

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
March 28, 2006

President Dale M. Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Managers Orville Knott, Lee Coe, Arnold Stanley, Dale M. Nelson, Vernon Johnson, Gene Tiedemann, and Allan Carlson. Staff present: Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The board reviewed the agenda. Manager Tiedemann asked that the item of Advisory Committee member be removed from the agenda as he hasn't spoke with the potential committee member yet. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Carlson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the removal of the Advisory Committee member item.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of March 9, 2006. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as amended.

The board reviewed the Financial Report of March 27, 2006. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated March 27, 2006.

Based upon engineer and board recommendation, additional right of way will be required to be purchased from a landowner along the west side of the Brandt Impoundment Site. Compensation to the landowner would be at the same rate as paid to that landowner for a prior land purchase. Additional damage payment will be made for the loss of CRP enrollment in the amount of \$2,200. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the additional payment to the landowner. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme requested the Board add Luther Aadland, MnDNR Fisheries, as a consultant to the Project Work Team (PWT) to assist in the channel restoration project directly downstream of the Brandt Impoundment. This project is part of a \$50,000 BWSR Challenge Grant that was awarded to the District in 2005. Discussion was held on the hiring of an engineer to design the restoration of the Brandt Outlet Channel. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott to approve Administrator Jesme solicit quotes from engineering firms to design the ditch system and appoint Luther Aadland as a consultant to the PWT. Motion carried.

Kim Durbin of Drees, Risky & Vallager presented the 2005 RLWD audit report. She fielded questions from the Board following her presentation. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Carlson to accept the 2005 RLWD audit. Motion carried.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is seeking the RLWD's help in recruiting or identifying Citizen Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP) volunteers for select lakes in Beltrami County.

Administrator Jesme presented a request to purchase 3 pieces of snow monitoring equipment from Rickly Hydrological Co. in the amount of \$484 plus tax and shipping and handling charges. The current equipment has been in use for many years and there is a need for equipment to determine a more accurate water level in the snow. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously to approve purchasing the equipment from Rickly Hydrological Co. for the amount of \$484 plus tax and shipping and handling charges.

The City of Goodridge has requested a one year extension on RLWD Permit #05032. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Stanley, to approve a one year extension until May 20, 2007 on RLWD Permit # 05032 issued to the City of Goodridge. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 06008 from Eden Township, Polk County; No. 06009 from Herbert F. Hiltabrand, Grove Park Township, Polk County; No. 06015 and 06106 from Polk County Highway Department, Russia Township, Polk County; and No. 06019 from Garden Valley Telephone Company, Valley Township in Marshall County and Big Grass Township in Beltrami County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme read his written report:

- The Directors and Officer's Liability Insurance 2006 premium increased from \$3,055 in 2005 to \$3,172.
- A letter is in the Board member's packet from Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) concerning the Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study completed late last year. The results of the study are online at www.bwsr.state.mn.us or by requesting the 74 page printed report from the RLWD staff.
- Notification was received from BWSR that the Beaver Damage Control Grant was not approved for funding.
- The NW Minnesota Viewers' Association has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, April 4, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. at the Agricultural Research Center (ARC) Building, Youngquist Auditorium, University of Minnesota, Crookston, MN. The hearing notice is in Board member's packet.
- The Nature Conservancy has sent notification that their director, Ron Nargang, will be retiring in early summer of 2006 and are seeking applicants to fill the position.
- Managers Knott, Carlson, Coe, Tiedemann, and Administrator Jesme attended the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts' Legislative Breakfast held March 23, 2006.

- The RRWMB March Conference agenda scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2006 at Northland Inn, Crookston, MN is in the Manager's packets.

The City of Thief River Falls City Council meeting in which the zoning amendment/change for the land acquisition for the proposed watershed district building will be presented at 5:00 p.m., March 28, 2006. Administrator Jesme is scheduled to attend.

The RLWD's Ten Year Comprehensive Overall Plan comments that were received were reviewed and discussed in depth by the Board. It was the consensus of the Board that Administrator Jesme submit a letter to the respondents and thank them for their comments.

Manager Knott reported on the RRWMB Board meeting held on March 21, 2006 and that there was some additional discussion on the potential need for a Project Manager position to be hired, that would assist Watershed Districts in the Red River Basin.

A discussion was had on the status of the Tynsid Township Erosion Project (Sand Hill Cemetery), RLWD Project No. 163. Administrator Jesme stated he had had conversations with their attorney, Kurt Deter of Rinke-Noonan, along with landowners regarding the status of the project, funding sources, etc. Administrator Jesme will check on the status of the bond for the project.

The Advisory Committee meeting was held on March 15, 2006. The mission statement of the RLWD is still a concern of the committee along with their roles on the committee. The meeting minutes and concerns will be addressed at the April 13, 2006 Board meeting.

Administrator Jesme reported on a phone call from Bruce Nelson of the Polk County Farm Service Agency office regarding the handling of CRP acres in impoundment projects. Legal Counsel Sparby and Administrator Jesme will discuss with Bruce Nelson and report their findings to a future board meeting.

Motion was made by Knott, seconded by Carlson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.


Vernon Johnson, Secretary