

## SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

November 4, 2014

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Christian called the November 4, 2014 meeting to order at 8:05 AM at the District Office. Other managers present were Scott Balstad, Bill Brekke, Roger Hanson and Phillip Swenson. Two staff members were present: Daniel Wilkens – Administrator and April Swenby – Administrative Assistant. Others in attendance were Zach Herrmann - Houston Engineering and Bill Downs - Landowners.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Swenson to approve the agenda as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.
3. **Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2014 meeting, **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, **Carried**.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Balstad to approve the treasurer's report for September, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.

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

### 5. **Engineer's Report**

**Climax Ring Dike:** MNDNR granted an extension of funding that will allow for project completion by December 2015. Paperwork will not be completed until spring 2016. The existing grant expires 2016.

Langan met with MnDOT on the proposed reconstruction of TH 220 and 75 through Climax in 2016, under the same contract as the Nielsville Project. TH 220 project limits for the roadway will not extend into the Flood Mitigation project limits other than some storm sewer work. Minimal state highway funds will be available for our flood mitigation project. MnDOT will review and coordinate their storm sewer work with our project next spring as their design progresses.

Phase 2 of the levee and storm sewer project work will remain idle pending 2015 state FDR funding determination.

**Nielsville Ring Dike:** Jeff Langan met with MnDOT to discuss costs on the TH 75 and Levee Project coordination. MnDOT maintained the position that they would pay for only asphalt pavement and no aggregate base or embankment work. That would be up to the ring dike project to raise the road.

**DFIRM Panels, (Flood Plain Maps):** The 90 day appeal period began in November. Hermann recommended continuing to work with MN DNR staff to get appropriate changes incorporated into DFIRM panels. This may require technical work on their part to review and provide guidance to MN DNR staff.

**Project # 24:** The spoil leveling just west of Highway 75 main was completed October 29. A little spoil on the south side of the ditch by the railroad was not done because it is on the opposite side of the ditch and was not accessible. The trash rack modification, (raising the trash rack 18"), to the outlet main drop structure was completed November 1.

**Upper Sand Hill River Watershed Targeted Watershed Demonstration Program Application:** No new updates.

**Fish Passage:** The US Army Corp (through the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council) was successful in receiving \$990,000 of the requested \$1,666,800. The MN DNR has found an additional \$120,000 which will be forward to the SHRWD to send on US Army Corps to continue with the designing to prepare for the 2015 construction season.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to authorize Wilkens as the designated signee on the grant agreement with the DNR, **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, Carried.

## 6. Dan's Monthly Report

**Project Team:** The district project team is currently suspended. The FDRWG changed funding back to \$15,000 for each WD with quarterly reporting and redistribution towards the end of the fiscal year.

**RRWMB:** The RRWMB met in Karlstad. Meeting highlights were given to the managers. The next meeting is in Ada. DWG information was included in this packet.

**RRBC:** The RRBC will meet November 6 at the Canad Inn in Grand Forks, ND.

**IRRB:** Wilkens is working on the communications work plan with Lance Yohe and a draft has been submitted.

**MAWD:** Manager Swenson, Manager Hanson, Administrator Wilkens, have committed to attending MAWD. Manager Hanson were appointed delegate and Manager Swenson was appointed alternate.

**LID:** Wilkens is working with the LID board on installing a manual gauge at the pump site. A conference call was held with the DNR staff. A well recorder costs \$2,000 - \$3,000. A telemetry gauge is \$10,000 - \$15,000. Richard Rock is going to set up a meeting to come up with a plan. They are having a beaver problem at the outlet of Lake Sarah. One of the board members will tend to the problem in the spring. Rock will also address trees growing in this area.

**Wind Erosion in Ditches:** Wilkens has contacted Polk County Administrator. The district is expecting to hear from the county soon.

**Sand Hill Lake Outlet:** Rich Johnson has reported that the DNR is going to cut 18" off the top of the dam this fall to bring the elevation of the lake to original height. The pilings have risen from the original installed elevation.

**Bear Park Beaver:** Glen Paulson reported beaver issues. Wilkens authorized him to trap the nuisance beaver and call Harold Olson's son to blow the dam.

**Mapping System Upgrade:** Swenby has contacted Brian Fisher and is working with him to update the mapping system layers.

**Vesledahl Drainage System:** Wilkens gave the managers a copy of an e-mail written by Dave Weirens stating that BWSR authorizes the use of the funds they gave to the district years ago to use toward the cost of establishing a public ditch system under Minn. State 103E with conditions. Wilkens had met with Dave

Weirens when he attended the Lessard Sams presentation. Weirens was going to review this e-mail with other colleagues and get back to Wilkens. So far there has been no response.

**Beltrami Slope Project:** Local landowners have pulled back the slope and deepened to grade. Wilkens has contacted Dale Berhow to do the seeding and mulching.

## 7. Other Business:

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

**Board Appointments:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to request that Polk County change the board anniversary date to January 1 of each year from the current May 17, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**. This will standardize board appointments with other county boards.

## 8. Permits:

Several permits were brought before the board. A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve the following permits, **Seconded** by Manager Swenson, **Carried**. Manager Brekke and Manager Balstad recused from voting.

- 2014-35: Andrew Johnstad – Reis Twp. Section 28 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-36: Howard Haugen – Garfield Twp. Section 8 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-37: Mark Morvig – Winger Twp. Section 20 – Install Tile
- 2014-38: Charles Balstad – Rosebud Twp. Section 16 – Install Tile
- 2014-39: Charles Balstad – Rosebud Twp. Section 28 – Install Tile
- 2014-40: Charles Balstad – Rosebud Twp. Section 31 – Install Tile
- 2014-41: Charles Balstad – Rosebud Twp. Section 31 – Install Tile
- 2014-42: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 24 and small 24 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-43: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 18 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-44: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 20 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-45: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 30 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-46: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 29 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-47: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 33 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-48: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 17 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-49: Brekke Bros. Inc. – Hubbard Twp. Section 19 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-50: Stuart Christian – Garfield Twp. Section 17 – Clean existing ditch
- 2014-51: Mark Morvig – Winger Twp. Section 21 – Install Tile

## 9. Adjournment:

The next regular meeting will be held at 8:00 AM on December 2, 2014. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Balstad to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 AM, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.

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April Swenby, Administrative Assistant

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Bill Brekke, Secretary