The Board of Managers of the Sand Hill River Watershed District met September 5, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. at the Fertile City Hall. Members present - Daniel Wilkens, Roland Gullekson, Roger Hanson, and Francis LaVoi. Also present - Gale Fraser and Robert Muscha of Houston Engineering; Werner Mahluqj, Norman County Commissioner; Marvin Reitmeier of the Advisory Committee and Polk County Commissioner and interested public.

Chairman Roland Gullekson called the meeting to order. The secretaries report was read and approved.

Marvin Reitmeier, Polk County Commissioner, talked about the Polk County engineer, Mr Bernie Leider. Mr Leider had stated that some project they had already surveyed on Maple Creek and disapproved by Houston Engineering. Bob Muscha of Houston Engineering said he cannot recollect doing anything in Polk County and the Board decided to have Mr Reitmeier check and see if he could get this problem resolved to eliminate any friction between the two boards.

The Board then discussed the flowing well problem which occurred when the Soil Conservation Service was testing for possible flood retention sites near the Sletten Town Hall northeast of Winger. After discussion, the Board decided to take Houston Engineering’s advice and try to get Mr Stanley Olson, our attorney, involved to find out what the Watershed Board should be doing.

Roland Gullekson made a motion, Roger Hanson seconded, motion carried that the Board table adopting Rules and Regulations until next month.

The Board then discussed mill levies for the coming year. With the work forseen by the Board in the near future, the Board felt the one mill administrative levy was necessary for the coming year. The Lower Red River Water Management Board levied a two mill tax at their last meeting for funds for flood reduction on the Red River. Francis LaVoi made the following resolution, Roger Hanson seconded it and upon being put to a vote, unanimously carried:

Be it resolved that a three mill levy be levied on all taxable land in the Sand Hill River Watershed District in the counties of Polk, Norman, and Mahnomen in the State of Minnesota for the year 1979- One mill shall be used for the general administrative expenses and for projects of benefit to the district as provided by Minnesota Statute Section 112, 61 Subdivision 3- Two mills shall be used according to Minnesota Statute Chapter 112, Chapter 162 the Joint Powers Agreement and Legislative direction.

The secretary was instructed to send copies of this resolution to the auditors of the three counties.

Roland Gullekson received a call from Mr Kevin Cook of the Army Corp of Engineers. Mr Cook wanted a map of flood damage areas of Beltrami in past years for use in a Beltrami flood relief study. Roland contacted Mr Ted Anderson, Mayor of Beltrami, and Mr Anderson agreed to prepare this map. When Roland met previously with the Army Corp in Beltrami, the subject of farming the dikes was brought up. Recently the Army Corp sent Roland a letter saying that they didn't have any regulations on this. Roland then asked our attorney, Mr Stanley Olson about our Board making their own regulations concerning farming on the dikes. Mr Olson said that the Board could make their own regulations as long as it was reasonable.
Dan Wilkens then gave a report on the spraying of the Sand Hill Ditch. So far, two miles on the west end had been sprayed this year.

Roger Hanson made a motion, Francis LaVoi seconded, motion carried to approve the bill of $1040.05 to Bob Smerud for office equipment.

Francis LaVoi made a motion for $40.00 per hour to hire Wallace Stauning's cat and scraper to work on filling in the spoil bank on the Sand Hill Ditch. Motion was seconded by Roger Hanson and motion carried. Roger will meet with Bob Muscha at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday to survey what work is needed. If Roger can't make this meeting, Dan Wilkens will attend.

The Board scheduled a meeting to start at 6-30 P.M. on the 18th of September for interested landowners on Norman County Ditch 2 and Polk County 17. Houston Engineering will contact landowners of assessed parcels.

Manager Francis LaVoi introduced the following Resolution to be acted upon by the Board of Managers at a Public Hearing to be held on the 18th day of September, 1978, at 8:00 P.M. in the City Hall in Fertile, Minnesota, after proper notice thereof shall have been published in the Norman County Index, the Fertile Journal, and the Mahnomen Pioneer:

RESOLVED, that the construction of an earth-fill, flood reduction dam on the Sand Hill River located near the quarter corner between Sections 11 and 12 in Bear Park Township of Norman, County, Minnesota, shall be undertaken by the Sand Hill River Watershed District. Said improvement is for the public interest and welfare and is practicable and in conformity with the Overall Plan of the District. The cost of construction thereof shall be paid for all, or in part, by special assessments upon benefited property. Robert Muscha of Houston Engineering, Inc., is hereby appointed Engineer for the project and is directed to make all necessary surveys and plans for the construction thereof.

