

# SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

July 10, 2001 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the July 10, 2001 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian, Gordon Sonsteli and Harold Vig. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, Naomi Jagol-Administrative Assistant and Jim Larsen-Houston Engineering and Phillip Hamre.
2. **Agenda Review:** No additional items were added to the agenda.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Manager Vig to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on June 5, 2001 as mailed, Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the Treasurer's report. Motion by Manager Brekke to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, Seconded by Manager Sonsteli, Carried.

Wilkens reviewed the bills to be approved. Motion by Manager Christian to approve and pay bills, Seconded by Manager Sonsteli, Carried. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

## 5. Project Reports:

- a. **Geographic Information Systems (GIS):** Jim Larsen, Houston Engineering, presented an update on the progress of the GIS database for the District. Christy Shostal, Houston Engineering, reported that the Raster map background using USGS quad maps has been assembled and the maps are at South Dakota State University for digitizing. We are gathering the permit information to send to them for inclusion in the database. They are including an area of 2-3 miles outside the District in order to assist in answering questions occurring on or near the boundary line. They are also developing a digitized map showing the boundaries of the 38 sub watersheds within the District. Larsen asked if a map of the private ditches has ever been developed. Vig said that SCS requested all of that information several years ago as part of the farm program. Larsen will contact the SCS offices and see if that information is available. Jerome Deal, Bois de Sioux Watershed District, is working with our Congressional Delegation to get the topo mapping that was done several years ago as part of the Back Scanning Radar proposal de-classified. This was done on 6-inch increments. This information would cost millions to replicate. Vig asked if new updates would be expensive to include in our database. Larsen said that all you need to do is download the new data and replace the old data.
- b. **Project Team Report:** The project team did not meet during the month of July. Larsen has asked Bob Muscha, Houston Engineering, to meet with Dan and develop a strategy for baseline engineering on Maple Creek to see what is feasible.

## 6. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

Jim Larsen's Report: Larsen reported that the Randy Hamre Ring Dike has been seeded and mulched. Larsen will inspect the project today at the conclusion of the meeting. Larsen asked for approval to pay for seeding and mulching and reducing the retainage on the project. Motion by Manager Brekke to authorize payment for the seeding and mulching and to reduce the retainage by one-half, Seconded by Manager Sonsteli, Carried. Hanson asked how soon would Maple Creek be started. Larsen said that Bob is working on the drop structures and Texas Crossings and will start Maple Creek as soon as he can tour the site with Dan. Wilkens stated that we need to move this along as fast as possible so we can schedule a Project Team meeting. Sonsteli asked what has progressed on PC # 41? Wilkens stated that the project is scheduled for 2003. Wilkens will continue efforts to progress the petition process along.

Dan Wilkens' Report:

**RRBFDRWG Meeting:** The group will meet on July 11, 2001 to develop a budget on the \$625,000 allocated for fiscal year 2002. Middle River Snake WD and the Buffalo Red River WD are submitting preliminary engineering requests. There is also a proposal from Rex Johnson (USFWS, Fergus Falls) to use Polk County as a pilot project to identify restorable wetlands using remote sensing imagery.. Wilkens stated that the finance committee did a draft budget but could not agree. Manager Hanson asked the board if they had any direction to give Wilkens at this upcoming meeting. The board suggested Wilkens approach the budget with caution and do the best he can for the districts.

**RRBB:** The RRBB met in Devils Lake on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Brekke Spillway Breach:** This project will need a public sponsor if FEMA funding becomes available. No word on funding.

**Fosston High Water Lakes:** A meeting was held on Friday, June 8 at 7:30 at the Rosebud Town Hall. Harold Vig, and Daniel Wilkens represented the Sand Hill WD with Dennis Nikolayson representing the Red Lake WD. Rosebud Township officers and Fosston City engineer as well as Warren Affeldt were present. It was decided that the water should remain in the Sand Hill District. A tour was conducted after the meeting.

**Ditch # 77:** The outlet to a branch of ditch # 77 is experiencing problems and a possible solution may require a petition for laterals to be established.

**FEMA:** We have asked to be on the list for the Sand Hill Ditch erosion problem by Myron Widrig's, the slough at Highway # 9, the erosion west of Highway # 32, the erosion by Dennis Hanson's, and the culvert repair south of the substation. We can use the \$ amounts for the repairs for costs estimates when the FEMA person comes to inspect the problem areas. I have asked Ray Christian to prepare a cost estimate of the Sand Hill River erosion site by Widrig's.

**LID:** Union lake is 1.3 feet above OHW and Sarah is 1.5 feet higher as of Friday July 6, 2001. The LID, Engineers, and Contractor met to try to arrive at an agreement as to what needs to be accomplished to complete the project. Statistics on the interconnect: From Sarah through the first culvert there is a .1 foot drop. Through the filter bed there is another .6 foot drop and from the manhole into Union Lake there is another .9 foot drop. Total of 1.6 feet elevation difference between Sarah and Union.

**Ditch # 90:** PC proposes to put in a 128" X 83" at the town line if that matches up with the prior engineering done previously by Blake Carlson. They are also going to look at putting in an erosion control structure at the outlet and upsize the culverts in Vineland Twp.

**Reis, Section 2:** The county plans on putting back the earthen dike where Maple Creek passes under PC # 51

g. Administrative Assistant Position: Wilkens stated that the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) has made Naomi an offer, which she has accepted. Naomi presented a letter of resignation effective August 1, 2001. The board accepted the resignation and congratulated Naomi on her new position. The transition period was discussed. Naomi agreed to assist Dan with the bookkeeping function and help train the new person when they are hired. The board agreed to compensate her at her hourly rate. Currently the district has received one application. **Motion** by Manager Brekke to continue advertising for a part-time administrative position, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**. The board asked that Dan, Naomi, and Stuart conduct an interview with the applicant as soon as convenient.

- h. New Levy Limits: Wilkens handed out a letter from Doug Thomas, Board of Soil and Water Resources giving the changes to the watershed district levy that occurred this legislative session. The changes include changing the Administrative Fund to the General Fund. This clarifies the use of the funds. The new language raises the levy limits to .048% of the taxable market value with an upper limit of \$250,000 dollars. The old limits were .02418% and \$125,000 dollars respectively.
- i. Roger Hanson report: Roger had been contacted about a beaver dam in Ditch 17-2. Roger told Greg Ranz to go ahead and trap the beaver in this area.

- 7. **Permits**: Two permits came before the Board for review and were approved as follows
  - 2001-10 Richard Ott – Install culvert and trap and clean ditches in Hammond Township, Section 31 NW ¼.
  - 2001-11 City of Winger – Install two 36” culverts in Section 22 of Winger Twp.
  - 2001-12 Jeff Broadwell – Move a 24” culvert and crossing and clean ditch in Section 16 of Rosebud Twp.
- 8. **Adjournment**: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 7, 2001. As there was no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

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Naomi L. Jagol, Administrative Assistant