

# SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Minutes-August 10, 1993 Regular Meeting

**1. Attendance:** Roland Gullekson, President, called the August 10, 1993 meeting to order at 8:05 am. District Managers present were Ray Baatz, Roger Hanson, Francis LaVoi and Dan Wilkens. Others in attendance were Mike Hitchin, Gerald Gunufson, Cliff Krogstad, Wayne Goeken-SHRWD Executive Secretary, and Lawrence Woodbury-SHRWD Consulting Engineer.

**2. Agenda Review:** No changes in the agenda were noted

**3. Minutes:** It was noted that all spellings of the name "Uhler" should be corrected to "Uhlir." Motion by LaVoi and seconded by Wilkens to adopt the minutes of the July 6, 1993 SHRWD meeting as mailed with the above corrections being made. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens handed out and reviewed the Treasurer's Report covering the month of July 1993. The past month's transactions, fund balances and investment portfolio were reviewed. Motion was made by LaVoi and seconded by Baatz to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and authorize payment of the current month's bills as presented below. Motion carried unanimously.

Mac's Cafe-meals	13.50
Fertile Journal-envelope printing	39.90
Fertile Bakery-rolls-meetings	7.00
Al & Laura's Hartz-supplies	15.64
Otter Tail Power Co.- Heat & Utilities	75.11
Garden Valley Telephone Co.	165.74
Pioneer Drug- slide processing (Stream Maintenance Project)	15.99
Andersen's Camera Shop-slide proc/postage	11.23
Sonny Ranz-2 beavers trapped(Ditch #2/Bergeson Nursery)	40.00
Ronald Baatz-5 beavers shot(Bear Park Project)	100.00
Dale Olson-2 beaver dams removed(blowen) on Kittleson Creek	155.00
Olson & Son Excavating-remove Bergeson Beaver Dam	45.00
Tony Dorn-Copy Meter	87.06
Lois Plante-Custodial- August	41.56
Ray Baatz-Meetings & expenses	150.10
Wayne Goeken- Secretarial services	323.23
Roland Gullekson- Meet ings & expenses	399.33
Roger Hanson- Meetings & expenses	57.18
Francis LaVoi- Meet ings & expenses	62.68
Daniel Wilkens- Meetings & expenses	340.56
Daniel Wilkens-bill from charge card for computer upgrades/supplies	831.70
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b><u>\$2,977.51</u></b>

**5. Red River Valley Environmental Assessment:** Wilkens reported on a tour of the Red River Valley for agency representatives and interested parties involved with the Red River Valley Environmental Assessment Project. The tour took place when there was flooding occurring due to the heavy rains that occurred a few days before the tour. Most of those in

attendance were not previously familiar with the Red River Valley. The flooding situation noted on the tour helped give them a better understanding of surface water conditions in the Valley. A second "mini-tour" will be held September 1st and 2nd for agency representatives that were not able to attend the above tour. Wilkens noted that the EA work groups are now going into their specific projects.

#### **6. Project Reports:**

**a.) Maple Creek:** Woodbury reported that maps are being developed and will be available for review at the September SHRWD Board meeting.

**b.) West Mill Project:** Woodbury noted that the preliminary soil borings and site surveying is scheduled to be done in the next two weeks with the results to be available for review at the September SHRWD Board meeting.

**c.) Sand Hill River Streambank Stabilization:** Wilkens reviewed a letter received from Strom Construction which identified the costs for doing each of the four proposed stabilization sites along the Sand Hill River. The total cost for all four sites were from \$20,000-30,000. Hanson asked for clarification regarding the benefits of doing these particular projects. It was noted that the projects will control erosion and ~~further~~<sup>streambank</sup> slippage in these areas plus serve as a demonstration project showing how this type of work can be done for similar future projects. Wilkens noted his phone conversation with Dan Thul of the MN DNR who indicated that DNR Fisheries personnel intended to come out for a second site visit. Thul had looked at the concrete rubble that was proposed to be used and indicated that it appeared to be acceptable to use as rip rap. Motion by LaVoi and second by Baatz that if the permits come in soon, Wilkens is authorized to begin the process of stockpiling rocks to be used for riprap.

