

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 26, 2001

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; Leonard Moe; Roger Love; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; David C. Lanning, Administrator/Engineer; 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 Smeby, seconded by Moe, and passed unanimously, that the board approve the agenda with the following additions: request for board approval to hire summer help; and request for Polk County Ditch 126 Engineer's Report.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of April 12, 2001. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Love, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the minutes of April 12, 2001, as corrected.

The Financial Report and investment summary was reviewed. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed unanimously, that the board approve the Financial Report dated April 25, 2001.

To elaborate on discussion held during the Financial Report, Administrator Lanning explained he spoke to Charlie Anderson regarding the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan and Charlie is waiting for direction from the RLWD board to complete the Operating Plan. President Nelson stated that right now the board is looking into other options, so they will wait to give Charlie Anderson direction on the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan.

The board reviewed a letter of resignation from board manager Ron Weiss, who was recently elected Red Lake County Commissioner. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Love, and passed unanimously, that the board accept the resignation of Ron Weiss as the RLWD board manager from Red Lake County.

With the resignation of Ron Weiss, who was the secretary for the RLWD, President Nelson called for nominations for secretary of the RLWD. Manager's Love and Nikolayson were nominated. Upon calling for nominations three times, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Smeby, and passed unanimously that nominations cease. Upon calling for a vote, there was one vote for Manager Love, and three votes for Manager Nikolayson. Manager Nikolayson was elected secretary.

President Nelson turned the meeting over to Vice President Johnson.

A request for an extension on permit No. 99085 from Daniel Thiel, Polk County. Motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote to approve that request.

A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the following permits: No. 01009* from Woodside Township, Polk County; No. 01014 from Marshall County Highway Department; No. 01015 from Polk County Highway Department; No 01032* from Tom Wiesmann, Lowell Township, Polk County; No.'s 01033 and 01036* from Garden Valley Telephone Company, Clearwater County; No. 01035* from Rudolph and Howard Applequist, Onstad Township, Polk County; No.'s 01037 and 01038* from the City of Thief River Falls, Pennington County; No. 01040 from Marshall County Highway Department; and No. 01041* from Fred Barrett & Sons, Bygland Township, Polk County. *With conditions stated on permit.

Manager Nikolayson and Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, discussed a ditch plug near Badger Lake. They explained that Ron Boe has obstructed drainage in that area and Administrator Lanning is to write Mr. Boe a letter requesting his removal of the ditch plug.

A permit in Onstad Township was discussed. It was the consensus of the board that Manager Love and Loren Sanderson should meet with Mr. Applequist and Mr. Olson regarding this Onstad Township permit.

Vice President Johnson turned the meeting over to President Nelson.

The erosion problem along Judicial Ditch #21 (Moose River) was discussed by the board. RLWD staff will check with Beltrami County Engineer Tom Kozojed, Marshall County Engineer Jeff Langen, Marshall/Beltrami SWCD, Paul Telander at Thief Lake WMA, and Maggie Anderson at Agassiz Wildlife Refuge, and report back at the May 10, 2001 meeting as to what may be done to correct this erosion problem.

The board discussed the Polk County Ditch 17 culvert issue and options that had been previously discussed at the April 12, 2001 meeting. Following lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the board to remain with their vote of April 12, 2001. At this point in discussion, Administrator Lanning proposed that an engineer's report for Polk County Ditch 126 be drafted to see how improvement of this ditch might enhance the function of the Parnell Impoundment.

Manager Love presented the board a six-page 'draft' operating plan that he felt would work for Parnell Impoundment. This 'draft' plan will be discussed at the May 10, 2001 board meeting.

Gary Mathis, Clearwater County, appeared before the Board to discuss a problem with his land being assessed by two different ditch systems, those being RLWD Project #113 and Judicial Ditch #72, RLWD Project #41. Legal Counsel Delray Sparby will contact Brent Johnson, Houston Engineering, to see what the situation is with these two ditch systems. Once that information is obtained and given to Gary Mathis, a JD #72 committee meeting will be scheduled, of which Managers Johnson and Nikolayson are committee members.

Administrator Lanning informed the board that word had just been received that the three Challenge grants from BWSR were approved, amounting to approximately \$81,000.

Administrator Lanning stated he would like board approval to advertise for up to three summer help/intern. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Love, and passed unanimously that the RLWD advertise for up to three summer help, wages to be negotiated based on experience.

Administrator Lanning informed the board that staff evaluations had been completed and would be in the personnel files.

Administrator Lanning presented his letter of resignation as RLWD administrator. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Love to accept his resignation. Motion carried with Managers Johnson and Nikolayson opposed.

Ryan Odenbach, Water Quality Coordinator, and Administrator Lanning presented the Good Lake Impoundment Water Quality Study Report for Beltrami and Clearwater Counties. The board asked several questions regarding this study.

A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Johnson, and passed unanimously to close the meeting.

The board met in closed session to discuss administrative personnel issues.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Love, and passed unanimously to re-open the meeting.

It was the consensus of the board that President Nelson should supervise the day-to-day administrative functions of the RLWD and the board managers should re-assess the administrator/engineer position of the RLWD and be prepared to discuss it at the May 10, 2001 meeting.

Upon re-opening the meeting, the board discussed the Thief River Flood Damage Reduction Project. Manager Moe reported on the mediation meeting that was held on April 25, 2001. It was the consensus of the board to invite Jody Horntvedt on the May 10, 2001 agenda.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Nikolayson, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed

Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary