

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
September 8, 2022

Vice President, Gene Tiedemann, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present: Managers: Gene Tiedemann, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, Brian Dwight, Tom Anderson, and LeRoy Ose. Absent: Dale M. Nelson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. Vice President Tiedemann requested the addition of the Burnham Creek Project to the agenda. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Page, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of the Burnham Creek Project, RLWD Project No. 43A. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the August 25, 2022, minutes. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the August 25, 2022, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated September 7, 2022. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report dated September 7, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Ann Joppru stated that she requested quotes from eight financial institutes, inquiring on the interest rate for the potential purchase of a Certificate of Deposit (CD). Edward Jones presented the highest interest rate at 3 percent for two \$250,000 CD's. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to invest two, \$250,000 Certificate of Deposits with Edward Jones, each for 12 months at a rate of 3 percent. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve paying the 2022-2023 League of Minnesota Cities Membership Dues Invoice in the amount of \$2,119. Motion carried.

The 2023 Proposed Special Revenue Project levies were presented by Staff member Ann Joppru and discussed by the Board. Questions regarding different ditch systems were fielded. Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following Special Revenue Assessments for 2023: RLWD Ditch No. 1, RLWD Project No. 5, \$2,000; State Ditch No. 83, RLWD Project No. 14, \$50,000; RLWD Ditch No. 7, RLWD Project No. 20, \$7,000; Pine Lake Maintenance, RLWD Project No. 35, \$10,000; RLWD Ditch No. 8, RLWD Project No. 36, \$2,000; RLWD Ditch No. 9, RLWD Project No. 39, \$1,000; Joint Ditch No. 100, RLWD Project No. 41A, \$5,000; Joint Ditch No. 101, RLWD Project No. 41B, \$5,000; Burnham Creek, RLWD Project No. 43B; \$20,000; Wild Rice Allocation, RLWD Project No. 45, \$1,000; J.D. 2, Branch A & Branch 1 of A, RLWD Project No. 48, \$5,000; Krostue Petition, RLWD Project No. 53, \$5,000; J.D. 5 (Four-Legged Lake), RLWD Project No. 102, \$2,200; Arveson Petition, RLWD Project No. 109, \$2,500; RLWD Ditch 1, Lateral C, RLWD Project No. 115, \$4,000; Kenneth Johnson Petition, RLWD Project No. 117, \$2,000; Polk County Ditch Improvement, RLWD Project No. 119,

\$15,000; Scott Baatz Petition, RLWD Project No. 123, \$1,000; RLWD Ditch No. 12, RLWD Project No. 169, \$10,000; RLWD Ditch No. 13, RLWD Project No. 170A, \$2,000; RLWD Ditch No. 14, RLWD Project No. 171, \$10,000; TRF FDR Project, RLWD Project No. 171A, \$3,000; Black River Diversion, RLWD Project No. 176A, \$10,000; and Thief River Westside, RLWD Project No. 178A, \$20,000. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed mowing on the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176, versus haying the impoundment as previously stated. Due to various mechanical issues and delays the contractor has encountered over the past month, Jesme indicated he is going to get a new contractor to mow the impoundment to about 8 inches in height to assure proper growth can be had next year. Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that seeding of the diversion ditches is complete, with minor clean up in the area of the access road to the outlet structure. The subcontractor that installed the outlet structure will be on site this week to review the maintenance and operation of the structure with District staff. The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 18, in the amount of \$66,116.03. Nordby stated that gravel for the roadway and seeding is not included in this pay estimate. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to approve Pay Estimate No. 18, in the amount of \$66,116.03, to R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. for the construction of the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Resolution to Submit, Adopt and Implement the Clearwater River Headwaters Watershed Comprehensive Management Plan. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to authorize President Nelson, the authority to sign the Resolution to Submit, Adopt and Implement the Clearwater River Headwaters Watershed Comprehensive Management Plan. Motion carried.

The final payment hearing for Gladen Construction, Inc. for the Demarais-Hanson Outlet Project, RLWD Project No. 149, was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Engineer, Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that Gladen Construction, Inc., has completed all construction in the final amount of \$6,646.50, but recommended holding the final payment until the removal of the silt fence and submission of the final paperwork is received. Vice President Gene Tiedemann closed the hearing. Motion by Page, seconded by Ose, to approve the Final Payment to Gladen Construction, Inc. for the Demarais-Hanson Outlet Project, RLWD Project, contingent upon removal of the silt fence and submission of final paperwork. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed correspondence from BWSR indicating that the Upper and Lower Red Lake Watershed Planning area was accepted for a planning grant through the 1W1P. Discussion was held on who will write the plan.

