

## SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

May 5, 2009 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Harold Vig called the May 5, 2009 meeting to order at 8:00 AM at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Roger Hanson, Gordon Sonstelie and Stuart Christian. Others in attendance were Joe Skorpak – landowner, Dick Berhow - landowner, Paul Kaste - landowner, Myra Kaste- landowner, Gene Billing – landowner, Chuck Vind – landowner, Linda Goldsmith – landowner, Wayne Goldsmith - landowner, Byron Ness – Township Officer, Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby – Administrative Assistant, and Lawrence Woodbury-Houston Engineering.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the agenda as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on April 7, 2009, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve the treasurer's report for April, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

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

### 5. Engineer's Report

**Sand Hill Ditch Restoration:** Woodbury has developed a proposal that addresses the restoration items. The agency groups were satisfied with Houston Engineering's proposal and Houston Engineering is comfortable with their requests.

**Overall Plan:** Houston Engineering is waiting for Henry Vanoffelen to develop the Natural Resource Enhancement Plan. Woodbury is working with Brian Dwight, BWSR, and the COE to develop the Points of Concurrence for the whole district and incorporate it into the Overall Plan.

### 6. Dan's Monthly Report:

**RRWMB:** The RRWMB met in ADA. Meeting highlights were given to the managers.

**RRBC Commission:** The next RRBC meeting is June 3<sup>rd</sup>; tour of Devils Lake and June 4<sup>th</sup> is the board meeting.

**Ditch Improvement in Nielsville area:** The district has set the bond requirement for the improvement petition at \$75,000.

**Indian Mound:** Wilkens received a call that an Indian Burial Site may be in jeopardy. Wilkens contacted Dan Thul who contacted Paul Swenson who forwarded the problem to Jim Jones Indian Affairs Council in DNR, Bemidji. He forwarded the information to the landowner and has not heard any more.

**Side Inlet proposal:** Joel Peterson, BWSR is writing a grant to do a study of side inlets on ditch systems in several areas of the state and asked if the district would be sponsors for a site in our district. The district agreed to be a sponsor for a site in our district.

**Sand Hill River Golf course:** The Golf Course has a lot of stream bank damage and would like us to keep them in mind if FEMA comes into play.

**FEMA:** Wilkens will sign up in Crookston and attend the informational meeting in Mentor.

**Ditch Problems:** Mike Andringa called and said the box culverts by Bob Hallers have the top piece of concrete hanging. Voeller's called and said a few inlet pipes had some erosion in there area. They had some scrap concrete available if we could use it.

## 7. Other Business:

**Public Relations:** The managers asked that Wilkens attend a commissioner meeting to improve the relationship and their awareness of RRWMB activities and Watershed accomplishments.

**Area Erosion Sites/Culvert Sizing:** The township and landowners have asked for recommendations for culvert sizes based on the drainage in various areas from Cable Lake to Kittleson Lake. Gary Bennett, DNR will meet with Wilkens to review the area. Wilkens distributed 2003 Google Earth maps of the area of concern. Woodbury figured the drainage area to be 3.4 miles. It was preliminarily determined that the 15" culverts used in the area are severely undersized for an area this large. Ness said that Godfrey Township is willing to seek recommendations to find a solution to the problem.

Kari Morvig was unable to be present at the meeting, but presented a letter with her requests indicating similar problems. The lake is so high it is causing problems with their septic system.

**Wayne Goldsmith:** Vig displayed pictures of Section 16 of Heir Township. Wilkens suggested bringing the DNR hydrologist tomorrow to the area to tour it. Linda Goldsmith has documented several years' worth of conversations with area agencies to try to resolve the problem. Wilkens will ask Woodbury to calibrate the drainage area in question.

**J & S Gravel:** Wilkens will seek advice from our attorney to determine who is responsible for this bill.

**MAWD Summer Tour:** Hanson, Vig, and Sonstelie will attend the summer tour on June 25 – 27.

**Gene Billing:** Billing presented photos of an area in section 14 of Reis Township. Billing said that the contractors made a ditch ½ mile long on the field side of the berm to drain the area where too much black dirt was taken when constructing the berm. Wilkens explained that in the past when ditches are constructed specs were never developed for the temporary work area. In the future, specs for the temporary work will have specifications stating how the area is to be left after construction. Billing requested that the area be filled back in.

The managers explained to Billing that Mitch Lenz, who rents the land from Billing, was hired last year to correct the problem. Billing would like a contractor hired to complete the area because Lenz had not gotten the job done. Billing also said that last fall was so wet no one could have completed the work. Hanson suggested purchasing the ½ mile from Billing as a cost effective measure as a solution to the problem. Billing was not willing to negotiate selling additional land. He would like to see it filled in using the dirt that was taken from him and then a new berm built. The managers asked that Hanson, Wilkens and Billing coordinate a time to meet with Lenz to tour the area and see if a solution can be found.

8. **Permits:** The following permits were brought before the board. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the following permit, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

- 2009- 06 Paul Swenson, replace old culvert in section 5/8 Garden Twp.
- 2009- 07 Paul Swenson, replace old culvert in section 3 Garden Twp.
- 2009- 08 Polk County Highway Department. Polk County 41 rebuild.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the following extension, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

2008-03 Request from Dean Johnson to extend permit for section 1 Liberty twp.

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 AM on June 2, 2009. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 AM, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

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Gordon Sonsteli, Secretary

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April Swenby, Administrative Assistant