Member Roger Hanson then moved that a Hearing be held thereon and that a Notice of Hearing in the following form be published in the Norman County Index, the Fertile Journal, and the Mahnomen Pioneer:

NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PROPOSED
FLOOD REDUCTION DAM CONSTRUCTION

A public Hearing will be held on the 18th day of September, 1978, at 8:00 o'clock P.M. in the City Hall in Fertile, Minnesota, on a proposed Resolution of the Board of Managers of the Sand Hill River Watershed District to construct an earth-fill, flood reduction dam on the Sand Hill River located near the quarter corner between Sections 11 and 12 of Bear Park Township, Norman County, Minnesota.

The construction of this project will be paid for in part by special assessments against benefited property. All persons who might be affected thereby or who may be interested therein may appear and be heard.

Sand Hill River Watershed District
Daniel Wilkens, Secretary
Fertile, Minnesota 56540
Said motion was seconded by Member Vernon Larson and, upon the question being put, was unanimously carried.

Roland then stated that Leo Lindberg had called him about a water problem in his area. Mr Lindberg said he would come to the meeting and bring this matter up for discussion.

Francis LaVoi made a motion, Roland Gullekson seconded, motion carried that a ditching permit be granted to Dan Wilkens in Section 6, Garfield.

The Board advised the Treasurer to try and get more interest for our money in the bank.

Marvin Reitmeier said the attorneys are working on the petition for the Maple Greek Project.

Werner Mahlum asked to be added to the mailing list.

The secretary was instructed to pick up two more attaché cases for the other Board members. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Daniel Wilkens, Secretary
On September 18, at 6:30 P.M. the Board of Managers of the Sand Hill River Watershed District met with interested landowners on Norman County Ditch 2 and Polk County 17.

Roland brought the meeting to order and introduced Bob Muscha of Houston Engineering and asked him to give a run down of County 2 and 17. Bob Muscha stated that these two ditches by the nature of them should have been a judicial ditch but was not. Ronald Rasmusson, Norman County Engineer, asked Bob to point out the Norman County-Polk County line. Polk County is about a mile and a half line with the rest in Norman County. It was stated that there was no sense in cleaning the Norman County side without cleaning the Polk County outlet. Bob Muscha asked for a show of hands. It was about three quarters in favor of fixing it versus one quarter not.

Mr. Paul Bergeson of Bergeson Nursery stated that he would like to see the ditch rerouted to follow the county road instead of across the corner of his land.

Bob Muscha outlined five things that could be done with this ditch:

1. Do routine maintenance which would be up to 20% of the original cost or up to $10,000. Roland said the original cost was $3700 for the Norman County share.
2. Do a repair which would require a petition. The petition would require 26% of the landowners signatures. An improvement petition would probably be the route to go. The ditch would have to be turned over to the Watershed District requiring some legal work. With an improvement project you could reroute the ditch, you could completely do it over, change the culvert sizing or whatever is needed.
3. Petition for a new ditch—which in this case is not needed.
4. Do nothing.

Bob Muscha was questioned as to what it would roughly cost. His estimate was $20 to $40,000 which at $40,000 would be $15 per acre assessed over 15 years would cost $1.50 per acre.

There being no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned.

Daniel Wilkens, Secretary
On Monday, September 18, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. at the Fertile City Hall, the Board of Managers of the Sand Hill River Watershed District held a public hearing on the proposed flood reduction dam construction in Bear Park Township.

Chairman Roland Gullekson called the meeting to order. The secretary then read the notice of meeting and the resolution. The attorney presented the affidavit of publication from the Ada Index.

Bob Muscha of Houston Engineering then explained the project. There was absolutely no comment. Assuming that to mean no opposition Board Member Vernon Larson made a motion, Roger Hanson seconded, Motion carried unanimously that we adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the construction of an earth-fill, flood reduction dam on the Sand Hill River located near the quarter corner between Sections 11 and 12 in Bear Park Township of Norman, County, Minnesota, shall be undertaken by the Sand Hill River Watershed District. Said improvement is for the public interest and welfare and is practicable and in conformity with the Overall Plan of the District. The cost of construction thereof shall be paid for all, or in part, by special assessments upon benefited property. Robert Muscha of Houston Engineering, Inc., is hereby appointed Engineer for the project and is directed to make all necessary surveys and plans for the construction thereof.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned.

Daniel Wilkens, Secretary