Discussion was held on the recent sloughing on the Demarais Hanson Outlet Project, RLWD Project No. 149. Engineer, Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that there is a noticeable slough on the west side and a small one on the east side. Nordby recommended repairing the slough yet this year, with the installation of a geo grid type design with the addition of drain tile. Nordby estimated that the probable cost would be about \$92,997. Administrator Jesme stated that 1W1P funds could be used, but a 10% local match is required. Motion by Page, seconded by Dwight, to approve moving forward with the repairs to the Demarais Hanson

Outlet Project, RLWD Project, No. 149, with the District paying the 10% local match. Motion carried.

Bids were opened for the sale of the 2011 Ford F150 pickup: Reggie Harder, \$15,015; Jason Breiger, \$7,855; Charles Schear, \$19,350; Raymond Nelson, \$8,110; Shane Lee, \$8,050 and Ron Phillip, \$11,501. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the sale of the 2011 Ford F150 pickup, that was declared as excess property, to Charles Schear in the amount of \$19,350. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme indicated that he spoke with Cassie Ahmed, NRCS, regarding the Burnham Creek/BR 6 Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 43A, regarding the significant erosion that as occurred along the interior slope of the impoundment. Ahmed stated that the impoundment is still under the NRCS umbrella, therefore there are several items that need to be addressed and reviewed by the NRCS. Minor erosion took place within the newly installed wildlife pool, which will be repaired within the next several weeks.

Administrator Jesme stated that the 2022 Minnesota Legislature appropriated \$360,000 to provide matching funds for the design and construction of rural and farmstead ring dikes within the Red River Basin. These funds were made available through LCCMR funding and will be available from the MnDNR, with the MnDNR funding 50% of a ring dike.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the Final Payment for construction of the Larson Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AV to Bertils Gravel in the amount of \$1,286.66. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve Pay Estimate No. 2, to Trent Stanley, in the amount of \$8,491.54, for construction of the Nelson Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AU. Motion carried.

Repairs are being made to the Euclid East Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60C, that was damaged during the spring rain events. Discussion was held on a berm that needs to be installed downstream of the impoundment to include a pipe and trap.

The south gate of the Moose River Impoundment was closed and gates at Agassiz closed to assist in lowering the Red Lake River to allow for construction on a bank stabilization project within the City of Thief River Falls. District staff and MnDNR staff will be completing an inspection of the Moose River Impoundment to review debris cleanup, floating bog, and vegetation from the springs rain events.

Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to table RLWD Permit No. 22191, Duane Hanson, Fairfax Township, Polk County, to allow for additional signatures on the permit. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 22194, Curtin Knutson, Tynsid Township, Polk County; No. 22195, Jeremy Nelson, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 22196, Red Lake Falls Township, Red

Lake County; No. 22197, Belguim Township, Polk County; No. 22198, CJ Knutson Farms, Tynsid Township, Polk County; No. 22199, Kyle Arola, Veldt Township, Marshall County; No. 22200, David Rekucki, Veldt Township, Marshall County; No. 22201, Cole Goodwin, Tabor Township, Polk County; No. 22202, Sullivan Township, Polk County; and No. 22203 and 22204, Darwin Boutain, Hickory Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Administrators update:

- Jesme will participate in the RRWMB on September 20th via Teams. Manager Ose will be absent from the meeting; therefore, Managers Tiedemann or Nelson will attend the meeting.
- CRP Rental Agreements for the Brandt Channel Restoration Project have been mailed to landowners Roger and Roxanne Hagen for two parcels totaling 23.6 acres. Included in the packet was a location map of the area.
- Staff members Slowinski and Hanson will participate in Pennington County Outdoor Education Day on September 14th.
- Included in the packet was a listing of 2022 watershed projects priority listing based on the project status of how close they are to being “Shovel Ready”.
- Jesme will participate in a Drainage Workgroup meeting following today’s Board meeting.

Legal Counsel Sparby indicated that he is developing arguments for the Appeal to the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179. Attorney Lewis Smith is completing the Amicus Brief on behalf of MAWD and RRWMB to be submitted to the courts.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary