

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes-November 2, 1993 Regular Board Meeting

- 1. Attendance:** Roland Gullekson, President, called the November 2, 1993 meeting to order at 8:00 a. m. District Managers present were Ray Baatz, Roger Hanson, Francis LaVoi, and Dan Wilkens. Others in attendance were Wayne Goeken—SHRWD Executive Secretary, Lawrence Woodbury--SHRWD Consulting Engineer, David Black, Jerry Dahl, Clayton Engelstad, Elvym Gunderson, Jim Lehman, Jerry Paulson, Steve Ranz, Ernie Uhler, and Roy VanDenEinde
- 2. Agenda Review:** No changes in the agenda were noted.
- 3. Minutes:** Motion by LaVoi and seconded by Baatz to adopt the minutes of the September 7, 1993 SHRWD Board meeting as mailed. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:**
 - a.) Audit Review: Wilkens noted that the audit of the SHRWD books is nearly complete and reviewed with the Board some clarifications that auditor Pat Muir needed including cash restrictions on investments for the SHRWD, insurance policies, procedures for handling cash receipts and disbursements and other matters. Wilkens will provide Muir with the necessary information for her to complete the audit.
 - b.) Wilkens handed out and reviewed the SHRWD Treasurer's Report covering the month of September 1993. The past months transactions, fund balances and investment portfolio were reviewed. Motion by Baatz and second by LaVoi to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and authorize payment of the current months bills as presented below. Motion carried unanimously.

First State Bank of Fertile-Social Security & Medicare	\$535.02
Wayne Goeken- Secretarial Services	646.45
Lois Plante-Custodial Services	55.41
Raymond Baatz-Meetings & Expenses	234.78
Roland Gullekson-Meetings & Expenses	930.67
Roger Hanson-Meetings & Expenses	148.44
Francis LaVoi-Meetings & Expenses	62.68
Daniel Wilkens-Meetings & Expenses	584.55
Houston Engineering-Engineering Services	6,823.00
Fertile Coast to Coast-cleaning supplies	25.79
Al & Laura's Hartz Store-meeting supplies	60.09
Midland Atlas Company-atlases of Polk & Norman Counties	300.00
Stuhaug Sanitation-garbage pickup	15.98
Otter Tail Power Company-Utilities & Heat	166.91
Fertile Journal-Meeting Notices & supplies	48.01
Fertile Bakery-rolls-meetings	7.00
Mahnomen Pioneer Press-legal notice	50.40
Olson & Sons-Bear Park Beaver Dam Removal	40.00

Norman County Index-legal notice	78.44
Garden Valley Telephone Company-phone service	184.12
City of Fertile-Water & Sewer	47.80
Tony Dorn-copy meter	89.80
Mac's Cafe-meals	26.00
Dina Hanson-No Smoking Signs for SHWD office	<u>26.40</u>
Monthly Total	\$11,187.74

5. Project Reports:

- a.) Steve Ranz and Jim Lehman visited with the Board regarding an erosion problem in Liberty township. The SHRWD Board agreed to make a site visit and inspection of the situation to identify options which will be reviewed at the next meeting of the SHRWD.
- b.) Ray Baatz noted a situation regarding a new bridge constructed this summer at the outlet of the Sand Hill Ditch which is causing concern among upstream landowners that this will cause upstream flooding. It was agreed that if the township can get permission from the landowner in that area in the form of an easement for the SHRWD then the SHRWD would proceed with doing bank stabilization and brush clearing work in that area.
- c.) Hanson noted there may also be water problems related to recent railroad bridges that have been put in along Minnesota Highway #9 north of Beltrami. It was suggested that Polk County Ditching Engineer Blake Carlson be contacted regarding what standards the County and railroad have and how the review for such projects is handled.
- d.) Bear Park Beavers: Landowners from the Bear Park area visited with the SHRWD Board regarding continuing problems being caused by beavers in that area Jerry Paulson noted the request that was made to the SHRWD Board in June to remove beaver dams in the area. Gullekson explained that Tim Olson was instructed to check out the situation and remove the dams. Olson did visit the site but reported no beaver dams. However, apparently Olson had hiked and searched the wrong stretch of river. Thus, there were beaver dams as was reported by the landowners but nothing was done at that time due to a misunderstanding between the parties. Paulson noted that he had received no communication back at that time that someone had visited the site and that no beaver dams were found and no work was done. Jerry Dahl, who farms land that the beaver dam is on, noted that the dam has been there for one and a half years. Gullekson noted that Harold Olson is supposed to be blowing dams now, but is looking for someone to assist him so he's not in the field alone. To move on from this point it was agreed that the Bear Park drop structure will be cleared this fall and after freeze-up the beaver dams and houses will be cleared by starting at the structure and moving upstream. As a trial measure, Roy VanDenEinde, who lives closest to the drop structure, will contact Tim Olson directly if the structure needs cleaning with Olson being authorized to proceed with cleaning it upon his notice. This should give quicker notice and if it works satisfactorily will be continued in the future. Tim Olson will also be instructed to clear the structure if he sees it is in need when he is in that area It was also noted that Bobby Guenther of rural Waubon also blows beaver dams.
- e.) West Mill Project: Woodbury noted that soil borings were done at the proposed West Mill dam project site with silt and sand being found to extend down to a depth of 29 feet with

till material underlying this. Constructing a dam at this location would require more work than was previously expected. To pass dam safety criteria a seal would have to reach down to the till. This could be accomplished by 1.) excavating to that depth and filling with clay, 2.) driving sheet piling down to the till, or 3.) dredging out a trench and filling with bentonite. There would be very little flood control benefits from this project, thus the RRWMB involvement would likely be limited with the majority of the costs born locally, i.e., city, county, watershed and possibly State. Woodbury will draft up a summary report of findings and options to be presented to the Fertile City Council for their consideration.

- f.) Maple Creek Project (Chicog Lake area): Woodbury was directed to write up a summary of recent findings related to this project that will be presented to the MN DNR.
- g.) Wilkens noted that he was contacted regarding ditch repairs needed on the Kittleson Creek Diversion north of the Polk County 1 in the area of the MN DNR Liberty Wildlife Management Area (Sec. 16, Liberty Twp). Erosion and streambank sloughing problems exist along this stretch where Kittleson Creek Diversion cuts off the old channel. Motion by LaVoi and seconded by Baatz authorizing Hanson to contact Slager Construction to see if work could be done at this site yet this fall. Motion carried unanimously. It has been reported that currently water breaks out of the existing channel starting at an area 1/4 of a mile upstream from Polk County #1 and extending 3/4 of a mile upstream to the beach ridge. This water then flows westward and causes flooding in the Beltrami area Woodbury was instructed to review project options for this area to prevent this situation.
- h.) Gullekson noted that the culvert at the first drop structure is plugged. Tim Olson will be directed to clear this culvert.

6. Red River Valley Environmental Assessment:

- a) Wilkens noted that environmental groups are raising concerns and demanding to be involved on the task forces. These groups and their representatives have been invited to tours of the Valley but so far have refused to be involved. Wilkens and Ogaard will be meeting with the Corp to discuss further involvement options.
- b.) Wilkens reported that at the Red River Water Management Board meeting at Roseau, each watershed district was asked to put together a summary noting potential projects in their respective districts and proposed project activities related to them for the EA.

7. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

- a) November 17-19: The International Coalition Conference in Winnipeg. Roger Hanson was authorized to go on behalf of the SHRWD. Wilkens will be attending through the Red River Water Management Board and will serve on a panel discussing the EA.
- b.) December 3-4: MN Assn. of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting in Brainerd. Roland Gullekson, Roger Hanson, and Dan Wilkens were authorized to attend. Roger Hanson and Dan Wilkens were designated to be delegates on behalf of the SHRWD.
- c.) It was noted that the underground fuel tank has now been drained. Motion by Baatz and seconded by LaVoi to have Roger's Plumbing and Heating of Winger install a small fuel tank in the basement to provide for dual fuel and plumb the sink upstairs.

8. Permits:

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

- 1993-12 Black Bros. Winger Twp. Polk Co. SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 Sec. 3 1. Clean north end of ditch running north and south as brush and grass is impeding flow of water causing water to flow out on the field and eroding topsoil.
- 1993-13 Black Bros. Bear Park Twp. Norman Co. NE 1/4 Sec. 8. Clean road ditch along a portion of the north end of this quarter and the adjoining quarter to the west as silt and grass are blocking drainage.
- 1993-14 Clayton Engelstad Onstad and Liberty Twp. Annual ditch cleaning needed due to normal filling by working and washing. Unable to clean last year due to being too wet.
- 1993-15 Eric Engelstad. Godfrey Twp. Polk Co. Sec. 28, 29, and 30. Clean existing field ditches on Ernil Petersen's farmland.
- 1993-16 Clayton Engelstad. Liberty Twp. Polk Co. NE 1/4 of Sec 14. Clean ditch on south line of quarter which was filled in by washing and sediment.
- 1993-17 M. R. Skaug. Reis Twp. Polk Co. Sec. 1 1. Clean ditch along Co. Rd. 213 due to poor drainage.
- 1993-18 M. R. Skaug. Reis Twp. Polk Co. Sec. 10. Clean 1/2 mile of ditch on south side of Polk Co. # 48. Install 24" culvert and crossing at half mile line.
- 1993-19 Steven Taylor. Liberty Twp. Polk Co. SW 1/4 of SE 1/4. Sec 21. Install a culvert through the ditch along the wildlife management area on the SW side near the gravel road to allow for a crossing for a snowmobile trail.

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

Roger Hanson, Secretary

Wayne K Goeken, Executive Secretary