

**SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
May 6, 2003 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the May 6, 2003 meeting to order at 8 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian and Gordon Sonsteli. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, Dale Erickson, James Lehman, Liberty Township Officers, and Lawrence Woodbury -Houston Engineering.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonsteli to approve the agenda, Seconded by Manager Vig, **Carried**.
3. **Minutes:** **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on April 1, 2003 with minor corrections, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **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 Sonsteli, **Carried**. As per Chairman Hanson's request from the previous months meeting, Wilkens reported his findings on government bonds and rates. Currently they are lower than CD's.

Hanson asked Wilkens to contact the Polk County Engineer and ask if the assistance we give the county in sizing culverts can be charged to the particular project.

**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. After reviewing the bills to be paid, Chairman Hanson suggested speaking with Garden Valley about long distance telephone rates. Hanson wondered if AT&T's per minute rate was a bit high. Wilkens will also check with Steve Holzer about rates.

## 5. Lawrence Woodbury's Report

**PC # 41:** Houston Engineering has received information from the county and is looking at late June for an information meeting with the landowners.

**ROW Markers:** Dan had recently conducted an inspection of Project # 12 and found many infringements onto the grass filter strips. Currently the ROW markers are spaced every ½ mile and are made of fiberglass. These have not worked out well as they have fallen to fires, equipment strikes and brittleness due to age. The district is going to replace them with steel posts and markers. After discussion Manager Vig made a **Motion** to place ROW markers every ¼ mile and send out a letter to all owners along the ROW explaining that the district, must by law, maintain the filter strips and that the area will be mowed prior to harvest this year. **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli. **Carried**

**Sylvia Hovland Ring Dike:** The final inspection will be conducted prior to next months meeting. The Power Company will also be contacted prior to closing out the contract.

## 6. Dan's Monthly Report:

**Project Team:** The next meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2003 starting at 10:00 AM. The project team is scheduled to tour the projects that are on the list.

**RRWMB:** The April meeting was held on April 15, 2003 at the Buffalo Red Watershed District in Barnesville. A tour of the Whiskey Creek Project was conducted. A handout was distributed to the managers. The May meeting will be held in Fertile on May 20, 2003.

**RRBFDRWG:** The last meeting was held April 25 at Detroit Lakes. The next meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2003 at Crookston. A handout was distributed to the managers.

**RRBC:** The RRBC met in Grand Forks on April 16 and 17 for a board meeting and retreat. A handout was distributed to the managers.

**PC #41:** Woodbury, Larsen, and Wilkens met with Houston Staff to go over the PC # 41 project April 14, 2003

**LID:** Lawsuit continues.

**Mark Hagen/Charlie Balstad Lake Level:** Chad Konickson, DNR, reported that the OHW has been established for the lake. Chad Konickson and Larry Kramka will meet with Charlie Balstad soon.

**Union Lake Flood Control and Erosion Project:** The SHRWD is still looking at options. The site will be toured with Project Team.

**Beltrami Request for assistance on a ring dike: Nielsville Request for assistance on a ring dike:** The SHRWD does not know the status of this program at this time. We need to wait and see if funding is available at the end of this season. We need to make application by June 2003.

**Charlie Balstad request to re-establish ditch 133:** Wilkens has contacted Chad Konickson and Larry Kramka about scheduling a time to meet on site in the near future.

**Advisory Committee:** An Advisory Committee meeting was held April 8, 2003. The Advisory Committee recommended Gordon Sonstelie and Harold Vig be reappointed for another term.

**Water Monitoring:** Goeken and Wilkens are developing programs to address our needs and capabilities.

**Ditch # 122:** Wilkens has met with Tony Jagol and Joyce Downs asking for permission to survey.

**Inspected Project # 12:** Wilkens inspected project # 12 on April 10, 2003 and found that someone is dumping concrete and brick pieces into the outlet to project # 12. He called Jeff Voeller, Vineland Twp. Voeller will try to find out who is doing the dumping and have them remove it. Several areas have blow dirt in the ditch. Also the East side of the NE ¼ of section 18 has filled with blow dirt thereby preventing land assessed into project # 12 from draining.

**Ditch # 93:** A 6' culvert was removed from ditch # 93 ½ mile west of Walter Johnson and moved west ½ mile and added to a 6' culvert last fall. The county is working with landowners in resolving the issues.

