

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
February 27, 2003

Vice President Orville Knott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office at 102 North Main Avenue, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Vernon Johnson; LeRoy Ose; Dennis Nikolayson; Bob Proulx; Orville Knott; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/Receptionist; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby. Lowell Smeby and Dale Nelson were absent.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the agenda with the addition of the Corps of Engineers Ruffy Brook Project.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of February 13, 2002. A motion was made by Johnson seconded by Ose, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report and investment summary. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated February 26, 2003.

Dennis Goodyke appeared before the board to express his concerns about the operation of Parnell Impoundment and the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment. It was the consensus of the board that this item should be put on the agenda when the engineer is present to answer questions.

The board reviewed a request from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding a proposed stabilization project on Ruffy Brook. In 1998, the RLWD had requested a study be done on this potential project. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board authorize the vice president to sign the letter of intent.

The board discussed the fact that the March 13 board meeting would have to be re-scheduled, since the board will be attending the Legislative Breakfast that day. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the March 13 meeting be changed to March 10, 2003, at 1:30 p.m.

Kim Durbin, C.P.A. from Drees, Risky, & Vallager, Ltd., presented the 2002 annual audit report. She answered several questions from the board and explained changes that will be initiated in 2004. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that accept the 2002 annual audit report as presented.

The board discussed the fact that the 30 day period for receipt of written comment was past for the BWSR Flood Storage Easement Pilot Project (Tiedemann). No written comments were received by the board. Discussion was held as to whether or not another hearing was necessary. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD approve this as a project and move forward.

The 30-day period for written comment was also past for the North Parnell Storage Site. No written comments were received by the board. Discussion was held as to whether or not another hearing was necessary. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD approve this as a project and move forward.

Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, presented an update to the board concerning the various impoundments and proposed operations for 2003. The inter-agency meeting was held February 24 at Thief Lake (WMA). Typical operations will be performed at Lost River Impoundment, Moose River Impoundment, and Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge. Thief Lake and Elm Lake Impoundments will be in drawdown during the summer of 2003. Water levels will be partially restored in the fall for waterfowl migration.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby requested the meeting be closed to discuss the Mike Gasper lawsuit and the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan lawsuit brought by the townships. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Ose, to close the meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, that the meeting was re-opened to the public. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby explained that discussion was held concerning an offer of settlement to the RLWD regarding the land in question in the Mike Gasper lawsuit. A motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board accept the settlement offer to transfer the land in question to Mike Gasper, reserving an easement for flood storage purposes, for a settlement offer of \$83,865.50.

A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Proulx, that the meeting adjourn to March 10, 2003, at 9:30 a.m. to interview five applicants for the position of Administrator. Motion carried

Signed  
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary