

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

April 5, 2011 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Harold Vig called the April 5, 2011 meeting to order at 8:05 AM at the District Office. Other managers present were Scott Balstad, Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian, and Roger Hanson. Staff members present were Daniel Wilkens – Administrator, and April Swenby – Administrative Assistant. Others in attendance were Lawrence Woodbury – Houston Engineering, Gary Lee – East Polk SWCD, Katie Engelmann – East Polk SWCD, Kenny Pederson – East Polk SWCD, Jim Ziegler – PCA, Carey Hernandez – PCA, Joyce Downs and Bill Downs - Landowners.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve the agenda as presented, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on March 7, 2011, **Seconded** by Manager Balstad, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's report for March, **Seconded** by Manager Balstad, **Carried**.

The managers reviewed their expense reports and reported on activities for the month. A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve and pay bills **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

Project Team expenses dating back to 1998 were presented to the managers.

5. Engineer's Report

Project # 24: Brekke will coordinate a meeting with the landowners and Woodbury set for April 11, 2011 at 1:30 PM. Manager Hanson spoke with Mike Carroll at the RRBC meeting who stated that the issue with the mitigation has been resolved. Wilkens has not been notified of this but will follow up with Gary Bennett.

Ditch # 122: Gary Lee stated that the grant pertaining to ditch # 122 will be applied for in the fall.

6. Dan's Monthly Report

RRWMB: The RRWMB met in Moorhead. Meeting highlights were given to the managers.

RRBC Commission: A RRBC meeting will not be held in April.

Sand Hill Ditch: Wilkens and Woodbury will communicate on the work needed and obtain quotes.

LID: A draft petition has been received to turn over the Pumping project. The description of the project is holding up the process at the moment. Dave Hauff is coordinating with Kurt Deter to obtain a complete description of the project.

Ditch # 55: The district received an Improvement Petition on Friday, March 4, 2011. The petition has been sent to our attorney who has confirmed that it meets the state statutes. A notice will be given within 10 days of the hearing and a date will be set for the hearing within 30 days of approval. A hearing date has been set for Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 10 A.M.

Fish Passage: Tom Grohans said that the COE is confident that they will receive funds for next year's construction season. The DNR is also pursuing the Clean Water Legacy funding. Nate Dalager will be sending the COE his report this week. A fiscal problem has delayed this for about 6 months. They may ask the sponsor to be on the conference call when the report is sent to the top.

Mitch Lenz and Tupper Farms (Paul Engelstad rents his property) need consent for a cultural resource determination at the two staging areas this spring. The staging areas will be where the rocks will be stockpiled when the project goes forward. They should analyze the project and get back to us. Google Earth maps were given to the managers.

Permit Data Base: Brian Fisher contacted Swenby and stated he is working on getting it on the on-line sometime this week.

Ring Dikes: Wilkens held update meeting Monday evening in Nielsville and things are moving ahead with both Nielsville and Climax to stage two.

Voeller would like to build two grain bins near the dike and would like approval from the engineer to ensure it will not conflict with the ring dike. Woodbury could not foresee a conflict and did not see that it would affect the dike.

Boundary: BWSR will mediate with the Red Lake Watershed District and the Sand Hill Watershed District on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 1:30 PM in Crookston at Valley Technical Park near UMC to finalize the boundary. Manager Hanson and Manager Vig will attend this meeting with Wilkens.

7. Other Business:

Public Relations: The managers reviewed possible public relations items. No new information was brought before the board.

East Polk SWCD: Lee and Engelmann presented an update on the sediment basins. Twenty-nine sediment basins and one drop structure were implemented.

Lee and Pederson discussed the opportunity for farm planning and the possibility of coordinating those efforts with the watershed.

Lee will be providing Swenby with images for the DVD for the Polk County Fair.

Engelmann will be added to the district's project team. She will contact Swenby when her e-mail address is available, as that is how project team members are contacted.

Advisory Committee: Swenby will be contacting the inactive members to determine their interest. The advisory committee has advised the managers to review the future of the watershed and Wilkens retirement. Wilkens suggests that the managers hold a meeting next winter to do future planning.

TMDL: Hernandez asked permission to use the HSPF (Hydrologic Simulation Program Fortran) method for this district, rather than SWAT (Soil and Water Assessment Tool). This method will predict how pollutants will react as they travel down the stream. Ziegler stated that other projects have failed and they plan to use those monies to cover the cost difference between HSPF and SWAT. Houston Engineering will be the contractor of choice for this project. Woodbury agreed with this method choice. A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to change the

method from SWAT to HSPF, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

Chairman Vig asked what the PCA's contribution is to the Riverwatch as they use the data collected. Ziegler stated that the PCA contributes not only financially, but purchases much of their equipment needed.

Spraying: A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to hire Midwest Helicopters to spray district ditches as per their estimate, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.

Beaver Bounty Assessment: A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to amend the Beaver Bounty program to raise the compensation to \$50 per beaver, **Seconded** by Manager Balstad, **Carried**. A new contract will be made and distributed to the townships. Chairman Vig feels that the new beaver bounty is overly generous. The township is still required to pay \$10 cost share of the \$50 bounty.

Lisburg Culvert Increase: Carl Lisburg called and has requested a culvert increase. Jodi Beauchane has agreed that his request may help his water issues. Manager Balstad suggested that we wait to see what happens with the grant this fall. This issue will be tabled until the fall.

Mowing: The ditch mower has decided the Project #12 and Project # 17 will no longer be his territory. The district will place an ad in the paper to advertise for mowing those projects.

Roof: The managers discussed the option of repairing the roof or adding a vaulted roof. Wilkens will get some bids to replace our roof.

8. Permits: Two permits were brought before the board.

2011-04 – Garden Valley Telephone, Install Buried Fiber Optic Cables, Multiple Townships.

2011-05 – Brekke Bros Inc., Install culvert and clean existing ditch, Section 19- 30 Hubbard Township

9. Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 AM on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Balstad to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 AM, **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried**.

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant

Scott Balstad, Secretary