

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

March 4, 2014

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Christian called the March 4, 2014 meeting to order at 8:15 AM at the District Office. Other managers present were Scott Balstad, Roger Hanson and Phillip Swenson. Absent; Bill Brekke. Two staff members were present: Daniel Wilkens – Administrator and April Swenby – Administrative Assistant. Others in attendance were Bill Downs – Landowner and Joyce Downs – Landowner and Jeff Langan - Houston Engineering.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Swenson to approve the agenda as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**.
3. **Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2014 meeting, **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, **Carried**.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Swenson to approve the treasurer's report for February, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**.

The managers reviewed their expense reports and reported on activities for the month. A **Motion** was made by Manager Swenson to approve and pay bills, with the exception of the SWCD balances which are listed for informational purposes only, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Engineer's Report

Project # 24: Reiner has not disclosed documents for the basis of their claim.

Nielsville Ring Dike: The EAW is currently in process.

Climax Ring Dike: The plans are nearly 75% complete for the utility portion and the levy portion of the plan.

The home and the garage had one bid each. Therefore there will be no top three bidders at the board meeting. A **Motion** was made to accept the bids of \$200.00 for the house and all other items on the lot and \$1.00 for the garage and entry as presented at the bid opening by Manager Balstad, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**.

The Phase II portion of the project looks favorable for funding this legislative session.

Project Team: Houston Engineering continues to develop modeling to prepare for a Corp. Permit.

TMDL: The public meeting is planned for March 28 at the Fertile Community Center at 1:00 pm.

SH Ditch Bank Stabilization: A **Motion** was made by Manager Balstad that the district act as the local sponsor for the bank stabilization of the Sand Hill Ditch as proposed by DNR, **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, **Carried**.

5. Dan's Monthly Report

RRWMB: The RRWMB met in Thief River Falls. Meeting highlights were given to the managers.

RRBC Commission: Next meeting is March 6th at the Courtyard by Marriott, 1080 28th Ave S., Moorhead, MN. The board meeting will start at 11:00 a.m. and continue into the afternoon.

Vesledahl/Morvig: The district is waiting on Vesledahl and Morvig to do the paperwork to establish the boundary. After talking with Gary Lee, Wilkens will contact John Jaschke at the MAWD legislative Breakfast to seek approval from BWSR to use the funds they originally gave us to maintain the ditch system within the Vesledahl Project to make it into a legal system.

Fish Passage: The district has signed the Letter of Intent and self-Certification Form. The DNR is looking for funds to match the COE. The COE has 1.7 million dollars in this biennium available. As soon as DNR comes up with the match the project is a go. The DNR is looking at an additional 19 drop structures below the last dam to aid in bank stabilization. A meeting to discuss this was held at 11:00 am at the DNR office in TRF on February 13th. Additional information was given to the managers and action will need to take place this month.

RRWMB Joint Powers Agreement: A **Motion** was made by Manager Balstad to approve the agreement as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**. Chairman Christian signed the agreement and when Brekke returns he will sign the agreement and it will be mailed to the RRWMB.

Rules and Regulations: RRWMB approved distribution of the Model Rules and Regulations to the districts for review and comments.

City of Fosston: A bill has been given to the City of Fosston.

Legislative Breakfast: Wilkens, Manager Hanson, and Manager Swenson will attend the legislative breakfast in St. Paul.

One Watershed – One Plan: Gary Lee and Wilkens will arrange a meeting of the SWCD's and County Water Planners as soon as possible to apply for a pilot project grant.

SHAC/Watershed District Planning: Jim Todahl asked the board to set a date for our joint meeting. It has been set for March 27th at 5:30 PM at Erickson's Smokehouse.

Invasive Species: Wilkens will speak with Jeff Lewis to see if the RRBC can be involved with the schools in our district for a symposium on invasive species as per Manager Balstad's request.

6. Other Business:

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

8. **Permits:** One permit was brought before the board: A **Motion** was made by Manager Balstad to table this permit to research alternatives, **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, **Carried**.

2014-02: Vernon Olson, Install a crossing, Garfield twp.

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, April 1, 2014. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 A.M., **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, **Carried**.

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant

Bill Brekke, Secretary