

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
January 9, 2003

President Dale M. Nelson 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: Dale M. Nelson; Vernon Johnson; LeRoy Ose; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; Roger Love; Orville Knott; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/ Receptionist; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of December 23, 2002. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Johnson, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated January 8, 2003.

Arlene Novak stated she received quotes for the annual audit from three firms. Drees, Risky, and Vallager Ltd from Crookston were low with a quote of \$4,335 for 2002; \$4,495 for 2003; and \$5,855 for 2004. She explained the reason for the increase in 2004 is a result of GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board), Statement 3, which is a requirement for all government entities beginning in 2004. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board ratify the quote from Drees, Risky, & Vallager, Ltd to perform the annual audits for 2002, 2003, and 2004.

Authorization was needed for signing of grants for the RLWD. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Red Lake Watershed District applies for grants from the MN Department of Natural Resources, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the State of Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, authorized signatures are needed on these documents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Red Lake Watershed District authorizes the President of the Board of Managers to sign these grant applications for funding from the entities previously noted.

Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, presented overheads and background information regarding permit No. 02160 from Dean Phillip. Mr. Phillip was present to explain why he wanted this permit discussed again, and handed out photos of the area involved. President Nelson explained that the reason this permit was previously tabled was to evaluate the situation during and after spring thaw. Following lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the board that Manager Nelson, Loren Sanderson, and Dean Phillip will schedule a meeting on-site, along with Agder Township, to determine what is the responsibility of the township and/or the watershed district.

Doug Thompson, Clearwater County SWCD, was present to update the board on the Silver Creek Buffer Strip Project. Discussion was also held regarding the permitting issues of the Bagley Urban Runoff Reduction Project.

At 10:00 a.m., Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, presented the Preliminary Engineer's Report for the Parnell Area Sites 1 and 2 Easement Project. Legal Counsel Delray Sparby explained that this report actually involves two separate projects. Nate explained that the preliminary engineering was done simultaneously to help keep the cost at a minimum. Several questions were answered for the board, as well as for the landowners and township officers present. It was the consensus of the board that Nate Dalager should meet with Joe Stroot; Jr. following the meeting to clarify questions regarding drainage area. Nate will also look into questions regarding trigger points of the Red River of the North relating to the release of water from Site 1.

A report from Jody Horntvedt regarding the Project 60 Work Team meeting on January 8, 2003 was handed out. Following discussion on the progress of this Work Team, it was the consensus of the board that Nate Dalager and Managers Johnson and Knott should meet with the affected landowners, at the RLWD office, prior to the February meeting of the Project 60 Work Team.

Legal Counsel Sparby recommended the RLWD contact Kays, Benton, Safransk, in writing, to request payment of the difference in cost of the 2002 audit, which is a result of their declining to fulfill their contract. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Ose, and passed unanimously, that a letter be drafted by Legal Counsel Sparby to this effect.

Legal Counsel Sparby requested the meeting be closed to discuss the Mike Gasper litigation.

The meeting was re-opened to the public.

Manager Nelson reported on a meeting with the Polk County Ditch 19 petitioners. He stated the scope of the project was discussed, as well as the cost, etc. Funding sources will be looked into, which will help determine whether or not to proceed with the project.

A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Knott, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed

Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary