

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

April 1, 2003 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the April 1, 2003 meeting to order at 8 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, Wayne Goeken – RRWMB, and Jim Larsen-Houston Engineering.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the agenda with the addition of Wayne Goeken's report – RRWMB, Seconded by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on March 4, 2003 as mailed, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the Treasurer's report. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**. After reviewing our investments report, Chairman Hanson and Manager Brekke suggested investigating government bonds. Wilkens said he would check into that for the next CD that is due in May.

Chairman Hanson suggested selling our old laptop computer. He stated he knew of someone who may be interested even though the monitor is failing. It was agreed that if someone were interested in purchasing it, the watershed would accept a minimum of \$150 for the laptop. The managers agreed to have Chairman Hanson negotiate the sale of the laptop.

Motion was made by Manager Christian to approve and pay bills, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report. Chairman Hanson asked about the phone charges. Wilkens explained that the phone equipment and the fax machine lease are part of the phone bill.

5. Jim Larsen's Report

Bridge Inspection Report Investigation: At a prior meeting, Larsen was asked to investigate a letter from Mick Alm to Mervin Sirjord regarding a bridge inspection report. Mick Alm concluded that the bridge is in good shape and are rated excellent. The report states that there are chips in the apron, which may have occurred during installation. There is also a crack in the headwall. This would occur during normal contraction and expansion. Larsen suggested touching up the chips and haul in a little fill.

Garden Slough: At the previous project team meeting, Larsen was asked to bring maps of the wetland upstream of Garden Slough. He brought them before the managers for their review. It was noted that there are not many wetlands upstream. He also stated that a restorable wetlands map is unavailable for Norman County, which is where Garden Slough is located.

Hydraulic Study – Liberty Twp.: Lawrence Woodbury, Houston Engineering is doing the analysis for the bridge by Nolte's. The bridge one mile upstream is a 3- 12' x 12' box culvert. Larsen did this analysis in 1996 for the county. There is not much more drainage at this site but

because the bridge is at an angle the culverts need to be much longer. This creates more friction loss thereby requiring a larger culvert. Larsen will talk to Polk County Highway Department before making a final recommendation.

Sylvia Hovland Ring Dike: Larsen will wait to make final inspection to see if the grass cover is established. At that time we will contact Halstad Electric about the power poles. We will make final payment when everything is complete.

PC # 41: Larsen is awaiting the bond.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The Project Team is scheduled to meet at the call of the chair. The change was necessary because very few people could be in attendance on April 8. The project team would like to have a tour of the projects that are on the list. It appears that the next meeting will be scheduled for May 13, 2003 at 10:00 AM.

RRWMB: The March meeting was held on March 26, 2003 at the Northland Inn at 1:00 PM. The April meeting will be held on April 15, 2003 at the Buffalo Red Watershed District in Barnesville. A tour of the Whiskey Creek Project will be conducted. A handout was given to the managers.

RRBFDRWG: The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2003 at Detroit Lakes. Funding and the future of the group will be on the agenda.

RRBC: The RRBC will meet in Grand Forks on April 16 and 17 for a board meeting and retreat. Larry Whitney has agreed to moderate the retreat.

PC #41: An informational meeting was held at 1:00 PM at the Climax Community Center on March 4, 2003. Minutes of the meeting and the agreement with Polk County were given to the managers and reviewed.

Norman County Field Tiling Task Force: The second meeting was held at Ada at the Norman County Highway Dept. at 1:00 p.m. A handout was given to the managers.

Mark Morvig / Ronald Coffin Lake Level: Sonstelie toured the area and found a ditch coming in from the East. He discovered a beaver dam that had been destroyed. He will tour the area again as the weather permits. Sonstelie also said that he would go to the ASCS office for aerial maps of the area and bring them to the next meeting.

Charlie Balstad request to re-establish ditch 133: Balstad asked the district to look into what is involved in re-establishing ditch 133. Wilkens stated that protected waters are involved. Wilkens has contacted Chad Konickson, DNR Hydrologist, and he has agreed to meet with Larry Kramka on site as soon as possible this spring. Manager Sonstelie suggested meeting with Harold and Tennis Balstad at the same time.

River Watch Forum: A River Watch Forum was held at the Rydell Refuge on March 12 at 9:00 a.m.

Minnesota Drainage Inspectors: Meeting was held March 17, 2003 in Wilmar. A handout was given to the managers.

MAWD Legislative Breakfast March 13: Chairman Hanson, Manager Sonstelie, and Wilkens attended. All agreed it was a great conference to attend. Much of the breakfast revolved around the state budget cuts.

March Conference: Wilkens and Chairman Hanson attended. Wilkens stated that this was the first year the conference was held one day rather than two. Chairman Hanson reported on Roger Moe's speech of watershed improvement in the eyes of the legislature.

Don Ogaard Retirement Party: Wilkens and Chairman Hanson attended. Approximately 70 family and friends thanked Don and wished him well in his retirement.

Advisory Committee: Scheduled for April 8, 2003. Gordon Sonstelie and Harold Vig terms are up on May 17, 2003. Both managers wish to be re-appointed to another term.

Drainage Conference: Kurt Deter drainage conference will be held in St. Cloud on April 9, 2003. Dan and Roger will attend.

7. Other Business:

Wayne Goeken's report: Wayne Goeken reviewed the River Watch program for the coming year. Due to the state budget crunch more of the financial support will need to come from the local districts if the program is to continue. Goeken gave an estimate of costs associated with the program and how it would be revised to be more efficient. A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to accept Goeken's proposal if watershed costs do not exceed \$3,500, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.

8. **Permits:** No permits were brought before the board.

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2003. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 a.m., **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant