

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

May 2, 2006 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the May 2, 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 Sonsteli. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby-Administrative Assistant, Erik Jones-Houston Engineering, Dean Johnson – Landowner, Greg Ranz – Beaver Trapper, and Joyce Downs - Landowner.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on April 4, 2006, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's reports for April, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **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:

Allen Dragseth: Allen Dragseth would like to install two crossings in Project # 12 in section 16 of Vineland Twp. One crossing is requested to be placed ¼ mile east of NW Corner and the other is requested to be placed ½ mile south of NW corner. Roger Ulseth has read our previous minutes and has noted he is opposed to adding additional crossings in Project # 12 as he feels this will only slow the water flows down. Erik Jones of Houston Engineering expressed concern with adding two crossings in this area. The Managers will tour the site with Allen and his son Paul after our meeting today to come to a decision.

Project # 20 - Polk County # 17: Manager Hanson reported four landowners have met with Polk County Commissioners discouraging Project # 20 (Ditch # 46) petition from draining into Project # 17. The district has a legal petition in place and must act on it by statute. Project # 17 is engineered to handle the ditch # 46 water.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The project team meeting is scheduled for May 9.

RRWMB: The RRWMB will meet in Thief River Falls on May 16. Highlights from the last meeting were distributed to the managers.

RBFDWRWG Funding Committee: The RBFDWRWG funding committee will meet on May 17 in Alexandria.

RRBC: The RRBC will meet on May 4 in Winnipeg.

Polk County Disaster: Allen Wagner called on April 17th and asked if the Sand Hill River Watershed District had any damages due to the spring runoff. Wilkens informed him that the Bear Park Project spillway ran over this spring but damages were not assessed at this time. Wagner will put an estimate of \$1,000 on his list.

PC Ditch # 9: Walter Johnson called on April 25, 2006 and said that there was a washout in the SW corner of his field just east of PC # 14. The board will tour the site this afternoon.

Bear Park Project: Greg Ranz has been trapping beavers in the project area and someone had stolen his traps but returned them at a later date. Ranz submitted a bill for beavers trapped in the area.

Polk County # 46: Wilkens met with Mike Skaug, Gene Billings, Mitch Lenz, Roger Hanson, and Erik Jones and discussed the PC # 51 portion of the project and toured the site.

Chester Morvig Lake: Sylvia Nelson, Chester Morvig's daughter, has contacted Wilkens asking what can be done with the high lake levels and what is causing it. Wilkens contacted the Wild Rice WD, Steve Dahlen and Mark Aanenson and met them on site on Friday, April 28, 2006. They brought along survey equipment and took shots of Raff Lake, the small pond upstream that straddles our joint boundaries, and the land to the north of the small pond. The small pond is 1 foot above Raff Lake. Raff Lake outlet is a 36" pipe that was barely running. The land north of the small pond is at the same level as the small pond with a rise at the edge of the pond of 2 tenths of a foot. Dahlen will send us a written report on the survey work. It appears that a two fold approach needs to be done to solve this border issue. There is a little ditch between the small pond and Raff Lake that needs a little cleaning and a clay dike needs to be built at the north end of the small pond. Dahlen suggested that the two districts share in the cost of this remedy. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to share the cost with the Wild Rice WD to fix the issue, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried.**

Hwy # 75 north of Nielsville: Manager Hanson and Wilkens met with Rodney Spokely on April 10th. Rodney felt that the water north of the Sugar Beet Piler should go north. The district needs to survey north of the piler to the next waterway to and see if the water can go that way. Houston Engineering will complete the survey and report back to the board.

7. Other Business:

Dean Johnson: Johnson requested a permit application as he intends to install a box culvert across Kittleson Creek to avoid beavers building dams in the round culverts. The district will research the proper culvert size needed for Johnson's project when the permit is applied for.

Liberty-Onstad Ditch: Johnson requested information regarding the District's easements on the ditch in Liberty Township in section one. Johnson would like to know the law and the restrictions for the easement on his property. He gave the managers a written request for this information. Wilkens will research the file for information on this easement.

Johnson expressed dissatisfaction regarding the crossing at the township line in the NW corner of section 1 Liberty Township and was concerned because his permission was not sought. Johnson would prefer to have this crossing removed as he feels trespassers have a convenient way to enter his property. Johnson stated that he did not feel this crossing was necessary to maintain the ditch.

Carpet Cleaning: The board authorized Swenby to have the Sand Hill River Watershed District's carpets cleaned.

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

Web-site search engine: A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian authorizing the new search engine place on the district's web-site, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried.** This search engine will allow others to easily search our site and our minutes.

Manager reappointment: Managers Vig and Sonsteli were reappointed for three year terms.

MAWD Summer Tour attendees: Chairman Hanson, Manager Vig, and Manager Sonsteli will attend the MAWD Summer Tour to be held in Alexandria, MN.

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 # 2006-04 – James and Anita Olson – Section 32 of Woodside Twp. – Install a culvert

Permit # 2006-05 – Gary and Lyle Abrams – Section 30 of Hammond Twp. – Clean existing ditch, construct a new ditch and culvert

Permit # 2006-06 - Gary and Lyle Abrams – Section 20 of Hammond Twp. - Clean existing ditch, construct a new ditch and culvert

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2006.** As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to adjourn the meeting at 10 am, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried.**

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant