

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

December 4, 2001 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the December 4, 2001 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian, and Gordon Sonstelie. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby-Administrative Assistant, Jim Larsen-Houston Engineering and Randy Hamre.
2. **Agenda Review:** No additional items were added to the agenda.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Manager Sonstelie to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on November 13, 2001 as mailed, Seconded by Manager Christian, 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 Sonstelie, Carried.

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

5. **Jim Larsen's Report**

Sylvia Hovland Ring Dike: Discussion was held regarding the Sylvia Hovland ring dike. A meeting is scheduled with Sylvia Hovland, Mike Buerkley, (Houston Engineering), and Dan Wilkens to go over options and develop a cost estimate of the project.

Sand Hill GIS: Discussion was held on developing a culvert inventory. The culvert inventory, once established, would operate the same way that the permits are being set up using the new GIS system. Larsen thought that there is a possibility of a grant available to help with the funding. He will do some more checking regarding the actual cost to the watershed. The type of equipment needed was discussed. More information needs to be gathered. All the managers agreed that it would be an excellent management tool to establish a culvert inventory on the GIS database, depending on the cost. Larsen asked the managers to think about the idea and he would have more information for them at the next meeting.

Fish Passage: Larsen will arrange a meeting with Luther Aadlund, DNR Fisheries, himself and Dan Wilkens to go over engineering options regarding the fish passage issue.

6. **Other Business:**

Randy Hamre: Randy stated that he has removed the dike that he had started construction on prior to applying for a permit. Hamre applied for a permit to improve the dike on the north side of Polk County Ditch # 73 in section 12 of Scandia Township. The board agreed to Hamre improving the dike on his property with two requirements. That the dike cannot be higher than the dike on the south side of ditch # 73 and that the westerly 200 feet must be at an elevation that is at a minimum 6" lower than the dike on the south side to allow for an emergency spillway.

Promotional items: The daily diaries that the district has sent out with the January meeting notice was discussed. No motion to continue sending the diaries came forth.

Audit: Motion by Sonstelie to have Dahl, Hatton, Muir, and Reese conduct the 2001 audit. **Seconded** by Christian. **Carried.**

RRBB/TIC Conference: Hanson, Christian, Sonstelie and Wilkens plan on attending the conference. It is scheduled for January 16,17, and 18 at the Holiday Inn of Fargo.

Polk County Water Plan: Discussion was held on the Polk County Water Plan, which is under review. The district needs to make sure that the Polk County Water Plan establishes provisions in their plan regarding damaging ditch filter strips. If damage is attributable to one landowner the landowner can then be assessed directly.

Dan's Monthly Report:

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

RRBB: The RRBB met in Grand Forks on November 1. Board packets handed out last meeting.

LID: The pump was shut off on the 21st of August at 2:00 PM. Union Lake has 3 tenths to go to be at the OHW as of a week ago. When the pump was shut off Lake Sarah was 20" higher. Lake Sarah is now 8 tenths of a foot above OHW. The LID has completed the purchase of the mitigation acres required. The LID met with Bruce Buxton, owner of WSN, and Dave Kildahl on November 21 to work on an agreement to complete the project. Letter enclosed.

Ditch 17-2: Christian Excavating has completed the cleaning.

Phillip Morck/ Elton Erickson: The crossing in question has been given a permit which requires a 24" culvert with the invert set at least 12" inches lower than the culvert in PC Highway # 206 and that the culvert slope downward a distance of 4" to 6".

Dike in NW corner of Section 30, Russia Twp: The district had sent out a letter to comply with our rules and regulations. The landowners agreed that if water was going to run over the township road to the north that the two low spots in PC # 41 would be filled in and the road closed until the ditch opened up. They had discussed this with the Polk County Highway Department and they agreed. If the County Highway Department and the two landowners involved agree to this as a viable option no further action would be taken.

Garfield Twp. Sec 1 and 2: Wilkens met with John Swanson Jr. and Donnie Larson. The option of cleaning the ditch as originally planned did not appear feasible due to elevation differences. They will continue to look at alternatives.

River Clean up: Dennis Habeck is working on the Sand Hill River and other WD projects where needed.

7. Permits: 2 permits came before the Board for review:

- 2001-46 Randy Hamre- Build dike on north side of PC ditch # 73 in section 12, Scandia Twp.
- 2001-47 Randy Hamre- Construct Texas crossing located in the West Side of section 23, Scandia Twp.

8. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 8, 2002. As there was no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.