

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

January 2, 1996 Meeting Minutes

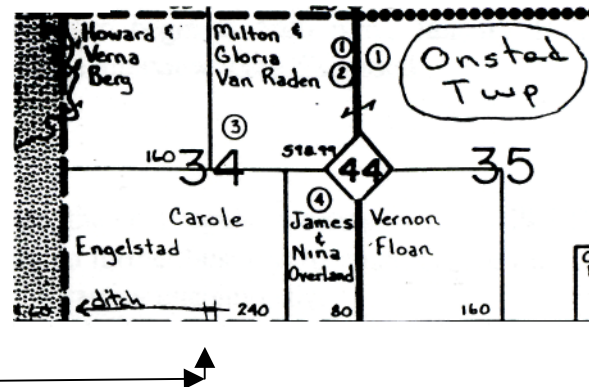
1. Attendance: Roger Hanson called the January 2, 1996 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Managers present were Jimmy Krogstad, Harold Vig, and Dan Wilkens. Charley Gustafson, Rudy Applequist, Orvis Lewis, Don Ogaard, Wayne Goeken-SHRWD Executive Secretary and Lawrence Woodbury-SHRWD Engineer were also in attendance.
2. Agenda Review: No changes to the agenda were noted.
3. Minutes: The following corrections were noted in the December 14, 1995 SHRWD meeting minutes: Page 1, item 1, line I—change "November 7" to "December 14"; Page 2, item 5.a., line 2—change "the Corps" to "BN"; Page 3, item 7.b., line I—change "Roger" to "David". Motion by Krogstad to approve the minutes of the December 14, 1995 SHRWD regular Board meeting as corrected. Motion seconded by Vig and carried unanimously.
4. Treasurer's Report: Wilkens handed out and reviewed the Treasurer's report. Motion by Vig and second by Krogstad to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
Bills that had been submitted for payment were then reviewed. Motion by Krogstad and second by Vig to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment made to- Memo	Amount
Dennis Habeck—96 hours River clean-up	\$ 2940.00
Wayne Goeken— secretarial services & expenses	461.75
Roger Hanson-meetings & expenses	125.58
Jimmie Krogstad—meetings & expenses	113.58
Harold Vig— meetings & expenses	126.97
Dan Wilkens— meetings & expenses	370.55
Al & Laura's Foods— meeting expenses	15.42
Mac's Cafe-12/14/95 & 1/02/96	79.66
City of Fertile-Utility bill	49.80
Crookston Daily Times— Admin. Asst. ad	38.44
Fertile Journal— Meeting notice & envelopes	67.30
The Thirteen Towns— Admin. Asst. ad	19.90
Houston Engineering—General engineering services	1146.00
	\$5554.95

5. Project Reports:

- a.) Orvis Lewis visited with the Board regarding ditching activity that took place adjacent to his property which he feels has caused wet conditions over and above normal conditions. The Board will visit with J.R. Dale again to review the situation and provide direction on remedial measures to be taken.
- b.) Boundary Change: A matter was brought to the Board's attention relating to the boundary location between the SHRWD and the Red Lake Watershed District—primarily in the area of Russia and Onstad Township. Rudy Applequist and Charles Gustafson presented a color coded map showing drainage patterns as they knew them. These were presented in relation to the existing watershed boundaries which did not coincide with the perceived drainage patterns. The landowners noted that their maps were preliminary and based on their personal experiences of farming and observing drainage in this area. The Board noted that some

preliminary survey work had been done in the past related to this area but it was not finished. The Board further indicated that they will check with the Red Lake Watershed District on this matter as much of the work was believed to have been done under the direction of Charles Anderson when he was at the RLWD. Ways to initiate a boundary change proceeding were briefly noted. c.)Applequist and Gustafson also discussed with the Board another situation involving an area (see map) where a 36 inch culvert was put to direct water in a ditch along a township road. It was noted that a smaller culvert was previously in place in this location and the larger volume of water that the new culvert allows to pass through is eroding the township road and will soon cause extensive road damage. It was discussed that maybe a restrictor could be put in the 36" culvert to control the release of water or a drop structure put in to help prevent erosion of the road. The Board indicated that they will review this project with the SCS office to see what options may be available to address the problem including any technical assistance or cost-sharing that the SCS or other organizations could provide.



Field crossing where culvert was replaced- possible Location for drop structure

- d.) Project # 12. Wilkens reported that no agreement had been reached since the December 5th meeting in Crookston between the appellants and the District. In further discussion it was noted that there is no provision in Minnesota statute for negotiation in these matters. With this consideration in mind the Board decided to proceed through official channels and resolve this issue through the courts. It had been indicated that the case will be scheduled for a March hearing date. Hanson will visit with SHRWD attorney Bottrell to apprise him of the situation.
- e.)Red River Valley EIS. Woodbury noted that he provided responses to the Draft EIS to the Corps of Engineers on behalf of the SHRWD. Other Watershed Districts throughout the Red River Valley also responded resulting in a rather large volume of comments that were received in total. Many of the comments were simply correcting errors in the Draft EIS such as extent of drainage areas. The Draft EIS did not recognize agriculture as a part of the water management needs of the Red River Valley. Generally all comments are included as an appendix in the Final EIS, but due to the volume of comments it is not known if this will be handled in this manner or if there will be a rewrite of the Draft EIS before the Final EIS is released. To this point the Commissioners of the MN DNR and PCA have not been involved in this EIS process. There was further discussion regarding Tier I and Tier II EISs.
- f.) Ogaard Project. The Board visited with Don Ogaard regarding the status of a proposed project involving land currently owned by Ogaard southwest of Winger. The project would provide wildlife benefits and flood control. Ogaard indicated that the Corps will be issuing a national permit release soon and no other permits will be needed. Ogaard discussed with the Board a proposal for an easement on this property including items such as firebreaks, mowing, field access and CRP acreages. Cost projections will be researched and brought back to the Board for consideration as they decide whether or not to proceed with this project. Cost sharing options with the RRWMB will also be explored.

6. Report on Meetings and Activities During the Past Month: Activities included under Project Reports above.

7. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

a.) Hanson reviewed mail received since the last Board meeting including notice of a meeting to be held on February 15th in Grand Forks which will include discussion of the role of watersheds and local control in decisions about local natural resource management in the Red River Valley. It was stressed that this is an important meeting that all watershed managers and concerned citizens should attend. A MAWD legislative breakfast is also scheduled for February 1-2 in St. Paul. A Wetlands Conference will take place on February 9th in St. Cloud. Motion by Wilkens and seconded by Vig to authorize SHRWD representation at these meetings for anyone who is able to attend. Motion carried unanimously, b.) Resumes of applicants for the SHRWD administrative assistant position were reviewed. The Board selected five candidates to interview with the interviews to begin at 5:00 p.m., January 10th and proceeding in half hour intervals. Questions to ask during the interview were discussed.

8. Permits: No permits came before the Board for review

9. Adjournment: Due to scheduling conflicts for Board members, the next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be 8:00 a.m. **THURSDAY**, February 1, 1996. As there was no further business to come before the Board, a motion by Krogstad and seconded by Vig to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Jimmie Krogstad, Secretary

Wayne R. Goeken, Executive Secretary