

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

October 2, 2001 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the October 2, 2001 meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present: Stuart Christian, Gordon Sonsteli and Harold Vig. Managers absent: Bill Brekke. Others in attendance: Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby-Administrative Assistant, and Jim Larsen-Houston Engineering.
2. **Agenda Review:** No additional items were added to the agenda.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Manager Sonsteli to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on September 4, 2001 as mailed, Seconded by Manager Vig, Carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the Treasurer's report. Motion by Manager Vig to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, Seconded by Manager Sonsteli, Carried.

Wilkens reviewed the bills to be approved. Manager Vig presented a reimbursement check for the MAWD conference for his wife's registration. Motion by Manager Sonsteli to approve and pay bills, Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Project Reports:

- a. Project Team Report: The Project Team is waiting for the engineering data on the fish passage issue and the feasibility of a holding site in the Maple Creek area.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

a. Jim Larsen's Report:

1. Fish Passage: The fish passage issue down stream of the drop structures was discussed. There is a 7-½ foot drop in the 6,000 feet downstream of the last drop structure. This is a .125% slope, which is 7 times greater than the average slope in this area. Jim will work with DNR Fisheries to design a series of rock structures that will solve the erosion problem and at the same time allow for fish passage. Manager Hanson asked if the water would go through the rocks or over them and would it be okay for the fish. Jim stated it would do both and it would be okay for the fish because the smaller ones would go through the rocks. The goal is to have big rocks with plenty of spaces. Manager Hanson asked for a rough cost. Jim has some estimates of quantities of rock but felt it was too early to give an estimate at this time. Manager Vig asked who would be responsible for paying for the cost of this project. Jim stated that the bulk of the funding would have to come from state and federal sources. Jim is also working on the design of the Texas Crossing west of Highway # 9. Another area of concern is the culverts at the West Mill located west of Fertile. They were installed with 8 feet of fall. This causes higher velocities than fish are able to overcome in order to travel upstream. When the engineering is complete the Project Team will reconvene to put together a funding package that will remedy the obstacles to fish passage in the Sand Hill River. When constructed, the project will allow fish to traverse the entire Sand Hill River from the Fosston area to the Red River. This should greatly enhance fish spawning and recreational opportunities.

b. Dan Wilkens' Report:

1. New Employee: April Swenby was introduced as the new Administrative Assistant. Authorizing April to sign checks was discussed. Motion by Manager Vig to approve authorizing April to sign checks and be added to the signature card, Seconded by Manager Sonstelie, Carried
 2. RRBB: The RRBB will meet in Grand Forks on October 4. A copy of the September meeting handouts was given to the Managers.
 3. LID: The pump was shut off on the 21st of August at 2 p.m. The lake had a 3.25 tenths to reach the OHW. When the pump was shut off, Lake Sarah was 20” higher. The LID has almost completed the purchase of the mitigation acres required for a little under \$10,000. No new status report.
 4. Ditch # 90: The culvert in the NW corner of Section 31 will be installed in the next few weeks. Vineland Twp. board members Jeff Voeller and Loran Stortroen have approved the installation with the understanding that the three culverts in Vineland Township and the erosion at the outlet be addressed next summer.
 5. Ray Baatz Permit: A letter was sent by Polk County attorney to Ray Baatz requesting him to comply with the permit so no further legal action need be pursued
 6. Mark Hagen Lake Level: Chad Konickson (DNR) will have an Ordinary High Water (OHW) Team look at the lake and make a determination as to the OHW mark. No time has been set. Douglas Dally has purchased a lot on the East Side of the lake and was interested in the status.
 7. Mark Morvig Lake Level: Dan has been trying to contact Chad Konickson to arrange a meeting to look at the proposed project North of Tea Lake. Chad will contact Dan as soon as he can.
 8. Sylvia Hovland: The Watershed did not apply for cost sharing a ring dike this year, but recently Dan has been informed that Joe River may have one available. Sylvia would like to have us look at the site and give her a cost estimate and the options available. Jim Larsen will have Mike Buerkley and Dan look at Sylvia’s site.
 9. Phillip Morck: Board Report
 10. Ditch 17-2: Ray Christian has been contacted to clean the section from the Twp. road into the woods. Recently, Phillip Swenson cleaned between the County Line and the wetland.
 11. Bill Brekke’s Erosion Site: Roger, Harold, and Dan met with Bill Brekke, Warren Strandell, Roger Diesen, and Wayne Mager at the site on September 24, at 1:30 p.m. Manager Vig stated the county commissioners are researching on outlet charge as a way to pay for repairs. Bill agreed to do the dirk work if funds could be found to pay for the pipe. Bill would like it done this fall.
8. **Permits**: No permits came before the board.
9. **Adjournment**: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 13, 2001. Please note this meeting is scheduled one week later due to elections being held on the 6th. As there was no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 a.m.