

**PROJECT TEAM MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 8, 2005**

1. **ATTENDANCE:** Daniel Wilkens – Sand Hill River Watershed Administrator, April Swenby – Sand Hill River Watershed Administrative Assistant, Harold Vig – Sand Hill River Watershed District Manager, Randy Huelskamp – NRCS, Dan Thul – DNR Waters, Lawrence Woodbury – Houston Engineering, Mike Vavricka – MPCA, Dan Grunhovd – Landowner, Gary Lee - East Polk SWCD, Brian Dwight – BWSR, Les Peterson – USFWS, Henry Van Offelen – MN Center for Environmental Advocacy, Wayne Goeken – Riverwatch Coordinator, Gary Huberty – DNR, Jack Bailey – LID, Don Buckhout – DNR, Adam Woltjer – NRCS, and Maynard Pick – Congressional Representative.
2. **AGENDA REVIEW:** No new items were added to the agenda. Wilkens gave an overview of the minutes from the September 14, 2004 meeting. The September 14, 2004 meeting minutes were approved.
3. **FISH PASSAGE:** Thomas Raster has retired and will be replaced by Craig Evan. Nan Bischoff could possibly fill in the meantime. Don Buckhout will converse with the Corp to determine who will represent the Sand Hill River Watershed District.

The DNR money (\$200,000) was discussed. Dan Thul and Gary Huberty recommended that Woodbury contact Aadlund to develop a design for the DNR to review. Bids will need to be done by the third week in June for the money to be considered encumbered. Buckhout suggested sending out the plans prior to the next month's project team meeting. Bid opening would need to be done by June 7, 2005. Thul will apply for a permit.

4. **UNION LAKE EROSION CONTROL:** Vavricka reported that the Sand Hill River Watershed District does not qualify for 319 funding. The farmer and the renter agreed to place their land in an easement for 10 years. Gary Lee reported that the Challenge Grant application was submitted. Temporarily, the match for the Challenge Grant is set at \$15,000 for the LID, \$35,000 for the SHRW, and \$15,000 for the SWCD. We may know by June if the money is set aside for the project.

River watch will monitor the incomings and outgoings of the lake.

The group discussed a timeline for the project. Money from the Challenge Grant could be available as early as August and the CRP will begin in October.

Adam Woltjer was asked to inspect the area to the south and present alternatives to the group at the next meeting. A grass waterway was discussed as being the best alternative.

5. **GARDEN SLOUGH:** Henry Van Offelen distributed worksheets outlining his assessment of the area. The project team discussed the area in question. After discussion from the group, the assessments were agreed and the attachments contain the data discussed. Buckhout suggested displaying a large map viewing the potential sites. Woodbury will have a map ready to present at the next meeting.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Modeling:** Dwight would like to meet with Wilkens to review financial aspects. Dwight is waiting for an estimate regarding the modeling. Dwight will attend the RRWMB meeting for more direction on the modeling.

**River watch Report:** Wayne Goeken presented the River watch update for the Project Team.

7. **ADJOURN:** Meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held April 12, 2005 at the Sand Hill River Watershed District office in Fertile, MN.

**Minutes respectfully submitted:**

**April Swenby, Administrative Assistant**

