

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

February 6, 2006 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the February 6, 2006 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Stuart Christian and Bill Brekke. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby – Administrative Assistant, Lawrence Woodbury-Houston Engineering, Joyce Downs – Landowner, Dan Skanson – Polk County Fair Board, and Scott Tollefson – Landowner.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A Motion was made by Manager Brekke to approve the agenda, Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried.
- 3. Minutes:** A Motion was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on January 3, 2006, Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Wilkens distributed the treasurer's report for the month of January. A Motion was made by Manager Brekke to accept the treasurer's report as presented, Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried.

Motion was made by Manager Christian to approve and pay bills Seconded by Manager Brekke, Carried. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Engineer's Report:

Union Lake Detention: Woodbury will present the current design specs for the rock dams in the wooded channel portion and will discuss options for the lower portion with the landowners at the Project Team meeting scheduled for February 14, 2006. A presentation on "Lakescapes" will be given by DNR personnel.

Modeling: The work plan and budget has been given to Brian Dwight. The development of the hydrologic model and the overall plan update could take up to two years. Progress is being made.

Project # 20: Woodbury presented the preliminary engineers report to the board. Scheduling the preliminary hearing was discussed. The board set March 9, 2006 at 10:00 AM at the Methodist Church in Beltrami, MN as the time and place to hold the preliminary hearing on the ditch # 46 improvement petition, Watershed project # 20. A Motion was made by Manager Brekke accepting the preliminary engineers report as presented , Seconded by Manager Christian, Carried.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: The project team will meet February 14, 2006 at 10:30 AM at the watershed district office.

RRWMB: The RRWMB met on January 17, 2006 at Thief River Falls. The next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2006 in Fertile.

RBFDWRWG Funding Committee: The RBFDWRWG funding committee met on February 1, 2006 at the Northland Inn in Crookston.

RRBC: The RRBC held their annual conference in Winnipeg on January 11-13.

Project # 12: Allen Dragseth would like to install two crossings in section 16 of Vineland Twp. One ¼ mile east of NW corner and one ½ mile south of NW corner. Woodbury was asked his opinion on giving approval to install 2 crossings in this section. Woodbury stated that the culverts that Dragseth intends to install are larger than the culverts that are currently upstream and downstream. They do add friction to the channel. He suggested

encouraging one crossing rather than two to avoid the added restriction. Woodbury reminded the managers that it is a ditch system and unnecessary culverts can be a burden to the ditch system. Another issue would be future ownership of the crossing. The board tabled this request until spring and then would like to meet with the landowner on site before proceeding with this issue.

PROJECT 17: This project is dormant and will begin again next construction season.

LID: Wilkens has requested our attorney develop the process to turn over the pumping project to the watershed district. Our attorney requested a copy of the LID minutes authorizing turning the project over to the Watershed District. He also requested information that defines the legal status of the project which would be at the auditor's office.

Fish Passage: EAW process is progressing. The comment period will have ended by our next board meeting. We will need to answer any comments that come in. Public notice has appeared in the Fertile and Crookston papers.

Union Lake Flood Control and Erosion Project: Houston Engineering will begin developing a plan as we now have the signed contract to start the project. Wilkens has contacted landowners for the project team meeting to discuss design plans and a presentation on "Lakescapes".

Beltrami Slough by Highway # 9: Houston Engineering is finalizing payment from MnDOT. MnDOT will pay their percentage as per the original agreement. The change order has caused some concern internally at MnDOT. The district office recognizes the change order, whereas the St. Paul office does not. Houston Engineering has drafted a letter requesting payment from the MnDOT office in St. Paul. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to mail the letter drafted by Houston Engineer, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

Ditch #122: Chairman Hanson asked Downs if she had questions to bring forth to the managers. Downs said she did not care to ask questions because every time she asks a question it is changed when it is printed. She did not have any new questions. Near the close of the meeting, the Managers asked Swenby about changing Down's words in the minutes. Swenby assured the managers that she does the best she can when typing the minutes and felt comfortable that what is written is what is said. She added that before the minutes are approved, the minutes are discussed by the managers at the next board meeting and the same opportunity is available to all attendees at the meeting to make corrections. Swenby suggested asking attendees to place their questions in writing, thereby eliminating the possibility for a misinterpretation.

Ditch # 133: The district is currently awaiting a petition.

7. Other Business:

Polk County Fair Sponsorship: Dan Skanson was seeking sponsorship for the Toonies (a performance aimed at the child audience promoting recycling and other environmental issues) to perform at the Polk County Fair. The managers funded this program last year and it was felt that it was a very beneficial program for the youth of our district. The Managers would like to make a decision on this when a full board is present.

Legislative Breakfast: Hanson, Sonsteli, Wilkens, and Vig will attend the Legislative Breakfast.

8. Permits:

There were no permits brought before the board.

9. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2006.** As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Manager Christian, **Carried.**

Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant