

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

October 3, 2006 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the October 3, 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, Walter Johnson – Landowner, Jess Andringa – Landowner, Elliot Solheim – Landowner, Robin Brekken – Landowner, and Joyce Downs – Landowner.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Vig Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on September 5, 2006, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's report for September, **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: Texas Crossing West of Beltrami: Woodbury reported that the three 36" culverts have been removed and the new 4'X10' set in place. The cement is being poured between the culverts today. The project is progressing nicely. Chairman Hanson and Manager Brekke signed the contracts for the project.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The project team meeting scheduled for October 10 will be canceled. There is not enough information to hold a meeting.

RRWMB: The Red River Watershed Management Board met in Thief River Falls on September 19. A meeting packet displaying highlights from the meeting was distributed to the managers. The RRWMB personnel committee interviewed candidates for the Financial Coordinator position. The committee will make recommendations for hiring at the October board meeting.

RBFDROWG Funding Committee: The RBFDROWG Funding Committee met on August 30 at the Northland Inn. They set the project team limit at \$12,000 for now. They will see how funding goes later in the year and possibly raise the limit at that time.

RRBC: The RRBC board meeting was held on September 7 at the Ramada Inn in Fargo.

PROJECT 17: Hanson, Christian, and Wilkens met with the Project # 17 landowners at their request on September 26 in Beltrami with Elliot Solheim, Robin Brekken, Paul Engelstad, Dave Johnstad, and Leroy and Marvin Reitmeier attending.

They had five concerns to bring to the managers:

- 1 The berm west of Hwy. # 9 is very uneven up and down on the top and field side of the berm.
- 2 On ditch # 9 east of Hwy. # 9 the spoil banks are very uneven.
- 3 The berm along the west side of the railroad grade.
- 4 The rocks and dirt under the railroad bridges.
- 5 Field entrances off berm.

They felt that the berm height needed to be leveled to a set grade on the west of the railroad grade and ditch # 9 east of Hwy # 9. On ditch # 9 east of Highway # 9 having a set grade and an equal grade on both sides of the ditch is very important because of snow plugging the ditch in the spring and causing water to overflow on the low side. They also felt the berm west of the railroad grade needed to be leveled from the ditch to the railroad grade for ease of future maintenance. A few field entrances along Polk County # 41 off the berm need to be resloped for ease of entering and exiting the fields with loaded trucks.

Based on these concerns Houston had been requested to get elevations on the spoil banks with their survey equipment and have the information ready for the board meeting which Woodbury distributed.

Robin Brekken and Elliot Solheim explained their position regarding these issues.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian approving a change order to address issues one and two, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried.**

A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonstelie approving a change order to address issue number three, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried.**

The board instructed Houston to have the contractor shape the field entrances to provide a level surface to exit the field with beet trucks. They also asked Houston to make sure the contractor removed as much material under the railroad bridge as possible to provide adequate flow capacity to ditch # 9 area.

Solheim had some concerns regarding Ditch #9 and questioned its capability. The spring runoff will determine its success. Solheim and Brekken agreed that it is much better than before.

Project # 20/Polk County # 46: Viewers have completed their work. The final hearing will be held this fall.

Chester Morvig Lake: The Sand Hill Board agreed to share in the cost of the dike and ditch cleaning with the Wild Rice WD. Wild Rice WD agreed to the cost share recently. Conversations are currently being held with the Wild Rice Administrator. Landowners of the two parcels are being contacted for their input.

Robert Remark Sloughing: Robert Remark was wondering if there were programs available to assist with funding to fix sloughing. The Managers did not have any ideas for assisting him at this time. Wilkens reminded him that permits would be needed from the DNR, PCA, and the Army Corp. when working in the Sand Hill River.

LID Minutes: Sonstelie questioned their minutes which state their reconsidering of the Sand Hill River Watershed to take over the pumping and project operation.

7. Other Business:

Ditch Mowing: Chairman Hanson reported positive feedback regarding the ditch mowing the district completed this fall.

Walter Johnson and Jess Andringa: Johnson explained his position regarding previous permits he has applied for in the NW corner of section 22 Hammond Township. He would like to disregard previous permits and reapply using a new one and gave it to the managers for their consideration. The other two permits will be voided and this one will take their place in regards to a new field crossing at this site.

Jess Andringa: Jess Andringa stated that last year, water was found in areas that had never had water before along highway 9. He was concerned that this year he would like to see things taken care of to avoid water flooding in the spring. Andringa stated that the extra water costs him money in crop loss. Wilkens assured Andringa that plugs will be placed within the next week or so in ditch 9 and 90. Wilkens reminded him that anything under a 100 year flood event is meant to follow the diversion. Andringa firmly believes that in the spring, water will flood the area again. Chairman Hanson explained that until the 100 year design is exceeded that water will not come from East of Highway 9 into ditch # 90 or ditch # 9. It will run over the ditch plugs when the 100 year design storm is exceeded and then it should stay in the respective ditch systems. Hanson explained that last spring's runoff was very large due to the amount of water in the snow and the extremely fast melt. Andringa thinks that this area should have been held off until it was proven that the other area works as planned.

Joyce Downs: Downs questioned what the minutes read last month. Hanson explained to her again that if someone brought forth a petition, she would be notified; however, if someone comes to a meeting and would like to discuss Ditch # 122, it would be out of our control to notify her before we could allow anyone to speak to the subject. Hanson assured her that no action by the board will be taken without her being notified.

Ditch Levy: A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig approving the ditch levy for Project # 12 and the Sand Hill Ditch as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

Dean Johnson: A letter was written and mailed to Dean Johnson reiterating the board's position. Johnson requested more information from the Watershed at the previous meeting. Johnson will need to use the Data Privacy Act procedures to obtain further information if needed.

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

Permit # 2006-27 – Walter Johnson - Install crossing (8' culvert) in PC ditch # 93 - Sec 22 - Hammond Twp.
 Permit # 2006-28 – David & Mary Torgerson – Install/Replace culvert – Section 10 – Garden Twp.
 Permit # 2006-29 – Solheim Farms – Install culvert – Section 10 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-30 – Trever Spokely – Clean Existing Ditch – Section 22 – Hubbard Twp.
 Permit # 2006-31 – Lester Vigness – Clean Existing Ditch – Section 9 – Hubbard Twp.
 Permit # 2006-32 – Solheim Farms – Install Culvert/Clean Existing Ditch – Section 27 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-33 - Solheim Farms – Install Culvert/Clean Existing Ditch – Section 34 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-34 - Solheim Farms – Install Culvert/Clean Existing Ditch – Section 32 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-35 - Solheim Farms – Install Culvert/Clean Existing Ditch – Section 19 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-36 - Solheim Farms – Clean Existing Ditch – Section 13 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-37 - Solheim Farms – Clean Existing Ditch – Section 28 – Russia Twp.
 Permit # 2006-38 - Solheim Farms – Install Culvert/Clean Existing Ditch – Section 30 – Onstad Twp.

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2006**, **Notice: Because of Election Day on November 7, the meeting will be held November 14, 2006.** As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 am, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant