

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

December 14, 1995 Meeting Minutes

1. Attendance: Roger Hanson called the -November 7; 1995 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Managers present were Ray Baatz, Jimmy Krogstad, Harold Vig, and Dan Wilkens. Ray Christian, Roland Gullekson, Wayne Goeken-SHRWD Executive Secretary and Lawrence Woodbury-SHRWD Engineer were also in attendance.
2. Agenda Review: No changes to the agenda were noted.
3. Minutes: Motion by Vig to approve the minutes of the November 7, 1995 SHRWD regular Board meeting as mailed. Motion seconded by Baatz and carried unanimously.
4. Treasurer's Report: Wilkens handed out and reviewed the Treasurer's report. Discussion followed regarding the amount to keep in the SHRWD checking account with remaining funds going into an interest bearing instrument. Wilkens was directed to keep \$50,000 in checking with additional funds to be invested at financial institutions that have been approved as depositories by the SHRWD. It was agreed that there is not a conflict of interest in depositing funds with the Agassiz Federal Credit Union. Wilkens became President of AFCU on October 1, 1995. Previous SHRWD Treasurer Vernon Larson had deposited funds in the AFCU over 10 years ago with investments continuing over the past 10 years.

Roland Gullekson, Executive Director of the Agassiz Environmental Learning Center requested that the remaining \$1,500 that the SHRWD had committed to the Sand Hill River Watch Project be released to be used in that project.

Wilkens reported that the auditing firm has requested some additional information which he will provide so they can finish up the audit.

Vig noted that at the recent MAWD meeting it was emphasized that Watershed District's checks should have a double signature. Motion by Vig to implement a policy starting in January of 1996 of having two signatures on Sand Hill Watershed District checks. The signatories are to be Executive Officers of the SHRWD. Motion seconded by Krogstad and carried unanimously.

Motion by Baatz and second by Krogstad to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously. The Northwest Minnesota Viewers Association sent a letter requesting dues to be used for training viewers. Motion by Baatz to approve payment of this \$300 request. Motion seconded by Wilkens and carried unanimously. Motion by Vig and second by Baatz to pay bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Made to Memo	Amount
Ejigelstad Bulldozing-Project Maintenance-Ditch 17-2	\$4,760.00
First State Bank of Fertile-Soc Sec/Medic.	267.56
Wayne Goeken—secretarial services	461.75
Ray Baatz-meetings & expenses	197.38
Roger Hanson-meetings & expenses	1,453.96
Jimmie Krogstad—meetings & expenses	128.58
Harold Vig~meetings & expenses	737.33
Dan Wilkens—meetings & expenses	445.03
Christian Excavating—Projects: River stabilization & Ditch 17-2	17,622.00
Red River Watershed Management Board-tax levy	11,420.80
Houston Engineering—professional services	1,962.00
Liberty Township— beaver control	260.00

City of Fertile—street assessment	69.67
Agassiz Environmental Learning Center—River Watch support	1,500
Garden Valley Telephone-phone service	178.35
Garden Township— beaver control	560.00
Erskine Echo— advertisement	21.00
Thirteen Towns— advertisement	19.90
Fertile Journal—advertisement & office supplies	75.70
Anderson & Bailey—legal services-Proj. 12	828.44
Crookston Daily Times— advertisement	38.44
Otter Tail Power Co.-utilities: light & heat	448.24
NW MN Viewers Assn-membership dues	300.00
Mac's Cafe— meeting expenses	30.00
Fertile Bakery— meeting expense	7.50
MONTHLY TOTAL	\$43,793.63

5. Project Reports:

- a.) SHRWD Consulting Engineer Lawrence Woodbury reviewed the situation related to the BN rail crossing of the SH River just south of Beltrami near the Gary Gullekson farm. The work done by the Corps this fall to try to correct the sloughing riverbank which was nearly collapsing Gary Gullekson's driveway was not holding up. Hanson and Woodbury visited with an Army Corps rep at the recent MAWD Annual Meeting who indicated that there may be a couple of Corps programs which may be applicable to this situation. Motion by Krogstad to have Woodbury draft and send a letter to the Army Corps requesting cooperation and assistance in looking at existing conditions and identifying options to address ongoing problems related to the Beltrami bridge and the Sand Hill Ditch in general. It would be desirable to set up a meeting with Corps officials in the area to tour the site and then discuss and review options. Motion seconded by Baatz and carried unanimously.
- b.) Beltrami Diversion: It was noted that Step 1 applications are accepted at the Red River Watershed Management Board meeting in February, March, and April with projects being evaluated at the July RRWMB meeting. It would be desirable to get this project done during the upcoming construction season. This will be a good project to demonstrate how rebuilding local roads and improving drainage to an area can be mutually compatible and help keep costs down for all. Woodbury will prepare a Step 1 application to be presented at the February RRWMB meeting.
- c.) Project #12: There was further discussion regarding alternative courses of action that the SHRWD have available to them in this matter. The SHRWD Board will consult further with their attorney regarding these options.
- d.) Ogaard Project: Don Ogaard had informed the Board that he is prepared to sell some property which includes a project that the SHRWD has been involved in planning. It was put on hold when the Red River Valley EIS process began. It has been determined that if all parties are in agreement to proceed with this project that it can now go ahead before the final RRV EIS is complete. If the District is interested in proceeding Ogaard will hold off on sale of the property until the conservation enhancements are in place. Primary benefits of the project relate to wildlife with some flood storage benefits also occurring. The SHRWD would realize these same benefits and could use the project as an educational tool to demonstrate multiple benefits of conservation measures. Motion by Vig to table further discussion regarding this project until the next meeting and have Woodbury review the project file further prior to the meeting and request that Ogaard attend to discuss the project. Motion seconded by Baatz and carried unanimously.

6. Report on Meetings and Activities During the Past Month:

- a.) Vig and Hanson reported on the annual conference of The International Coalition which was held in Fargo in November and the MAWD annual conference held in December. Hanson also reported on a meeting he attended on Sustainability on November 8.

7. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

- a.) Hanson reviewed mail received since the last Board meeting including a letter from MN DOT noting that due to safety concerns they will be proceeding to make repairs to U.S. Hwy 59 and the bridge in the vicinity of the proposed Winger Dam project. This is scheduled for spring of 1999 construction unless Winger Dam project proceeds in which case MN DOT will honor previous commitments.
- b.) -David Black visited with the Board regarding their beaver policy. It was explained that participating townships approve who is to control beavers in their township and then pay these people \$30 per beaver and submit for reimbursement of \$20 per beaver from the SHRWD. This doesn't apply to beaver control in private ditches or county ditches. A separate beaver control program is in place related to the District's Bear Park project.
- c.) Resumes of applicants for the SHRWD administrative assistant position were reviewed with further discussion of duties and requirements of this position. It was decided to keep the application period open until the next meeting on January 2, 1996 meeting.

8. Permits:

Motion by Vig and second by Baatz to approve the permit and work proposed for the Bentwood Golf Course in Climax. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be 8:00 a.m. January 2, 1996. As there was no further business to come before the board, motion by Baatz and seconded by Krogstad to adjourn. Motion unanimously.

Jimmie Krogstad, Secretary

Wayne R. Goeken, Executive Secretary