**d.) Beaver Situations:** Mike Hitchin, Gerald Gunufson and Cliff Krogstad came before the Board to discuss problems they are having regarding high water flooding their property. They indicated that the combination of heavy rainfall this year and beaver dams have caused this problem and asked if the SHRWD could assist in removing the beaver dams. Their land and the problems they were noting is between the Rindal bridge on Polk County #10 and the Lewis bridge on Polk County #1. Gullekson reported on river readings that he has been taking upstream of this area through the course of the summer which have not shown the river to be rising much. The situation of the property owners upstream of the Bear Park structure stating they had beaver dams, but then none were found was also noted. Baatz noted a recent meeting he attended that was coordinated by the Red Lake Watershed District which specifically discussed beaver problems and an effort underway to coordinate a system of beaver control between the various groups that are affected including private landowners, watershed districts, townships, counties and others. Motion by Baatz to authorize removal of the dams along the Sand Hill River between Rindal bridge and Lewis bridge as they are identified and located by the landowners. The landowners will contact Gullekson who will then contact a contractor to have the dams removed. This is proposed to be done at this time on a trial basis to see what the impact will be during a high water year such as this. Motion was seconded by LaVoi. Motion carried unanimously. A separate motion was made by Wilkens to authorize Baatz to attend future meetings related to developing a coordinated approach to beaver control. Motion seconded by LaVoi. Motion carried unanimously.

**e.) Beltrami Ditching:** Hanson asked about the proposed cut-off ditch east of Beltrami and what had become of it. It was noted that the large cost of a drop structure into the Sand Hill was a major obstacle to this idea and had brought it to a halt. Wilkens asked

why the water couldn't be diverted at the substation either west and south into the Sand Hill or south and then west to alleviate flooding in Beltrami and the areas along the old Sand Hill Channel around and west of Beltrami. Discussion followed regarding the feasibility of this project, whether it should be a petitioned project, the area involved and other related matters.

**7. Other Activities and Business:**

- a.) Motion by Gullekson to authorize putting in a cabinet and sink unit on the main floor of the SHRWD office building. Motion seconded by Baatz. Motion carried unanimously. Gullekson was authorized to contact contractors to get the work done.
- b.) Wilkens noted that a revised levy notification procedure is being worked on with the Polk County Auditor Jerry Amiot.
- c.) Gullekson reported on information that was sent out by Al Dornfield of MAWD for review and comment. It was provided to Baatz for initial review and then will be circulated to other Board members.
- d.) The policies and procedures of the Sand Hill River Watershed District as relates to Board members was explained to new Board member Ray Baatz.
- e.) It was noted that the West Polk SWCD banquet is September 9 with confirmation needed by September 6. SHWD Board members were encouraged to attend as their schedules allowed

**8. Permits:**

Four permits that came before the Board for review were approved.

- 1993-6 Maurice & Eunice Beck. Woodside Twp. SE 1/4 of Sec. 25. Install tile drain to lower water table in lawn.
- 1993-7 American Crystal Sugar Company. Hubbard Twp. Sec. 17 NW. Adjust drainage and reinstall culvert at proper depth as water doesn't now fully drain from the north road ditch.
- 1993-8 Garden Valley Telephone Company. Russia Twp. Sec. 34. Bury telephone cable across Maple Creek due to existing cable being damaged and in need of repair.
- 1993-9 Alfred Olson. Russia Twp. SE 1/4 Sec. 29. Clean south ditch as silt and straw has plugged approximately 1/2 mile of ditch.

**9. Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be September 7, 1993. As there was no further business to come before the Board, motion by Wilkens and seconded by LaVoi to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

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Roger Hanson, Secretary

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Wayne R. Goeken, Exec. Secretary