

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

June 6, 2006 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the June 6, 2006 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian, Harold Vig and Gordon Sonstelie. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby-Administrative Assistant, Lawrence Woodbury-Houston Engineering, Dean Johnson – Landowner, Jim Lehman – Landowner, and Joyce Downs - Landowner.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on May 2, 2006, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's reports for May, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve and pay bills **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Engineer's Report:

Fish Passage: Woodbury reported that we have the COE permit, the DNR permit, and that we will be requesting bids after the July meeting with the bid opening in August.

Survey at Nielsville: Roger Hanson and Dan Wilkens met with Rodney Spokely on April 10th. Rodney felt that the water north of the Sugar Beet Piler should go north. Houston Engineering has surveyed the area going north to see if this is a viable alternative. Wilkens and Hanson will present the survey to Rodney Spokely for his comments.

Union Lake Erosion Control: The project team members and the area landowners and interested neighbors met on site on May 9th. Discussion centered on the area from the Township road to the lake. Questions came up about permits that may be required. COE, WACA, Shore land Zoning. The landowners would like to see the site returned to pre-erosion era.

Ditch #46: The District is reaching the limit on the bond. Scott Tollefson will be requested to add \$10,000 additional bond.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The project team meeting was held on May 9.

RRWMB: The RRWMB met in Wheaton, MN on June 20th. Roger Hanson attended.

RBFDROWG Funding Committee: The RBFDROWG Funding Committee met on May 17 in Alexandria. The next meeting was June 7th in Detroit Lakes.

RRBC: The RRBC met on May 31 for a tour and board meeting on June 1 at Walhalla, ND.

PROJECT 17: Kern and Tabery have moved in equipment and have started to move dirt and culverts. Chairman Hanson asked about the culverts that are torn off. He suggested a meeting with the county engineer and the county commissioner on site is needed to discuss solutions.

Garden Slough: Alm stated that the road project is currently scheduled for 2010. The county is planning on building up 7 miles of road through that area.

Project # 20/Polk County # 46: Viewers have completed their work. The district needs to schedule the final hearing and decided to do so in September.

Chester Morvig Lake: The Sand Hill Board agreed to share in the cost of the dike and ditch cleaning with the Wild Rice WD. They have approved cost sharing with the Sand Hill subject to permit approval.

Drainage Workshop: Wilkens have been asked to represent the MN Association of Drainage Inspectors at the June 15th meeting. This group is meeting at the request of the legislature to look at the drainage code for possible changes next session. Filter strips, inlet pipes are some of the topics to be discussed and recommendations given to the legislature. I could not attend so I asked Allen Kuseske, board secretary/treasurer to attend on my behalf. Gerald Amiot, Polk County Auditor/Treasurer has also been appointed to this committee as he chairs the drainage committee for the Auditors association.

IRRB: The IRRB meets in Winnipeg on July 12-13. The RRBC chair represents the US side of the basin on this board. We are going to try to get them to assist us in an action agenda on many issues. CFMP, Pembina River Dike issue, developing goals for each watershed, DEM, etc.

7. Other Business:

Overall Plan: Brian Dwight has asked to meet with some of the board members, the administrator, himself, Woodbury, and Mark Aanenson to go over the plan. This meeting was held on July 6, 2006.

Dean Johnson: Johnson would like to know what ROW the district has in Section 1 of Liberty Township. He also would like the crossing that was put in several years ago for maintenance purposes removed. Hanson explained that the district has the right and is required to maintain the ditch and filter strip on ditches under its control. This includes mowing, spraying and maintaining the filter strip and inlet pipes. He also explained that the crossings make maintenance easier and that they are located in the township road right of way.

Liberty Township: Jim Lehman asked what could be done with the river bank by Dennis Hanson. There is no shoulder left. Lehman would like money or advice on how to fix the problem. He stated that there is a slough by the new bridge at the Doug Nolte farm. One of the three box culverts is full of sediment. The board did not have funding for this type of project and suggested that wing dams like those used at the Climax Golf Course be looked into as a possible remedy.

Beltrami Slough: Hanson noted that the septic system is seeping out of the side of the ditch. This drain field is likely to have caused the original slough. Water adds weight to the bank and it eventually sloughed. Discussion was held on changing the drain field away from the ditch bank. It was decided to watch the area and see what happens. The state share of the repair has not been received.

LID: Woodbury presented plans for 4 rock drop structures and the culvert at the township road would have a drop inlet. These structures would let the water down in steps to prevent erosion. Ownership of the project is the next step. He would like to see the LID accept ownership of the project after it is completed. When ownership is agreed on then permission from the landowners would be obtained. We need to contact the LID chairman and arrange a meeting to discuss these issues. Wilkens and Christian reported on the LID spring meeting. The LID will be approaching the Polk County Commissioners to request help with the \$15,000 funding request for the erosion control project. They also approved going ahead with transferring the pumping project over to the watershed district. The LID, Watershed, and Polk County Commissioners will need to meet to carry this initiative forward.

Joyce Downs: Downs did not have comments to bring to the board.

8. **Permits:** Three permits were brought before the board. A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian approving the following permits, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**:

Permit # 2006-07 – Brekke Bros, Inc.– Section 20 of Hubbard Twp. – clean existing ditch

Permit # 2006-08 – Keith Dale – Section 4 of Hubbard Twp. – Install Culvert

Permit # 2006-09 – Dragseth Farms Inc. – Section 16 of Vineland Twp. – Install culvert

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006**, due to the July 4th holiday. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 am, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried**.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant