

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

June 1, 1999 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the June 1, 1999 meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Dan Wilkens, Harold Vig, Jim Krogstad, and Bill Brekke, Jr. Others in attendance were Naomi Jagol-Administrative Assistant, and Jim Larsen-SHRWD Engineer. Manager Hanson welcomed a new manager to the Board, Robert (Bill) Brekke, Jr.
2. **Agenda Review:** No changes to the agenda were noted.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Manager Krogstad to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular Board meeting held on May 4, 1999 as mailed, Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens handed out and reviewed the Treasurer's report. Bills that had been submitted for payment were then reviewed. Manager Hanson inquired about the expense incurred for the bus for the tour conducted of the District for the Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) Project Team. Manager Wilkens responded that the District is recording all the expenses incurred by the Project Team and funds should be forthcoming from the legislature for reimbursement. Motion by Manager Krogstad to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills as presented, Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried.

Payment Made to—Memo	Amount
Naomi Jagol—sec. services & exp. 5/1-5/15 (\$780.40), 5/16-5/31 (\$634.72)	\$1,415.12
Roger Hanson—meetings & expenses	152.98
Jimmie Krogstad—meetings & expenses	135.68
Bill Brekke, Jr.—meetings & expenses	66.29
Dan Wilkens—meetings & expenses	638.76
Al & Laura's—Supplies	15.87
AmeriPride—Rental Agreement	13.95
AT&T—Long distance charges	39.81
Culligan—Rental Agreement	11.72
Fertile Bakery—Meeting expense	5.00
Fertile Building Center, Ltd.—Supplies for surveying	26.63
The Fertile Journal—Meeting notice	2.88
First State Bank of Fertile—Soc. Sec./Med. Deposit	493.86
First State Insurance Agency—Additional coverage premium	60.00
Garden Valley Telephone Co.—June phone bill	89.10
Houston Engineering, Inc.—Meetings & Special Meetings and Mediation Presentation	1,550.10
Laser Systems—Toner cartridge for printer	51.94
Otter Tail Power Co.—June billing	90.26
Sam's Club—Annual Administration fee	10.00
Tony Dorn, Inc.—Copier maintenance	31.58
U.S. Postal Service—1 st Class Postage, 500 @ .33	165.00
Visa Credit—Finance charge	3.20
MONTHLY TOTAL	\$5,069.73

5. Project Reports:

- a. Project #12, Co. Ditches 98 & 148: Larsen stated that he is waiting for a response from a landowner regarding whether he would be finishing the remaining seeding to be done on the project. Hanson inquired whether the landowner or the contractor is responsible for the seeding. Larsen responded that he would need to discuss the matter with the landowner prior to contacting the contractor.

- b. Ring Dike: Larsen reported that the ring dike at the Allan Stromstad farmstead has been seeded.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

- a. Polk County Ditch Petition: Manager Wilkens reported on a letter received from Anderson & Bailly regarding the petition requesting the county to turn over the ditches to the watershed district. Wilkens explained that he attended the board meeting of the Polk County commissioners during which this issue was discussed. Wilkens stated that the committee that developed in response to the Polk County #41 re-build project had posed the question of whether the petition to turn the ditches over could be presented by the county commissioners rather than landowners. Wilkens noted that this issue was forwarded to Anderson & Bailly for consideration. Lowell Bottrell, SHRWD attorney, recommended that the committee pursue another option.
- b. Ditch #122: Manager Wilkens stated that he and Butch Olson had surveyed with a laser, the north/south road from Polk County #1, one mile north to the Jerde Bridge. The water can go south to #1 and then west with normal ditch cuts. This road has water frequently running over the top and as the water runs west, causes severe erosion to the farmland. Liberty township and area landowners are interested in pursuing this project.

Hanson noted that when the water goes west along #1 past Taylor's, and down the hill towards Kittleson Creek, they are having some minor problems with erosion in the area of new construction. The area east of Polk County # 44 would also need to be cleaned as this section of ditch is currently poorly drained. Wilkens explained that east of the half-mile line on the north/south Liberty township road, a ridge has been washed out. This is currently being worked on to repair the damage. If the washout were repaired, less than 120 acres would drain south. Currently the water from the airport area crosses the township road, goes around Jagol's buildings and proceeds west rather than going north back into Ditch #122. The water then travels through the ridge where the washout is located. Hanson stated that the water needs to be cut off and routed south to the waterway by Belen's. If this was accomplished the system would have a much better chance of handling the water flows.

Currently Jim Jerde does not have access to his field south of Ditch #122 with the bridge out. Liberty Township has agreed to install a 24" culvert east of the washed out bridge at the ridge which will be a crossing for Jim Jerde and also a regulator on the flows coming from the east. This will be on the south side of the road. Another 24" pipe will be installed on the next ridge east on the north side of the road to act as a regulator. Hanson recommended that the District should begin pursuing redirecting the flows to the south.

The Board requested Larsen to prepare a ditch map denoting the benefited areas of Ditch #122 prior to the next monthly meeting.

- c. Meeting of Accounting Personnel within the Red River Watershed Management Board: Manager Wilkens stated that a second meeting was conducted at the Sand Hill River WD office for all the bookkeepers within the watershed districts of the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB). He noted that meaningful discussion occurred among those in attendance. He added that he intends to organize a similar group for the Administrators within the RRWMB.
- d. Comparative Worth Study: Manager Wilkens stated that a comparative worth study had been conducted with Jack Schmalenberg, Polk County Coordinator for the position of Administrative Assistant in the SHRWD. Wilkens inquired of the Board when to schedule a meeting with the auditor to discuss the results of the study. A meeting was scheduled for June 14, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in the District office.

- e. Polk County Hwy #41 Re-build: Manager Wilkens stated that a landowner had contacted him regarding filter strip requirements for the ditch systems within the area of the Polk County Hwy #41 re-build. The landowner had indicated that some ditches get cleaned within the system, while others do not. Manager Wilkens had indicated that should the landowners decide to petition for a project in conjunction with the re-build, the ditch systems should be consolidated into one ditch for ease of maintenance.
- f. Conservation in the Red River Valley: Manager Wilkens reported that a recent conservation meeting was conducted in the Red River valley in an effort to obtain representative from interest groups to participate in the project teams that developed in response to the mediation agreement. The interest groups had indicated that there is a tremendous amount of money available for natural resource enhancement initiatives. He noted that the challenge for watershed districts would be to identify these sources in order to utilize the funds.
- g. Governor's Forum: Manager Wilkens reported that he attended a forum sponsored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to find out what Minnesota citizens think about our air, water and land. The forum was designed to actively involve citizens in discussions about environmental issues facing the state. The forum was intended to provide the agency with a broader perspective on these issues, directly from its citizens.
- h. Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) Challenge Grant: Manager Wilkens stated that Wayne Goeken had applied for a grant through the Challenge Grant program sponsored by BWSR and received funds in the amount \$100,000 to further the River Watch program in schools within the Red River basin. Wilkens explained that Goeken had designated the RRWMB to act as the fiscal agent to administer the funds received from BWSR. Wilkens noted that since he is the Treasurer of the RRWMB, he would be attending a workshop on June 9, 1999 in Bemidji regarding the challenge grant program.
- i. Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Summer Tour: Jagol reported that the 1999 MAWD Summer Tour is scheduled for June 24-26, 1999 in Bloomington, MN and is hosted by the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed Districts. Steve Morse, newly appointed deputy DNR Commissioner would be the keynote speaker at the Summer Tour Banquet. The Board indicated that they would contact Jagol if they were interested in attending.
- j. National Weather Service (NWS): Manager Wilkens stated that he had attended a meeting in Grand Forks, ND sponsored by the NWS relative to the progress made since the Flood of 1997. He noted that Wendy Pearson, of the NWS, who has previously assisted the District with matters relating to the stream gaging station in Beltrami announced that she would be relocating to the St. Louis, MO branch.
- k. Sand Hill Ditch Erosion: Jim Larsen discussed the need to contact Glen Gullekson to discuss the options for repairing the ditch erosion along his property. Hanson concurred with Larsen that Gullekson should be contacted prior to pursuing the various alternative solutions.
- l. Reis township: Manager Hanson noted the severe deterioration of the old river channel occurring in Reis township. He stated that the township had been contacted by a landowner requesting them to install more dirt to repair a road washout. Following board discussion, it was agreed to forward a letter of recommendation to the township stating that the installation of more dirt would only cause increased problems of sloughing caused by the excess weight of the additional dirt.
- m. Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) Project Team: Larsen inquired whether the board would desire his participation in the project team meetings. Manager Wilkens responded that his input would be needed with regard to the operating plan developed for the Union Lake/Sarah pumping station.

Manager Brekke inquired on the cost of the installation of the pumping station. Manager Wilkens responded that the cost of constructing the pumping station and maintaining operation of the pump for a 20-year period would be approximately \$600,000.00.

7. Permits:

a.) Six permits came before the Board for review and were approved as follows:

- 1999-04 Garden township – Install culvert in Section 6.
- 1999-05 Anderson-Tronnes Farms, Inc. – Install culvert in Hubbard township, Section 7.
- 1999-06 Woodside township – Install culvert in Sites 1 & 2, Section 30.
- 1999-07 Haug Farms Joint Venture – Install culvert in Vineland township, Section 22.
- 1999-08 Hammond township – Install culvert in Section 29.
- 1999-09 Robert Epema – Install culvert in Woodside township, Section 35.

8. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 6, 1999. As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Jimmie Krogstad, Secretary

Naomi L. Jagol, Administrative Assistant