

# SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Minutes-May 11,1993 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. Marvin Reitmeier, Gerhard Ross, 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 April 6, 1993 SHRWD Board meeting as mailed with the following corrections: page 2 Item 7.d.~change the ninth word in the first line from "by" to "from"; page 2 Item 8.a.--change the fifth word in the first line from "by" to "from"; and page 3 Item 9-change the seventh word in the third line from "tow" to "two." Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens handed out and reviewed the Treasurer's Report covering the month of April 1993. The past month's transactions, fund balances and investment portfolio were reviewed. Motion was made by Jevning and seconded by LaVoi 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	5.66
Mac's Cafe-meals	35.00
Fertile Bakery-rolls-meeting	7.00
Otter Tail Power Co.-electricity & heat	282.16
Garden Valley Telephone Company	129.31
Tony Dorn, Inc.-copy meter and toner for copier	131.10
Pam Wilkens-gift certificate for accounting assistance	50.00
Dale and Marvin Olson-beaver removal-Bear Park Project	180.00
Dennis Habeck-tree snag cutting along river	2,160.00
Dennis Habeck-river snagging/tree cutting	1,920.00
Lois Plante-Custodial	32.68
Wayne Goeken-Secretarial & consulting expenses	470.98
Roland Gullekson-Meetings & expenses	493.24
Roger Hanson-Meetings & expenses	103.35
Orley Jevning-Meetings & expenses	59.93
Francis LaVoi-Meetings & expenses	62.68
Dan Wilkens-Reimbursed supplies	99.83
Daniel Wilkens-Meetings & expenses	343.03
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b><u>\$6,565.95</u></b>

**4. Red River Valley Environmental Assessment:** Wilkens reported on a meeting that Dan Ogaard and Wilkens attended in St. Paul in April that was chaired by Don Ogaard and attended by 27 individuals representing various agencies and interests to discuss the procedure for moving ahead on the environmental assessment for the Red River Valley. A comprehensive list of concerns and issues that may be addressed were discussed. It was noted that the Corp of Engineers doesn't have any budget to do this project. The Red River Water Management Board has hired Mark Deutschman of HDR Engineering to coordinate the project and write the report. The two principal lead contacts from their respective agencies who were designated as having the authority to sign off on the project include Joe Gibson of the MN DNR and Ben Wopat from the Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division.

**5. SHRWD Overall Plan:** There was considerable discussion regarding what scope the Overall Plan for the SHRWD should encompass including to what extent wetlands should be given any special consideration over and above what is currently in law, how to promote multi-purpose projects, what system of regular ditch inspections should be established, and expanded public education/information efforts. It was noted that the Overall Plan should be flexible enough to encompass issues that may come up in the future such as groundwater issues. Based on the discussion, Goeken was directed to work up a draft of Goals and Objectives for the Board's review at the next Board meeting.

**6. Maple Creek Project:** A briefing of recent discussions related to the Maple Creek Project was provided by Dan Wilkens to Marvin Reitmeier and Gerhard Ross who were in attendance to discuss this project. Wilkens noted that DNR Area Wildlife Manager Terry Wolfe had inquired this spring regarding the possibility of providing additional water into Chicog Lake to keep the lake levels higher for waterfowl. For the SHRWD to be involved, the project would have to incorporate flood storage. Reitmeier noted past history of crops flooding out and more so a problem with access as field roads were washed out.

Questions were raised as to whether the current investigation is in keeping with the original petition or whether a new petition should be initiated. The SHRWD didn't accept a bond for the original petition, thus a legal opinion will need to be obtained regarding the need to initiate a new petition specifically for the project now being considered. Before proceeding with the petition the DNR will be contacted to determine if they will consider allowing work to be done as is now being proposed.

#### **7. Project Reports:**

**a.) Stream Maintenance:** Gullekson reported that he received a letter from Gerry Paul, DNR Regional Hydrologist from Bemidji asking if the SHRWD would be completed with the stream maintenance grant projects by June 30 or if a project extension would be needed. The field work has been done related to these projects, but the paperwork needs to be brought up to date.

**b.) Sand Hill River Streambank Stabilization:** Wilkens noted that a permit has been issued allowing the Sand Hill River to proceed with erosion control measures *& Jo\*£~sies* along the Sand Hill River from the Hwy 32 bridge and extending downstream approximately two miles. The Board visited three of the sites to review options for putting riprap in place to control erosion. Work can begin after June 1. Rock to complete the project will be hauled to the site. Wilkens will inquire as to the availability of Strom Construction who has had experience with this type of work to come and demonstrate the procedure.

**c.) Polk County Wetland Inventory:** Gullekson reported that Polk County has been proposed as a pilot project area whereby all wetlands in the county—existing and drained—would be inventoried. The Red River Water Management Board would assist financially to do the project. The East and West Polk SWCD offices have been asked to come up with a proposal and cost estimate for this project. Eventually all wetlands will need to be inventoried throughout the Red River Valley to provide information for possible future wetlands mitigation.

#### **8. Other Activities and Business:**

**a.) Polk County Fair Booth Space:** Goeken noted that several natural resource groups are planning on sharing joint booth spaces at the Polk County Fair in Fertile this year. This will allow for shared staffing of the booth spaces and an expanded presence for natural resource issues. At this time the Fertile Community Conservation Club, MN DNR, Agassiz Environmental Learning Center, and East Polk Soil and Water Conservation District are planning on sharing space. It was noted that this

would be an opportunity for the SHRWD to expand its public information efforts with neighboring Watershed Districts also providing some information for display. Motion by Jevning and second by LaVoi to provide \$100 towards booth space rent and preparation of materials for display. Motion carried unanimously.

b.) Gullekson noted that the refrigerator at the SHRWD office has broken down and requested that purchase of a replacement be authorized. Wilkens has a number of refrigerators that he normally sells for \$225 each, but would sell one to the SHRWD at a reduced price. Motion by Hanson and second by LaVoi to authorize purchase of a refrigerator from Wilkens for \$150. Motion carried with Wilkins abstaining.

c.) Jevning reported that he has notified the Polk County Commission that he has declined his re-appointment to another term on the SHRWD Board. He will continue to serve on the Board until a replacement is appointed by the Polk County Commission.

**9. Permits:** Two permits that came before the Board for review were approved.

-1993-2 J.R. Dale. Liberty Twp. NW 1/4 Sec. 35. Clean plugged ditch.

-1993-3 Polk County Highway Department. Hubbard Twp. Sec. 15. Replace existing bridge No. L-7493 with new bridge 60534 to correct deficient deck geometry, load capacity and overall structure condition.

**10. Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be the second Tuesday in June—on June 8, 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