**Dahl Bros Tiling:** An abandonment hearing is scheduled for May 6, 2003 at 2:00 PM at the Norman County Courthouse to request abandonment of lateral 8, ditch # 47, in Norman County. The Bear Park Township board will be in attendance to discuss the project.

**FDRWG:** The future of the group and funding was the topic at the meeting held on April 25, 2003. It was decided that the group would stay as it is with meetings only once or twice a year or as needed. Funding appears to be \$210,000.00, which will fund the project work teams and the updated plans at a reduced scale.

**West Polk SWCD:** Wilkens met with Penny Doty April 28, 2003 to discuss ways the district could work with the SWCD to address the wind and water erosion in our district.

**Dave Larson:** Wilkens toured Larson's farm in the S ½ of the NW ¼ of section 36, Woodside Township. The wetlands are getting bigger and Larson was seeking advice to find a resolution. Wilkens will schedule Chad Konickson and Larry Kramka to look at the site.

**Clayton Engelstad:** Toured Engelstad's farm in the west ½ of section 5, Liberty Twp. Severe erosion is taking place due to inadequate channel in Maple Creek which is a protected watercourse. Wilkens will schedule Chad Konickson and Larry Kramka to look at the site.

**Rules and Regulations:** Our Rules and Regulations were last updated in 1979. The board would like to have BWSR conduct a rules and regulations seminar inviting all the watershed districts to look at a unified approach in the basin as to rules and regulations.

## 7. Other Business:

**Fair Booth:** Manager Vig made a **Motion** to participate in the Polk County Fair Booth this year as we have in the past. **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli. **Carried.**

**Bear Park Project:** Greg Ranz reported that he canoed from Rindahl to the east boundary of the project. No beaver dams were found. He has had traps set since March through the entire project area. He trapped 6 beavers in 6 weeks. He currently has pulled his traps.

**MAWD Summer Tour:** The MAWD summer tour will be held in the Clearwater WD by St. Cloud on June 19-21. Dan and Gordon plan on attending.

**Liberty Township:** Dale "Bumpy" Erickson & James Lehman asked the managers to research the erosion problems on the Sand Hill Ditch by Miron Widrig farm site west of Fertile. They reported finding erosion into the bank along side their road. Manager Hanson asked if the township could help in the repair of this site. Lehman stated that Liberty Township would donate the clay from their pit and the rocks from the line between the Allen Drury and Duane Opdahl property. A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig to procure new bids on repairing the erosion on the road and

field side of the Sand Hill Ditch in Section 28, Liberty Township, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried.**

**8. Permits:**

- 2003-01- Eric Engelstad – Godfrey Twp. Section 29 – Clean roadway ditch and install culverts in crossing - **Approved**
- 2003-02 – Jim Todahl – Liberty Twp. Section 10 – Reinstall washed out culvert - **Approved**
- 2003-03 – Canadian Pacific Railway - Winger Twp. Section 34 – Replace existing culvert - **Approved**
- 2003-04 – Canadian Pacific Railway - Bejou Twp. Section 10 – Replace existing culvert - **Approved**
- 2003-05 – Polk County Highway Dept. – Vineland Twp. Section 33/34 – Replace existing culverts **Approved**
- 2003-06 – Polk County Highway Dept. – Russia Twp. Section 30 – Replace existing steel beam span with box culverts and aprons - **Approved**
- 2003-07 – Polk County Highway Dept. – Hubbard Twp. Section 3 – Replace existing culverts and install new ones - **Approved**
- 2003-08 – Polk County Highway Dept. – Hubbard Twp. Section 2/3 – Replace existing culverts and install new ones - **Approved**
- 2003-09 – Polk County Highway Dept. – Hubbard Twp. Section 2/3 – Replace existing culverts and install new ones - **Approved**
- 2003-10 – Polk County Highway Dept. – Sletten and Rosebud Twp. Section R41, 40W – Grade aggregate surface of CSAH 31 – **Approved upon inspection of Wilkens & Vig**
- 2003-11 – David Arends – Hubbard Twp. Section 35 – Install 36” culvert and add field approach – **Approved**

**9. Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2003. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manger Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 11 a.m., **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried.**

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Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

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Daniel Wilkens, Administrator