion by Hanson and seconded by LaVoi to authorize that the dams be cleared out and the beaver be trapped. Motion carried unanimously.

d.) Fertile West Mill Project: A letter was received from Paul Stolen (MN DNR) inquiring as to the status of the West Mill Project. Woodbury will contact Stolen regarding the project's status.

8. Other Activities and Business:

a.) A letter was received from Ophem Law Office requesting information on the history of when work was done on the ditch between the SW quarter and SE quarter of section 26 of Russia township. A response will be sent noting that the ditch was dug prior to the rules and permitting authority of the Sand Hill River Watershed District being in place and further that any interference in the natural course of waterways is illegal.

b.) Gullekson reported on an excellent workshop that he attended in LaCrosse, WI which provided many examples of cooperative grassroots projects that are working. He will be exploring the possibility of this type of workshop being done in this area.

9. Permits: The one permit that came before the Board for review was approved.

-1993-1 Polk County Highway Department. Scandia Twp. NW corner Sec. 2 T. 147N, R. 47W. Replace existing bridge No. 4041 with two lines of 10' x 4' box culverts to correct deficient condition for safety and service reasons.

10. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD was set for Tuesday, May 4, 1993. As there was no further business to come before the Board, motion by LaVoi and seconded by Wilkens to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.


Orley Jevning, Secretary

Wayne R. Goeken, Exec. Secretary