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 Nikolaysen; Lowell Smeby; Ron Weiss; 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 Moe, seconded by Love, that the board approve the agenda with the addition of the following items: Marshall County request for letter of support; Tilden Farms update; Chuck Fritz, Red River Basin Board; and Parnell Impoundment tree planting. Motion carried unanimously.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of January 12, 2001. A motion was made by Love, seconded by Johnson, that the board approve the minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report and investment summary. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Weiss, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated January 24, 2001.

Administrator Lanning discussed a bill being presented to the Legislature concerning the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians having a representative on the RLWD Board of Managers. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the board that Legal Counsel Delray Sparby would supply the new Senate File 178 to the Attorney General’s office and request a response to his letter dated March 9, 1999.

Marshall County requested a letter of support from the RLWD regarding the pursuit of special funding for Red River Basin to protect homes and farmland from flooding. It was the consensus of the board that Administrator Lanning should submit this letter to Commissioner Curtis Carlson, who is the director of this group.

Administrator Lanning updated the board on the Tilden Farms/Nature Conservancy item. The board felt the RLWD should contact the townships, which in turn would contact the landowners as to what is being done.

Administrator Lanning presented a Joint Powers Agreement between the RLWD and City of Crookston for a riprap project on the Red Lake River near the dam in the City of Crookston. The RLWD would do the design work and the City of Crookston would be the client and responsible to pay the RLWD for engineering. Following this discussion, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Love, and passed by unanimous vote that the president and secretary should sign this agreement with the City of Crookston.
Chuck Fritz, Red River Basin Board (RRBB), was present to discuss their role in the projects of the RLWD. He stated that Brent Johnson and Administrator Lanning had presented the “Guiding Principles Review” at the last RRBB meeting and that action will be taken on this review at the next RRBB meeting. This means the RRBB may actually adopt the project and would assist the RLWD if the project goes to the Legislature for funding.

Legal Counsel Sparby presented his update to the board.

At 10:00 a.m., quotes were opened for clearing and snagging on the Clearwater River. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Weiss, and passed by unanimous vote that the board accept the two lowest quotes of $50.00/hour from Klipping Logging of Red Lake Falls and $60.00/hour from Richard Delage of Brooks.

Glen Kajewski and Raymond Redding, representing the NRCS, discussed the Wetland Reserve Program being initiated and explained how it may apply to the RLWD.

Manager Love stated that Doug Peterson would be meeting with Administrator Lanning, Loren Sanderson, and himself at the RLWD office on Monday, January 29, 2001.

Manager Love also stated that landowners near the Parnell Impoundment would like to request the RLWD plant trees on the ridge of the impoundment. It was the consensus of the board that Administrator Lanning check with Brent Johnson and Charlie Anderson to have them present the Engineer’s Report for the Parnell Impoundment prior to deciding whether or not to plant trees on the ridge.

The upcoming meeting schedule was reviewed.

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

Signed
Ron Weiss, Secretary