Public Hearing on the Engineer's and Viewer's reports on Project No. 1 of the Sand Hill River Watershed District.

The public hearing was held July 10, 1979 at 1:30 P.M. at the Fertile City Hall, Board members present: Gullekson, Wilkens, Hanson, LaVoi. Absent: Larson. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gullekson. Bob Muscha of Houston Engineering presented the Engineers report.

Question: A person who rotates his pasture. Do you call that grassland regardless, or what? I don't have that problem as I hardly ever rotate myself.

Bob Muscha: We worked with them to get these areas. The best we could determine I would call that cultivated land if it is under rotation. We will be glad to sit down with you after the formal part of the meeting and review these with you. It was our intention, if it is a rotation like clover, alfalfa, brome grass rotational type thing, then we would call that cultivated.

Chairman Gullekson: There have been a couple tracts that haven't been farm as farm land. Last year was the first year they have been broken up and we considered that cultivate land. So if it is now or has been in the past cultivated that is what we considered cultivated land. Thank your Bob. Like Bob said, any questions to the Board or him and if you would like to make a comment on it we ask you to come up here and make it so we can put it on record and keep track of it. If it is just a question and answer why go ahead. Anybody want to start something? O.K.

Question: I have a question.

D. Wilkens: State your name Please.

Question: David Uhlin, father of Ernest Uhlin my son. My question is, you talk so much about the benefits downstream, I know there is no benefits upstream, I can figure that out by looking at the map. You can't tell me a $100 will compensate for the losses were going to take and I guess the other point here is your 50 year storm which you consider we've just had this year. So then wd don't have to worry about that for 50 years is that right? Now let me put it this way Roland, I've argued with you alot of times and I won't call you a liar and I won't go so far as to say I'm a hard guy to get along with. I'm not. Can you prove there won't be a storm in 50 years, I there won't be, put it down in black and white and put it on my contract.

Roland: I will guarantee you 100% there won't be a 50 year storm until the next one we have

Uhlin: That's right. What would have happened now, just now when we had 6-7 inches? Because we flooded. I cut the hay and I drove through water. Some we didn't get into, some we still haven't got.

Roland: OK now. We aren't going to argue it out. So lets go back hypothetics if this dam were in right now. You say this hay is lost.

Uhlin: No, the hay is not lost. I said we had to drive through water.

Roland: Ya, but you can't harvest it.

Uhlin: Ya, we dud. We got it off.

Roland: Well OK, it was rotten.

Uhlin: It was poor.

Roland: This dam is designed so with in four days on even a 100-year storm it will be down below the cropland again so your loss is going to be very little.

Uhlin: Heres what I'm getting at is this. There was no dam there that is true so why did that water stay there for 13 or 14 days, I'm not sure. And if you raise that road where you are putting that dam.

Muscha: You are in a unique situation. Where your land is up there, your crop gets wet with or without the dam. You are getting some easement money and the channel is below that anyway. But your area, if you took an aerial photo of your area last week, it probably was wetter than that.
And as it fills up the dam you are right on the tail end of it. You aren't going to be affected a great deal one way or the other.

Daniel Wilkens, Secretary
The Board of Managers of the Sand Hill River Watershed District met for their regular monthly meeting on July 17, 1979 at 8:00 P.M. at the Fertile City Hall.

Members present: Gullkeson, Wilkens, Larson, Hanson and LaVoi. Also present: Gale Fraser of Houston Engineering, Marvin Reitmeier and Harold Balstad of the Advisory committee and interested publics

Chairman Gullekson called the meeting to order. The Secretary's report was read and approved. Roger Hanson requested that Vernon Larson continue with the Treasurer's job. Vernon agreed to continue with the job at least through the winter.

Roland Gullekson read the Houston Engineering recommendations on the Sistad Bros permit stating that they wanted it denied. Francis said that the District representative of the DNR had viewed the project and said they had no jurisdiction over this project. The problem is that if the water is not drained so the county can go straight across the slough with the road they will take and go diagonal through 80 acres of land and cut it in several pieces. The Board decided to table action on the Sistad Bros permit until the next meeting so more information could be obtained.

Gale Fraser reported that Thorson and Paulson decided they wanted to go to court on friendly condemnation to get the price of their land taken care of by that method.

So Far Paulson, Thorson, Uhlir, Dahl, Elvern Gunderson and Walter Bakke have not signed easements, Roger Hanson and Roland Gullekson were out last Wednesday and got four more easements signed. Vernon Larson made the motion to have the attorney go ahead with condemnation on the lands not presently acquired by easement. Francis LaVoi seconded the motion* Motion carried.

Roland reported on a problem he inspected for two landowners, Charles Vind and Ken Kaste. They were asked to attend the next meeting. The land involved is Section 36 of Godfrey and Section 1 of Garfield. The engineer was instructed to go out and meet with Vind and Kaste and make some recommendations on how we can put some structures in these areas.

The engineer reported they have taken shots and are in the process of drawing up a proposed plan for the project at Verdell Olsons and will have it ready in the near future. Verdell was asked if he would object to having a gate on the structure that he could close in the spring to shut the water off. He said he would rather wait until later when he had seen more information.

Beltrami was next on the agenda. Beltrami had a bid of $800.00 to load the dirt from the spoil bank on a truck. Roger Hanson made the motion, Francis LaVoi seconded, motion carried to pay half, up to $400.00 on the project by Paul Fischers to load the spoil bank out.

Bert Tollefson was talking about $1200 estimate on spoil bank. Mr Tollefson stated that the township had $600 to fix the bank and also our Watershed District has $600 from disaster funds. Mr. Tollefson was wondering if it was OK to use a common contractor and pay equally. The Board assured him that would be fine. Staunnings had started repairing the bank an their property Roger was instructed to see if Staunnings were interested in finishing up the other problem areas on the spoil bank.
Harold Balstad’s permit was tabled until the Board could check on it.

Next Tuesday July 24, at 8:00 P.M. the Board will meet with the landowners and the Sletten Town Board at the Sletten Town Hall to discuss the water impoundment site in their township.

The following claims were order paid:

- Lower Red River Mgt Board (Norman County) $115.80
- Lower Red River Mgt Board (Polk County) 1417.48
- Interest on the loan - Fertile Bank 2.81
- Advertising Rules and Regulations 123.15
- Garden Valley Telephone 25.98
- Norman County Index (Publishing hearing notices) 198.91
- Mahnomen Pioneer (Publishing hearing notices) 154.35
- Fertile Journal (Permit application & other printing) 475.81
- Polk County Auditor (Labels for hearing notices) 10.00
- Pam Wilkens (Typing) 134.97
- Vernon Larson (Meetings and mileage) 81.60
- Dan Wilkens (Meetings and mileage) 295.35
- Roland Gullekson (Meetings and mileage) 477.45
- Roger Hanson (Meetings and mileage) 260.05
- Francis LaVoi (Meetings and mileage) 176.00
- Arnold Munson (Viewers) 291.25
- Arvid Hermonson (Viewers) 282.20
- Adam Gabor (Viewers) 249.76
- Staunning Bros (Dike repair 1978) 4858.48

Marvin Reitmeier requested a permit for a crossing to get into his new house. Permit granted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Daniel Wilkens, Secretary