

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
July 27, 2000

President Vernon Johnson 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; Dale M. Nelson; Leonard Moe; Roger Love; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; George Dailey; Chuck Fritz, Administrator; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/Receptionist; Delray Sparby, Legal Counsel; Tammy Audette, Secretary/Accounting Assistant and Brent H. Johnson, Houston Engineering.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Love, seconded by Moe, that the following additions be added to the agenda: Parnell Impoundment spraying; and meeting with Kurt Deter. Motion carried unanimously.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of July 13, 2000. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Moe, that the board approves the minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of the July 24, 2000 Budget and Salary meeting. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Love, that the minutes of July 24, 2000 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nelson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated July 26, 2000.

Administrator Fritz informed the board that the Settlement Agreement payment for State Ditch 83 would be arriving before July 31, 2000. He also informed the board that Larry Kruse had given an estimate of \$650.00 to install a sump pump on the outside of the RLWD building foundation to alleviate the water problem in the basement. It was the consensus of the board that two pumps should be installed. The board also felt a grant should be sought to repair the building foundation, roof, etc. Following discussion, a motion was made by Love, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD install two exterior sump pumps, one in the northwest corner and the other in the southeast corner.

Administrator Fritz stated that Brian Dwight, BWSR, had offered to present a step process for use in employee salary negotiations. The board agreed that this should be done.

Manager Moe made a motion to go ahead with the original petition on State Ditch 83, which requested a full repair. Manager Smeby seconded the motion. Upon calling for a vote, Managers Moe and Smeby voted yes, with Managers Love, Nelson, Nikolayson, and Dailey voting no. Motion failed.

Dennis Ricard was present to discuss the drainage problem on his father Henry's property. Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, presented a timeline of events and a video of the area in question. It was the consensus of the board that Mr. Ricard should determine what needs to be done and apply for a RLWD permit.

At 10:04 a.m., the final payment hearing for RLWD Project No. 134, Polk County Ditch 63 Improvement, was called to order by President Johnson, who turned the hearing over to Legal Counsel Delray Sparby. Legal Counsel Sparby explained the purpose of the hearing and asked if anyone present had objection to final payment. Hearing no objections, he adjourned the hearing, which is on videotape and available for viewing at the RLWD office.

At 10:10 a.m., the final payment hearing for RLWD Project No. 135, Polk County Ditch 33 Improvement was called to order. President Johnson turned the meeting over to Legal Counsel Sparby, who explained the purpose of the hearing. Upon calling for objections to full payment, Loren Sanderson explained the RLWD was withholding \$415.00 for planting of trees and shrubs to be done this fall. The hearing adjourned and is on videotape and available for viewing at the RLWD office.

Copies of the letters received during the comment period following the hearing on the State Ditch #83 Spot Cleaning were reviewed by the board. Twenty-six letters were received, with five being in support of a total cleaning of State Ditch 83. Following discussion, a motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Nelson, that the board table the State Ditch #83 Spot Cleaning item until August 10, 2000, to obtain more information before making a decision. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following final payments for: Project No. 134, Polk County Ditch 63 Improvement, to Wright Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$3,098.42; and Project No. 135, Polk County Ditch 33 Improvement, to Holthusen Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$5,079.35.

Permits were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No. 00045* from Gunvalson Farms, North Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 00049 from Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; and No. 00053 from Clearwater County Highway Department, Leon Township, Clearwater County. *With conditions stated on permit.

Loren Sanderson reviewed permit No. 00051* from Roger Hagen. Considering his recommendation, a motion was made by Love, seconded by Nelson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD deny permit No. 00051* from Roger Hagen, Grand Forks Township, Polk County. *With conditions stated on permit.

Loren Sanderson reviewed No. 00056 from Gary Novak. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Love, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve permit No. 00056 from Gary Novak, River Falls Township, Pennington County, contingent upon staff and board manager approval.

A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the ring dike request from John Sowards, East Grand Forks, which is not a new request for a ring dike but actually a change in ownership of property.

Administrator Fritz stated that David Lanning would like to know what the board's decision is regarding the engineer position with the RLWD. It was the consensus of the board that a decision would be made by August 15, 2000.

A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD should spray the east pool inlet/outlet ditches to Parnell Impoundment, hiring the services of Dan's Flying Service, Inc. at a cost of \$150.00 for plane and pilot plus the cost of chemical.

The board reviewed the Administrative Budget for 2001.

President Johnson stated that the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) had voted to increase its ad valorem tax to the maximum limit of .0004836 times the taxable market value on all taxable property within the RLWD.

The board reviewed staff salaries for 2001. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Dailey to approve the recommendations made at the Budget and Salary meeting on July 24, 2000. Motion failed with Managers Nelson and Dailey voting aye and Managers Love, Smeby, Moe and Nikolayson voting nay.

Charlie Anderson, JOR Engineering, Inc. and Brent Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc. presented information on the Thief River Flood Damage Reduction Project pertaining to the diversion ditches and impoundments, and discussed questions and comments with the board.

A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Nikolayson to authorize Charlie Anderson and Brent Johnson to proceed with the engineering for all three phases of the Thief River Flood Damage Reduction Project for the Step 1 process through the RRWMB process of funding. Motion carried with Moe opposed.

Don Ogaard, Executive Director; Ron Oskowski, President; and Dick Nelson, Financial Coordinator, all with the RRWMB, were present to discuss the Governing Document Handbook put together by the RRWMB. The Governing Document is a compilation of all the different policies, methodology and funding procedures for the RRWMB. Cards in the front of the document must be sent in to the RRWMB for future changes to be distributed. The RLWD will also have copies available for others to use in the future. Roger Love stated he would like to review the Star Value information on the Parnell Impoundment.

Brent Johnson discussed the Thief River Falls Reservoir project. Landowners along the project area are interested in dredging a marina site adjacent to their property. It was the consensus of the board that each landowner will be responsible for negotiating with the contractor and paying expenses incurred as well as securing any necessary permits.

A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Moe that the staff salaries for 2001 be increased by .58 per hour for full-time employees and .40 per hour for part-time employees and that additional increases in health insurance premiums in the future be discussed at that time. Motion carried with Dailey opposed. Managers Nelson and Smeby absent.

A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Love that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed

George Dailey, Secretary