

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

September 1, 2009 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Harold Vig called the September 1, 2009 meeting to order at 8:00 AM at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Roger Hanson and Gordon Sonstelie. Others in attendance were Gary Lee – East Polk SWCD, Mick Alm –Norman County Highway Department, 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 and adding Mick Alm to the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonstelie to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on August 4, 2009 and the special meeting regarding the LID pump/screen project funding conducted on August 12,2009, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's report for August, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

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

5. Engineer's Report

Fish Passage: Aadlund will not be attending the September meeting but is tentatively planning on coming in October to discuss the fish passage project.

Ring Dikes: There are four applicants eligible for NRCS ring dike funding and have met the deadline – Jason Voeller, Jeff Voeller, Darrel Paulsrud, and Rodney Spokely. Woodbury presented contour maps for each landowner's land. There are two applicants eligible for MN Recoveries ring dike funding – Baatz and Stortroen.

Woodbury presented the procedural reports on behalf of Climax and Nielsville for the MN Recoveries funding for City ring dikes. MN Recoveries has stated that funding is available for design, but not construction. They have suggested FEMA or BWSR as funding alternatives for construction. Woodbury explained the formula for the cities cost based on the census material (2% of the medium income x the number of households is the maximum the city would pay).

Sand Hill River Restoration: Wilkens has followed up with the Chicago EPA office regarding their initial concerns and how the district has satisfied their requests and concerns. Copies of the correspondence were given to the managers. A conference call was held with the DNR to further discuss the districts actions. Wilkens worked with Garry Bennett and Woodbury to address DNR concerns and has since sent off our proposal to Wayne Gorski, EPA. Wilkens requested that they stop the enforcement action and send this back to the COE for construction. Wilkens is awaiting their response.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The Project Team needs to meet soon if the Garden Slough project is to be considered. Wilkens is having a conference call with Brian Dwight, BWSR, Steve Clark,USACOE, and Woodbury this afternoon regarding moving forward with the COE points of concurrence process.

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

RRBC: The next RRBC meeting is September 3rd in Moorhead.

Ditch Improvement in Nielsville area: The district's attorney sent an e-mail Monday giving approval of the petition that was presented to the board. A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to accept the petition with a note that the outlet extension not exceed 1 mile based on statute, as recommended by the district's attorney's review, **Seconded**, by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried**. A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonsteli to establish this project as project # 24 and to order the engineer to proceed with the surveying and prepare the preliminary engineers report, **Seconded**, by Manager Hanson, **Carried**.

Howard Hopke/King Township: Harold Vig and Wilkens attended the township meeting and informed them that the district would assist them in a 50% cost share to do the necessary work. They have applied for a permit for a 20" culvert which doesn't exist. Wilkens will adjust the permit to a 24" pipe.

Liberty-Onstad Ditch: Wilkens has requested Houston Engineering to do a survey to establish the amount of material that needs to be removed during cleaning. Woodbury reported that this is on the schedule for next week and will report back at the October meeting.

Kaste Erosion Site: The Township has installed the 36" X 80' of pipe on August 20th. They moved the west dike east and made a wide crossing on the line so both landowners have good access to their fields. They also filled in the road side as much as FEMA allowed, making the road slope much safer. East Polk Soil and Water has received a grant to complete the restoration project.

Fish Passage: Mike Wyatt of the COE called on Monday and said that Collin Peterson's office had put the Fish Passage project on high priority. Funding may be available in 2010. He would like us to send us our plans so the COE could see if they could be incorporated into there system or if they would need to do more studying. Wilkens has been asked if we will be able to use concrete in the project. Several farmers have concrete that they would donate if we could use it for project. It was agreed that clean concrete could be used as long as it was covered with rock.

Project # 20: Manager Hanson asked about the dikes on Project # 20 near Highway 9 and PC # 51. Wilkens will begin applying for permits from MNDOT and Mn Northern Railroad.

7. Other Business:

Public Relations: The managers reviewed possible public relations items. No new information was brought before the board.

Garden Slough (Mick Alm): Alm stated that the county is proceeding with the rebuild of Norman County # 1, near Garden Slough and the project is set to start in the summer of 2010. Alm will apply for a Sand Hill permit for the portion of the road that is in the district. Alm gave the district the opportunity to coordinate the Garden Slough project into the road rebuild project. The district needs to act quickly to incorporate Garden Slough into the design process. Woodbury explained that the permitting process with the Corp. is holding the project up due the purpose and need statement.

It was suggested to possibly build the project "dam friendly" so that the Garden Slough flood control portion could be built in the future if the time element became to restrictive. The district would be required to invest in the proposed project, assuming the permits could be obtained in the future.

Alm is planning on having soil boring tests done.

Woodbury informed Alm about the Bear Park dam improvement and explained the proposals which are currently in the project teams hands.

Budget Hearing: The budget hearing began at 8:30 a.m. No citizens attended the hearing. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the budget as advertised, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelié, **Carried**.

Gary Lee: Four projects were funded through MN Recoveries. Lee has no new updates on AWAP.

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

2009-34 Godfrey Twp. Install new culvert and crossing in section 36, Godfrey Twp
2009-35 MnDOT, Relay centerline culvert to correct grade in section 33, Garfield Twp
2009-36 Paul Burd, Install crossing in section 15, Hubbard Twp.
2009-37 DuWayne Engelstad, Clean ditch in section 12, Hubbard Twp.

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 AM on October 6, 2009. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 AM, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelié, **Carried**.

Gordon Sonstelié, Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant