

## SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

February 6, 2007 Meeting Minutes

- 1. Attendance:** Chairman Roger Hanson called the February 6, 2007 meeting to order at 8:12 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, and Stuart Christian. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby-Administrative Assistant, Lawrence Woodbury-Houston Engineering, Paul Engelstad and Joyce Downs – Landowner.
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.
- 3. Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on January 2, 2006, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's report for January, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke 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.

### **5. Engineer's Report:**

**Overall Plan Update:** Mark Aanenson asked Woodbury to distribute planning region maps to the board. The maps showed the four planning regions and the committee members for each region. Aanenson sought the manager's input to fill the steering committee's empty positions. Suggestions were offered. Woodbury will report the suggestions back to Aanenson.

**Project # 21/Fish Passage-West Mill:** Paperwork will be presented to the DNR requesting partial payment for the Texas Crossing and the West Mill site.

**Project # 20 Reconvened Final Hearing:** The Board recessed the board meeting at 9:00 AM and reconvened the Project # 20 Final Hearing that had been recessed on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Upon completion of the final hearing the board meeting was reconvened at 10:05 AM.

**Project # 20/Polk County # 46:** Woodbury distributed photos of channel liners done on other railroad bridge projects in the Red River Valley. They are still having discussions with the railroad engineers on the type of structure to install under the railroad grade. Hanson asked if the ditch systems in this project will transfer over to the Watershed District. Wilkens explained to the managers that the Polk County Board turned over one mile of Ditch # 46 some time ago. We will need to consult with our attorney and coordinate with the Polk County Board and their attorney to proceed with the proper procedure to turn over the remainder of ditch # 46 and what other procedures need to be done to finalize the project as a whole. E.g. Separation and consolidation procedures.

### **6. Dan's Monthly Report:**

**Project Team:** Woodbury and Wilkens agreed that a project team meeting in February would not be necessary. It was suggested that March should give ample time for him to complete the tasks given at the January meeting.

**RRWMB:** The RRWMB met in St. Paul January 16 in conjunction with the Legislative Briefing. Meeting highlights were given to the managers.

**Legislative Briefing:** The Legislative Briefing was held January 16 with the Red River Valley Legislatures.

**RBFDROWG Funding Committee:** The RBFDROWG Funding Committee met January 17 in St. Paul.

**RRBC:** The RRBC Annual Conference was held January 23-25 at Ramada Inn Suites in Fargo.

**Union Lake Erosion Control Project:** The farmer from North Dakota will be contacted for his input.

**Beltrami Slough by Highway # 9:** Payment from MnDOT is on its way. Woodbury reviewed the Amendment. A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to authorize the chairman to sign the Amendment for the MnDOT agreement, No. 86720, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**.

**Project # 20/Polk County # 46:** The final hearing was held February 5, 2007 at 10:00 AM at the Methodist Church in Beltrami. The hearing was recessed until 9:00 am on Tuesday February 6, 2007 at the watershed office.

**Ditch # 133:** Wilkens has gathered data from Polk County and East Polk SWCD to use to evaluate costs for an improvement proceeding for Charles Balstad. Based on that information, the district gave an estimate of \$40,000 to Charles Balstad to review. He will contact landowners in the area and get back to Wilkens.

**Overall Plan:** Mark Aanenson is setting up the Citizens Advisory Committee, (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee, (TAC) members.

**Flash Drive:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke authorizing the purchase of two 8GB flash drives for the watershed back up system, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

## 7. Other Business:

**Joyce Downs:** Downs requested 2004, 2005, 2006 audit reports. The managers asked for a written request asking for this information. She will be charged accordingly for the copies. The audit for 2006 has not been completed; however, 2004 and 2005 is available.

**Legislative Breakfast:** Chairman Hanson and Wilkens will attend the Legislative Breakfast. Swenby will register Wilkens and Hanson. Hanson has reserved his room. Wilkens will need a room reserved.

**USACOE Points of Concurrence Workshop:** Woodbury and Wilkens will attend this conference in Crookston.

**NRE Presentation:** Keith Mykleseth of the Nature Conservancy along with Greg Bengtson & Wes Drake of the NRCS proposed a wetland restoration project on ditch # 65. Their project would assist with flood control on Ditch # 65. They can provide final numbers on elevations as they pursue the design process. The group is asking for the District's support in pursuing the final project. They plan to apply for a permit from the district in March.

Although the County is in charge of the ditch, the watershed board is responsible for managing the water in the district. The board would prefer to work together with the Nature Conservancy to accomplish the same task, rather than creating an abandonment in all of section 10 and the south ¼ mile of section 3 in Godfrey Township as in their presentation. This abandonment is in the middle of ditch # 65. Mykleseth would prefer to continue with their

original plan which would assist with the management side of things. The managers and the Natural Resource group discussed trust issues using the example of a beaver dam. As a compromise, Mykleseth suggested wording the abandonment to recognizing the beaver dam issues and other trust issues.

Wilkins suggested bringing this forth to the project team in March. Mykleseth will be placed on the Project Team agenda for March.

- 8. Permits:** One permit was brought before the board.  
2007-01 – Clayton Engelstad – Sections 6 & 5 – Install Crossing.

The watershed has asked Woodbury to review the permit and give his recommendation for culvert size. The permit will be acted on during the March 2007 regular monthly meeting.

- 9. Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at **8 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6, 2007**. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m., **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

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Robert Brekke, Jr., Secretary

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April Swenby, Administrative Assistant