

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

June 7, 2004 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Hanson called the June 7, 2004 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke and Harold Vig. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby – Administrative Assistant, and Lawrence Woodbury -Houston Engineering.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** A Motion was made by Manager Vig to approve the agenda, Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried.
3. **Minutes:** Motion was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on May 4, 2003, Seconded by Manager Vig, Carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the treasurer's reports' for the month of May. A Motion was made by Manager Vig to accept the treasurer's report as presented, Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried.

Motion was made by Manager Vig 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:

Beltrami Bank Sloughing – Woodbury presented a copy of a letter sent to MnDOT. It had preliminary cost estimates broken down and MnDOT/Sand Hill proposed cost share. The letter verified that MnDOT will cover the cost of the items within the DOT right-of-way, with the Sand Hill Ditch covering those items outside of the right-of-way. The letter also explained the Sand Hill River Watershed District request to base the cooperating agreement on a lump sum basis using actual bids received. To keep the project on schedule, Wilkens asked if we could advertise for bids soon. Woodbury thought that we could but bids cannot be awarded until a cooperative agreement is signed. Woodbury will contact Duane Hill and ask if advertising for bids would be okay. Woodbury will notify Wilkens as to when to begin advertising.

Project # 1 rebuild – Woodbury will give the district a letter of recommendation for size, length and elevation for the culvert replacements at the Texas Crossing, at Randy Hamre's driveway, and at Polk County # 14 on the Sand Hill River. When this information is obtained Wilkens will proceed to get the culverts installed.

Project # 17 and Ditch # 46 – A letter from Attorney Kurt Deter written on behalf of the Polk County Commissioners was distributed to the managers. The letter voiced some concerns that resulted from the proposed petition from PC # 46 as expressed to the county board by concerned citizens. Wilkens gave the managers a history of recent events. Wilkens began by saying that Scott Tollefson circulated a petition to improve the upper end of PC ditch # 46. He currently has presented the petition to the watershed district. The board in turn has sent it to the watershed district attorney for his review for adequacy. Wilkens, Hanson, and Woodbury recently met with attorney, Dave Hauff. Hauff, after review, stated that Project # 17 needs to be established first before the ditch petition on # 46 can proceed. The petitioners on ditch 46 have a bond prepared. At the May meeting several landowners came before the board expressing concern about the ditch # 46 petition and the resulting water coming into Project # 17. **They were concerned that this extra water would over tax the system.** Woodbury explained that Project # 17 has always included the water from the upper end of ditch # 46 in its design. Wilkens explained that the water from the upper end of 46 would be better managed after the improvement was done. Currently over half of the 7.8 sq. miles drains directly into Maple Creek uncontrolled. Maple Creek is a protected water which makes it much more difficult to address problems. Several landowners expressed disbelief of the engineer's figures. With their concerns in mind, Wilkens asked Woodbury to develop information that addresses their question of

overtaxing project # 17. Woodbury showed the new data he had prepared which shows 2/10 to 4/10 of a foot difference .in water surface elevation if the entire drainage area including the upper end of ditch # 46 had a 25 year storm event. This in fact would be approximately half, or 1/10 to 2/10 of a foot because of the water that currently goes directly into Maple Creek. The water surface elevation in a 25 year event would be at a minimum almost 2 feet below the level of the farmland on project # 17 which would provide excellent drainage under those conditions. **The group stated that they did not know this water was coming into # 17.** Wilkens presented the minutes of the December 17th preliminary hearing where someone asked about ditch # 46 water. The engineer answered that the area was 7.8 sq miles and that this water was included in project # 17 design. Wilkens also showed the board a copy of the original petition which states that the end of project # 17 is at the connection with ditch # 46. **Kurt Deter's letter also discussed the size of the ditch could be a concern to the County Engineer.** Woodbury stated that the ditch size is dictated by required side slopes based on the category of road and that the depths are a result of the necessary slope to obtain grade. Neither of those items have much leeway. We are meeting highway design standards. Wilkens said that Gerald Jacobson had called him and requested that the district meet with the county board to discuss this project. The board instructed Wilkens to ask to be on the agenda of an upcoming County Board meeting. The concerned citizens met with several County Commissioners at the Highway Department after our board meeting which resulted in the letter from Deter.

6. Dan's Report:

Project Team: The next Project Team meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2004 beginning at 10:30 AM.

RRWMB: The RRWMB met on May 18, 2004. The next meeting is at the call of the chair

RRBFDRWG: The RRBFDRWG met on April 22 at the Holiday Inn in Detroit Lakes. The next meeting is June 9 at Crookston

RRBC: The RRBC met on June 3, 2004.

PROJECT 17: Roger Beiswenger left materials for the district to prepare. Swenby will call Yvonne Halvorson at the Fertile-Beltrami school asking for recommendations of students with accuracy to prepare a database for the viewers.

LID: Lawsuit continues. The meeting notice for their next meeting was given to the managers. It is scheduled for June 4, 2004.

Fish Passage: Congressman Peterson is working on our request.

Union Lake Flood Control and Erosion Project: Wilkens met with NRCS engineers on site.

Jerde Erosion Control Project: Plans and specs are almost finalized. Jerde supports the plan and has agreed to be the landowner responsible. Wilkens needs to contact Steve Taylor.

Beltrami ring dike: A memorandum from Dale Schoenborn – Mayor of Beltrami was given to the Sand Hill River Watershed District board of managers withdrawing their request for a city ring dike. Schoenborn stated the council does not feel a ring dike would be necessary if proper stabilization of the river bank is done. The managers have instructed Wilkens to send a letter to the Beltrami City Council stating it is the Watershed's opinion that opting out of a ring dike is not in their best interest.

Section 15, Hubbard Twp.: Section 15 of Hubbard Twp. needs to be surveyed.

Polk County # 1 rebuild: Project is being let on June 4 with work to be completed by beet harvest.

7. Other Business:

Board appointments – Stuart Christian was reappointed to the Sand Hill River Watershed District board. His term will expire on May 17, 2007.

8. Permits: The following permits were Approved

2004-16	Lyle Abrams Farms, Inc., Clean ditches, Replace culvert. Section 2 of Reis Twp
2004-17	Lyle Abrams Farms, Inc., Clean ditches, Replace culvert Section 35 of Russia Twp.
2004-18	Lyle Abrams Farms, Inc., Clean ditches, Replace culvert Section 6 of Hubbard Twp.
2004-19	Lyle Abrams Farms, Inc., Clean ditches, Replace culvert Section 8 of Hubbard Twp.
2004-20	Mark Hagen, Install Culvert, Section 16 of Rosebud Twp.

9. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, July 6, 2004**. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m., **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant