

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes-May 2, 1995 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance;** Roger Hanson called the May 12, 1995 meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. at the District Office. Managers present were Ray Baatz, Jimmy Krogstad, Harold Vig, and Dan Wilkens. SHRWD Advisory Committee members in attendance were: Don Bakken, John Balstad, Helmer Homme, Orley Jevning, Steve Taylor, Jim Todahl, and Ervin Vigness. Harold Olson, Marvin Olson, Lawrence Woodbury, SHRWD Engineer and Wayne Goeken, SHRWD Executive Secretary were also in attendance.
2. **Agenda Review;** No changes in the agenda were noted
3. **Minutes;** Motion by Krogstad to approve the minutes of the April 4, 1995 SHRWD regular Board meeting as mailed. Motion seconded by Vig and carried unanimously.
4. **Treasurer's Report;**
 Wilkens reviewed the Treasurer's report and bills for payment. Motion by Vig and second by Krogstad to approve the Treasurer's report as presented and the following bills for payment. Motion carried unanimously. Wilkens requested authorization to investigate and purchase two office chairs if they can be obtained at a reasonable price. Motion by Baatz to approve this authorization and second by Krogstad. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Made To Memo	Amount
First State Bank of Fertile—Soc Sec/Medic.	\$ 235.60
Lois M. Plante—janitorial services	28.86
Wayne Goeken—secretarial services & office supplies	494.99
Tony Dorn—copy machine	2,495.00
U.S. Postal Service—stamps	122.35
First State Insurance Agency—building insurance	326.01
Otter Tail Power Co.—heat & lights	226.36
David S carles— computer consulting	1,230.00
Jimmie Krogstad— meetings & expenses	257.30
Harold Vig— meetings & minutes	312.15
Harold Olson— Bear Park beaver control	440.00
Houston Engineering— professional services	688.00
Al & Laura's Foods-janitorial supplies	12.74
The Fertile Journal— meeting notice	3.05
City of Fertile— utilities	49.80
Anderson & Bailey—legal services	312.50
Garden Valley Telephone Company— phone bill	84.19
MASCOM Marketing-fax	2.00
Coast to Coast— janitorial supplies	20.61
Fertile Bakery—meeting expenses	14.00
ICS Agency Inc.— Workmans comp	3,250.00
MONTHLY TOTAL	\$10,605.51

5. **Project Reports;**

a.)Project #12 (98/148): The public information meeting held in Crookston on April 21 went well with many positive comments made about the how well the information was prepared and presented. Woodbury was commended on a job well done. After the presentation and discussion the overall feeling of the affected

landowners was to proceed with the project. Motion by Vig and second by Baatz to authorize Houston Engineering to proceed with developing final engineering reports for this project to be presented at a formal public hearing and further to proceed with hiring the same viewers that the Red Lake Watershed District will be using on their adjoining project to the north. Motion carried unanimously.

Woodbury will meet with the Red Lake WD Engineers to review situations where landowners will have property draining into both watershed districts. A joint powers agreement will need to be drawn up to facilitate this process. Upon completion of the Engineer's Report, Woodbury will submit it to the MN DNR and the MN BWSR as required by law. Woodbury will also meet with the viewers to review this report with them and review their duties as viewers. A letter was received from the RLWD noting the viewers and alternate who they selected to work on their adjoining project.

A question arose regarding how farmers should proceed regarding planting of crops in the areas that could be affected by the project. It was noted that farmers should plant as if under normal conditions. If the project would not proceed the farmers would then harvest as usual. If the project proceeds and crops are damaged or destroyed due to construction activities compensation would be made to the farmer. If the project proceeds, construction can likely be staged to minimize cropping impact.

- b.) Beltrami Diversion: Hanson noted that he met with Ila Cast's son and daughter and had a good visit to explain various aspects of the Beltrami Diversion project. Ila's son Murray had submitted a letter to the SHRWD asking for clarification on a number of items related to the project. These items and an accurate response to them were discussed. A written response letter will be prepared and sent to Murray Gast.

In a related matter, Polk County Commissioner Don Bakken reported that Polk County is investigating the possibility of working a road improvement project together with the proposed drainage improvement project just west of Beltrami.

6. Other Business

- a.) Board Appointment. A letter was received from the Polk County Commissioners indicating that the three year term for Dan Wilkens would expire on May 17, 1995 and requested the District's input regarding filling this position. The SHRWD Advisory Committee (SHRWDAC) met and reported to the Board that Wilkens is to be thanked for his many years of dedicated service to the District and recommended that Wilkens be reappointed to the SHRWD for another three year term. Motion by Baatz and seconded by Krogstad to accept the SHRWD AC's recommendation and that this recommendation be made to the Polk County Board. Motion carried unanimously.
- b.) SHRWD Advisory Committee report by Chairman Jim Todahl. The SHRWDAC met at the same time as the May SHRWD Board meeting. In addition to the Wilkens reappointment to the Board, the SHRWDAC also reported to the Board that there was concern that engineering costs are too high for projects—both at the County level and for the District. The Committee was also in favor of continuing the beaver control program with the townships being involved. Regarding wetland legislation, the Committee recommended that the District let our legislators know our position and that wetland issues be treated on a local basis to be able to better respond to specific local conditions.
- c.) RR EIS. Woodbury noted that he has made extensive corrections to the draft copy of the EIS that was being circulated for review prior to being released to the public for review. Extensive revision was needed to correct facts and reflect the current situation in the SHRWD. Many of the "facts" stated by the agencies such as the statement that "most wetlands have been drained in the east end of the District" did not have numerical documentation or identify a source for the information.
- d.) Harold and Marvin Olson reported that they had trapped 59 beavers up to the county line this season with a total of 77 beavers being trapped this season in the Bear Park area. Motion by Vig and second by Baatz for the SHRWD to continue with its beaver control program whereby the township approves who is to control beavers in their township; pays these individuals for the beavers removed (the current rate is \$30

- per beaver); and annually submits for reimbursement to the SHRWD for two-thirds of the cost. Motion carried unanimously.
- e.) Regarding the situation involving the cleaning of Polk County Ditch #48 south of Fosston Wilkens reported that it had been brought up at the RRWMB meeting. The spoils that had been cleaned from the ditch and placed on wetlands adjacent to the ditch will be removed from the wetlands per agreement between Polk County and the Army Corps of Engineers.
 - f.) Summer MAWD Tour. Hanson has written up a brief summary of the COE channelization project drop structures, Texas crossings, and the Beltrami Diversion project. Wilkens and Goeken will write up a summary of the Bear Park and Winger Dam projects. Some of this information will be put in the published tour guide with other information to be used as dialogue by the tour guides as the tour buses roll along the tour route. Houston Engineering will work with the District in preparing maps for the tour guide and for display. Goeken will continue to coordinate with the Wild Rice Watershed District office in preparing for the June 23-24 tour. Board members were reminded that they need to register individually with MAWD to be signed up for the tour and make reservations as needed for lodging at Mahnomen.
 - g.) Ogaard Project: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service notified the SHRWD that the time is up for keeping funds reserved for work on this project and as such the USFWS will have to pull out of the project. A signed release was provided to the SHRWD and to Don Ogaard.
 - h.) Rock riprap projects. Wilkens reported that the riprap projects along the river, through the golf course near Fertile will be done soon. It was noted that there are two significant erosion problems along the river. One through the Climax golf course and one by the access road/trail in front of the Fertile Sand Hills Nature Center. Wilkens will investigate the situation near the Nature Center and report back project options at the next meeting. Wilkens made a motion to cooperate with the Climax Golf Course to help address their erosion problems. At this time cost estimates will be developed regarding options to address this erosion. Motion seconded by Krogstad and carried unanimously.
 - i.) Goeken reported that sites have been selected for sampling by each school for the River Watch Program with the first training and testing to be done with all four schools during the first two weeks of May.
 - j.) Hanson reviewed the mail noting information that was available for the Managers to read.

7.) Permits. Two permits that came before the Board for review were approved as follows:

- 1995-8 Tennis C. Balstad Sletten Twp Sec. 27 SE 1/4 of SW1/4. Install 18" culvert for new crossing off of Polk Co. 204 for driveway of new home to be built.
- 1995-9 Liberty Twp Sec 24. Install 18" culvert for driveway to get access across ditch to town shed.

It was noted that MnDOT has taken the position that they do not need to file or receive approval for watershed district permits for road work. The SHRWD Board directed that a letter be sent to MnDOT noting the positive working relationship that has been established in large part due to the coordination achieved through the permitting process and that MnDOT will still be required to notify the District of their proposed work related to ditching and waters.

8.) Next Meeting and Adjournment. The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be June 6, 1995 with the meeting to begin at 7 a.m. Motion by Vig and second by Baatz to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.