

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

May 7, 1996 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Roger Hanson called the May 7, 1996 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Managers present were Ray Baatz, Jimmie Krogstad, Dan Wilkens, and Harold Vig. Others in attendance were Naomi Jagol-SHRWD Administrative Assistant, Lawrence Woodbury-SHRWD Engineer, Elliott Solheim, Jess Andringa, Leroy Reitmeier, Marvin Reitmeier, Robin Brekken, Mike Andringa, Don Andringa, Jeff Voeller, Roland Gullekson-AELC, Wayne Goeken-AELC, Orvis Lewis, J.R. Dale, Greg Ranz, and Maynard Johnson.
- 2. Agenda Review:** No changes to the agenda were noted.
- 3. Minutes:** Motion by Krogstad to approve the minutes of the April 2, 1996 SHRWD regular Board meeting as mailed. Motion seconded by Vig and carried unanimously.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens handed out and reviewed the Treasurer's report. Krogstad inquired as to the balance of Ditch 17-2 and whether the assessments to this ditch would be assessed in one year or two. Wilkens responded that this would be decided at the county level. Wilkens noted that a bill had been submitted to the City of Fertile for reimbursement of the related investigation costs for the #10 West Mill Project. Wilkens also reviewed a rate comparison worksheet from area banks with regard to investing \$150,000 from the SHRWD checking account. Motion by Vig and second by Baatz to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Made to - Memo	Amount
Naomi Jagol—secretarial services & expenses	\$748.37
Raymond Baatz—meetings & expenses	122.47
Roger Hanson—meetings & expenses	361.15
Jimmie Krogstad—meetings & expenses	308.30
Harold Vig~meetings & expenses	65.79
Dan Wilkens—meetings & expenses	151.24
Al & Laura's—Supplies	35.22
Anderson & Bailly-Services rendered for Project #12, 98-148 & Project #13	1,125.06
Dahl, Hatton, Muir & Reese, LTD~Progress billing for 12/31/94 audit	1,527.60
Fertile Bakery-Meeting expense 1/16/96, 2/1/96, 3/5/96, & 4/2/96	60.50
First State Bank of Fertile— Soc. Sec./Med. deposit	336.62
First State Bank of Fertile—Purchase investment & wire transfer fee	150,015.00
First State Bank of Fertile— Commercial Property Insurance premium	547.00
Garden Valley Telephone Co. —May phone bill	126.79
Houston Engineering, Inc. —Misc. work, Meetings, & Special meetings	1,183.60
ICS Agency, Inc.— Renewal of Commercial Package	3,247.00
Mac's— Meeting expense 5/07/96	32.82
Otter Tail Power Co. —May billing	200.24
Red River Watershed Management Board— Cost Share for Stream Gages, 95 & 96	3,640.00
Tony Dorn, Inc.— Copier supplies	49.58
University of MN-Crookston Campus—Sand Hill River Watch Forum lunches	403.75
MONTHLY TOTAL	\$164,288.10

5. Project Reports:

- a.) Various landowners in the Vineland, Hammond, and Russia townships approached the SHRWD Board of Managers for guidance as to what course of action they should proceed with regarding flood water from Maple Creek. A discussion arose about extending county road #41 all the way to Climax. Hanson responded that if cooperation from the county could be given that a cost savings could be recognized for both sides. However, Hanson further stated that he had been in contact with the county and that they cannot establish any new county roads at this time without giving up an equal amount of roadways. Don Andringa stated that the course of the water begins west of Maple Lake and travels through Melvin Slough and Maple Creek where it finally is diverted into the ditch. With regard to funding, Andringa questioned as to what the appropriate assessment area should be and that the effected landowners desperately need county funding in order to initiate the project. Wilkens stated that at one time research had been done to bring water from Melvin Slough south to a holding area on Kittleson Creek. DNR would not approve this concept. The newest concept is off channel storage but a site would have to be located. Wilkens further commented that this type of project may be eligible to obtain funding from the Red River Watershed Management Board on the basis of flood control. Wilkens advised the landowners that in order to get recognized they should obtain documentation by signing a petition to encourage the county to continue county road #41 to Climax. Wilkens said that each effected township should also organize a petition to lend support to the landowners. Hanson indicated that the District is not unsympathetic to the landowners situation and that if the county will cooperate, the District would lend support to the landowners on this project in order to present a united front. Hanson concluded by saying that once a petition was obtained from the effected landowners and/or townships that the District would go with them to present it to the county for consideration.
- b.) Orvis Lewis visited with the Board regarding the wet conditions he is experiencing on his property. Krogstad responded that the ideal solution would be to run water down the hill to the river and that this could be accomplished by having J. R. Dale construct a ditch on the property that he rents from Scott Larson. Krogstad indicated that he had approached both parties with this solution and it was agreed upon that as soon as it was dry enough J. R. would construct the ditch.
- J. R. Dale also approached the Board with regard to this situation and stated that he had done nothing to the property in question without first obtaining the needed permits from the SHRWD. He also noted that he would construct the ditch once the conditions were favorable.
- c.) Sand Hill River Watch Program: Roland Gullekson and Wayne Goeken representing the Agassiz Environmental Learning Center presented to the Board a summary of the events that comprised the forum that took place at the U of M - Crookston Campus on April 16, 1996. They stated that an excellent presentation was given by students from the area schools including Fosston, Win-E-Mac, Fertile-Beltrami, and Climax and that essentially students and teachers alike were very enthused about the program. Goeken presented to the Board a bill from UMC for \$403.75 for the luncheon served at the forum. Krogstad indicated that since the Board sponsored the River Watch Forum that they should be responsible to pay for the lunch. Baatz seconded and the motion was carried unanimously. Hanson questioned as to what tangible benefits the District receives from funding a project of this nature. Gullekson responded that he believes the District is here to promote a wise use of water resources and has a responsibility to the public to cultivate an interest in these resources with students and other community members as well. Wilkens added that the District could possibly benefit from corrective measures taken from information presented by the students. Gullekson stated that once projects of this nature become a part of the curriculum in area schools that they would be able to absorb some of the costs associated with it.

Gullekson also suggested the District coordinate a summer tour of the course of the Sand Hill River. Goeken indicated that 2 buses would be needed as the tour would involve approximately 75 people. Goeken also suggested that perhaps two different routes could be offered with varying lengths since some participants' time commitments are limited and that these two routes could meet up along the tour. Wilkens added that this would promote interaction between Board members, Sand Hill Advisory Committee members, students, and teachers. Motion by Wilkens and second by Krogstad to sponsor and fund tour.

- d.) Maynard Johnson approached the Board with his concerns about the Onstad Township Ditch. Johnson suggested that the culvert in Section 34 was lowered, not just extended, and indicated that he would like the culvert returned to the original state. Wilkens responded that at the February regular monthly board meeting, Duane Steinbrink of the Natural Resources Conservation Service attended and indicated that the NRCS would gather information, survey the site, and develop a preliminary design and cost estimate which would be presented and ready for review in the fall of 1996. Hanson indicated that the Board must wait for this report before any action can be taken.
- e.) Project #11-Beltrami Flood Control & Diversion: Wilkens indicated that the Red River Watershed Management Board approved to fund 2/3 of the costs associated with this Project. Woodbury noted that the permit has not been finalized, however, a 24" culvert was agreed upon by DNR to accommodate the low flow requirement.
- f.) Project #12, 98 & 148: Woodbury indicated that no word has been received as to the outcome of the trial. Woodbury noted that the contract for this Project has been sitting for quite some time and perhaps the District should consider rebidding it since workloads have changed for the contractor since last fall. Hanson stated that the District should wait on taking a different course of action until they know the Project has been approved. Woodbury indicated that after 60 days the contractor has the option to hold his bid. When the Project moves forward, the Board will need to decide whether to continue with the present bid or rebid the Project.
- g.) Scandia Ditch: The meeting was officially turned over from President Hanson to Vice-President Baatz in order for Hanson to present to the Board the newly petitioned Project involving Scandia township. Hanson was presented with a petition from several Beltrami citizens regarding proposed improvements to a Scandia Ditch. Hanson forwarded this petition to SHRWD attorney Bottrell and he noted that the Board must decide whether to follow Section 103D or Section 103E whichever is applicable. Hanson stated that there is virtually no opposition from the area landowners with regard to this Project. Motion by Vig to accept the petition as presented and second by Krogstad. Project #13 was established and Woodbury was appointed as the Project Engineer. Woodbury noted that a preliminary hearing would be needed to establish cost estimates for the Project and a final hearing 30 days after the preliminary hearing would be scheduled to review the viewer's assessments of the damaged property. Woodbury stated that a preliminary engineer's report would be prepared for Project #13 and after it's completion a legal notice should be published indicating the initial hearing date.

6. Upcoming Meetings and Other Business:

- a.) 1996 Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Summer Tour, June 27-29, 1996, hosted by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Motion by Vig and second by Baatz to approve the attendance of any Board Manager who may wish to attend.

Permits:

a.) Six permits that came before the Board for review were approved as follows:

- 1996-01 Harold Gast - Install a field access driveway to direct water through the ditch instead of the field.
- 1996-02 Dwain Tollefson - Replace a 2' culvert with a 3' culvert.
- 1996-03 Robert Rude - Clean existing Ditch in Scandia township, Section 18.
- 1996-04 Richard Westscott - Install culvert extension approximately 6' in Woodside township, Section 35.
- 1996-05 Polk County Highway Department - Rehabilitation and reconstruction of C.R. 220.
- 1996-06 Polk County Highway Department - Rehabilitation and reconstruction of C.R. 232.

8. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 4, 1996. As there was no further business to come before the Board, motion by Baatz and second by Krogstad to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Jimmie Krogstad, Secretary

Naomi L. Jagol, Administrative Assistant