

## SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

September 11, 2007 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Budget Hearing:** The budget hearing was called to order by Chairman Hanson at 8 a.m. No one attended the hearing and after a brief discussion by the board a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the budget as advertised, **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried.** The budget hearing was closed.
- 2. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the September 11, 2007 meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian, Gordon Sonsteli and Harold Vig. Others in attendance were Joyce Downs, Landowner, Rodney Spokely, Landowner, Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby-Administrative Assistant, and Jeff Langen-Houston Engineering.  
**Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried.**
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonsteli to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on August 7, 2007, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried.**
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's report for August, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried.**

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

### 5. Engineer's Report

**Project # 20/Polk County # 46:** Completion is set for the end of this month. Utility work has been completed. Red River Valley Electric Coop will probably double-check the poles before project completion along Polk County # 41. Excavation is complete although a few miles of ditch along the north branch does not have the top soil spread. Seeding is almost complete – 110 of the 140 acres have been seeded.

Chairman Hanson reported that a mailbox was damaged during construction along Polk County # 51. Langen will speak to Zavoral Construction regarding the replacement of the mailbox.

Mike Skaug asked if he could have the culverts by # 51 and Chairman Hanson told him to contact Zavoral Construction as they have title to the salvage. At the intersection of 9 and 51 there are storing concrete pipes and some steel culverts. Zavoral Construction wants to charge a fee to remove the ones we don't use in the project. They claim that if we would have told them sooner that we would not be using them they would have been able to send the excess back with the returning trucks. Now they will have to make special trips to haul the excess away. Zavoral feels they should be compensated for that. The district will try to find places to use as much of the surplus as possible.

A flowing well exists in Section 18 of Liberty Township that is piped over to the project and continuously releases water into the ditch keeping the ditch saturated. Langen has contacted the County about sealing the well. The County has a cost share program that assists landowners in sealing wells. A cost estimate will need to be obtained before we can proceed. The contractor that has been contacted would like to see the well before he gives a bid. That would entail finding the well location and digging it up. The district will work to seal the well as it will only cause maintenance problems in the future.

Langen presented pay request number three. He recommended that the board approve pay request number three.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to pay the third installment for Zavoral Construction, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**.

**Fish Passage:** Langen presented a final change order (#2) for the West Mill Site which has now been completed. The amount of increase for change order # 2 is \$417.00. A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig approving and paying change order # 2, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

The Reis Township Board has written a letter regarding the rough approaches to the Texas Crossing. They have also requested the rocks along the ROW on Project # 20 be removed to avoid damage to mowers next spring.

The managers discussed concrete grout as previously discussed in the last meeting. Langen discussed the options with the managers. Langen will contact a paving company and see about the possibility of laying down a 3 to 4 inch layer of asphalt over the area.

**Project # 17:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to pay Northern paving in the amount of \$2,406.25 for overlay patch on TH#9, **Seconded** by Manager Sonstelie, **Carried**. Langen showed pictures of several erosions sites along the railroad grade that had been brought to his attention by the railroad. They need to be repaired by reshaping the area, laying down a filter cloth, and cover with rock. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to stabilize the railroad grade/side inlets, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

**Spokely Drainage:** Langen displayed and explained the survey that was done for the area north of Neilsville. A DNR permit will need to be applied for to assist with the problem area because it is protected waters. Wilkens informed Spokely that the watershed does not have jurisdiction to clean the ditch and that he needs to coordinate with the landowners to clean the ditch. Bill Brekke is the landowner and he indicated he would cooperate in the cleaning process of the ditch. He assured Spokely that it needed to be done properly with all permits that are required.

## 6. Dan's Monthly Report:

**RRWMB:** The RRWMB met in Thief River Falls on August 21. The next meeting is September 19th in Thief River Falls.

**Union Lake Erosion Control Project:** Wilkens has drafted easements. The SHRWD will finalize easements and purchase land. Wilkens has met with Hoff. Wilkens explained that Hoff could not draft easements based on the information that was provided. Wilkens will continue to go through the motions to make this happen as per Hanson's request. The owner has not given a price he'd be willing to sell the land for.

**PC # 44/Section 35 Onstad:** Wilkens will gather cost estimates and will schedule a meeting with landowners.

**Boundary:** The power line has been moved and gopher one has staked the telephone line. The main line is back in the field and should not be a problem. The boxes may have to be moved back. Two bids have currently been received. Wilkens will seek more bids. Vig suggested awarding the project to the lowest bidder as soon as possible and get the project completed.

**Spraying:** The cattail spraying appears to be done. The SHRWD has not received a report or bill for any spraying yet.

**Overall Plan:** The meeting for zone 3 was held on August 23 at 7:00 PM in St Mikes Park.

7. **Permits:** Four permits were brought before the board. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke approving the following permits, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

- 2007-13** Brian and Brent Gullekson, Clean ditch on south side of section 12, Reis Twp.
- 2007-14** Brian and Brent Gullekson, Clean ditch on NE side of section 14, Reis Twp.
- 2007-15** Brian and Brent Gullekson, Clean ditch on NW side of section 13. Reis Twp.
- 2007-16** Brian and Brent Gullekson, Clean ditch on NW side of section 35, Russia Twp.
- 2007-17** Trevor Spokely, Clean ditch on N and W side of section 10, Hubbard Twp.
- 2007-18** Herman and Gail Sondreal. Extend permit # 2005 – 46.  
Permit # 2005-46 has requested an extension.

8. **Other Business:**

**SHRWD Phone System:** Swenby gave the managers information on obtaining a new phone system and an additional line. A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to obtain the new phone system and additional line, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried**.

**House of Representative Bill:** The district was given a copy of a bill proposed by the House of Representatives which models the RRWMB structure statewide.

**Red River Basin Commission Resolution of Support:** The RRBC has asked for the Sand Hill’s support regarding their 13 goals in their Natural Resource Framework Plan. A **Motion** was made by Manager Vig that the Sand Hill River Watershed District support the RRBC resolution, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

## Red River Basin Resolution of Support

FORWARD: The land and water resources within the Red River Basin are crucial to the health of the economy, the resilience and prosperity of communities, the health of fish and wildlife, and the well being, health and enjoyment of everyone who lives, works, and visits the basin. The complex geopolitical nature of the Red River Basin presents challenges to effective integrated land and water management. To overcome these challenges, we need to work together across boundaries in a spirit of cooperation and friendship to achieve common goals for land and water management.

WHEREAS, we recognize that our actions today impact the legacy we leave the next generation;

WHEREAS, we realize that working together allows us to develop and implement creative solutions to problems that work toward the betterment of the whole basin;

WHEREAS, the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) is a unique organization working across jurisdictional boundaries to foster and facilitate a cooperative approach within the basin and is a well established forum for identifying, developing and implementing solutions to cross boundary issues;

WHEREAS, the RRBC has developed the Red River Basin Natural Resource Framework Plan (RRB-NRFP) through in-depth basin-wide consultation as a guideline to aid in achieving a basin-wide approach to integrated natural resource management;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sand Hill River Watershed District hereby declares support for the RRB-NRFP in principle as a guideline for moving forward with a shared vision for the future;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sand Hill River Watershed District will do our part to work toward this common vision

by implementing projects, programs, and actions in our area as we are able that will contribute to this shared vision.



Adopted by: Sand Hill River Watershed District

Signed by: Roger Hanson, Chairman

Date: September 11, 2007

**RRBC Vision:** A Red River Basin where residents, organizations and governments work together to achieve basin-wide commitment to comprehensive integrated watershed stewardship and management.

**RRBC Mission:** To develop a Red River Basin integrated natural resources framework plan, to achieve commitment to implement the framework plan, and to work toward a unified voice for the Red River Basin.

**MAWD Training Session:** Sonsteli, Wilkens, Hanson and Vig would like to attend the training session in Alexandria

- 9. Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 2007.** As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 a.m., **Seconded** by Manager Vig, **Carried.**

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Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

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April Swenby, Administrative Assistant