

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

August 5, 2003 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the August 5, 2003 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Stuart Christian, Bill Brekke, Gordon Sonstelie, and Harold Vig. Others in attendance were April Swenby - Administrative Assistant, Larry Hanson – US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Jim Larsen -Houston Engineering.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig to approve the agenda as mailed, Seconded by Manager Christian, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** **Motion** was made by Manager Sonstelie to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on July 1, 2003, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Swenby distributed the Treasurer's report. A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonstelie to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**.

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.

5. Engineer's Report:

Sylvia Hovland Ring Dike: Larsen has not spoken with Ray from All Season's Contracting regarding leveling the driveway, adding more gravel, and resolving the internal drainage issue. The grass seeding needs to be inspected to see if the stand is established to specifications. Larsen plans on doing that soon.

Polk County # 41 ditches: Larsen stated that Chairman Hanson and Wilkens met last month at the Houston Engineering office to discuss what direction the project was headed and what it holds for the future. Larsen stated that additional surveying needs to be done on ditch # 46 insuring that the grades are compatible. He stated that he also met with Rich Sanders, Polk County Highway Department to coordinate with the county. They discussed the stage increases at the crossings in the project. He felt that Sanders and Houston Engineering were in agreement. Larsen also said he would still like to have an informational meeting held near the end of August or first part of September for the landowners.

ROW Markers: ROW markers have been installed along project # 12. They are scheduled to be installed on projects 11 & 13 next week.

Outlet of Project # 12: Larsen discussed this issue with Rich Sanders – Polk County Highway Department Engineer. He stated that Vineland Township needs to be contacted about requesting replacing the culvert. Larsen left a message with Swenby for Wilkens to contact the Township when he returns.

6. Administrative Assistant's Report:

Polk County Road # 1: Swenby informed the managers that Rich Sanders – Polk County Highway Department called asking for assistance handling a backhoe operator disrupting the road rebuild on Polk County Road # 1. Manager Christian said that he and Sanders were able to explain the situation to the backhoe operator who honored their request.

Christian stated that Alton Morvig is concerned with water flowing onto his land. The excess is thought to be caused from a spring that recently opened. Morvig was going to explore his options to determine the best way to handle the water flowing onto his farmland. Manager Sonsteliie was informed that a beaver dam might be the reason for preventing the water from flowing to the south. The managers agreed that Wilkens should investigate the area to verify if a beaver dam is a possible reason for the build up of water.

Beaver Program: Swenby informed the managers that Knute Township and Winger Township have recently signed a beaver contract with the Watershed District.

Charles Balstad: Swenby informed the managers that Charles Balstad called wanting to meet with Wilkens who was unavailable. Manager Sonsteliie reported that he met with Balstad to tour the abandoned Polk County ditch # 133 area. He said that Balstad has hired Kurt Deter to try to get the protected watercourse in this area removed from the protected waters list. He also said that Balstad would like to reestablish the old ditch # 133 system.

Old Mill Structure: Norman Nolte informed Swenby that the first structure on the Old Mill road is out. Norman said he would talk to Chairman Hanson about this issue and show him the location. Chairman Hanson said the Mr. Nolte has not contacted him.

Annual Report: Swenby showed the managers the draft Annual Report. Pictures taken with the digital camera were displayed throughout the report. She told the managers she was happy with camera because it was very user friendly.

GIS Permits: Swenby informed the board that permits for the years 2002 through 1993 have been entered into the database. Permits for those years can now be searched based on name, city, township, county, section number, etc.

7. Other Business:

Larry Hanson – US Fish & Wildlife Service: Larry Hanson from the US Fish and Wildlife service brought before the board a permit asking for permission to restore wetlands in the Winger, Mee and Vesledahl Waterfowl Production in areas of Polk County. Hanson distributed maps and aerial photos of the suggested areas for the board's review. He discussed with the board proposed plans and strategies used to restore wetlands. He stated that the purpose of the project is to enhance waterfowl and other wildlife production and reduce downstream runoff by an estimated 200 acre-feet of water. The managers agreed to support the project and sign the permit.

Bridge replacement in the SE ¼ of section 19 in Liberty Twp.: Manager Christian inquired about the planned bridge replacement near Nolte's in Liberty Township. Larsen said he understood that Polk County was to begin the project next year.

Project Team: Chairman Hanson informed the managers that funding for the fish passage was discussed at the previous Project Team meeting. He stated that the State of Minnesota has \$210,000 available to coordinate with the US Army Corp. of Engineers funding. The Corp. is currently working on the Preliminary Restoration Plan.

LID: Manager Christian stated that there has been no pumping of Union Lake. The managers asked Swenby to send a letter to Rolland Gagner, Chairman – Union Lake Sarah Improvement District asking for a written explanation as to why the pump was not started after requests by property owners were made.

8. Permits:

- 2003-19 Walter Johnson & Roger Ulseth – Hammond Twp. Section 21 – Install culvert to control flooding.
- 2003-20 Loree Bruggeman, Woodside Township – Woodside Twp. Section 30 – Replace existing culvert with a new culvert.
- 2003-21 Detroit Lakes Wetland District – Section 35/Knute, Section 36/Sletten, Section 19/Winger and Section 23, 24/Garden Township – Begin a wetland restoration project on the Winger, Mee, and Vesledahl Waterfowl production areas in Polk County.
- 2003-22 Hammond Twp, Donna Ulseth – Hammond Township Section 18 – Install culvert. (*This permit was approved at the June 3 meeting but needed a signature.*)

9. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, September 2, 2003. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manger Vig to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 a.m., **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant