

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 14, 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; Orville Knott; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/ Receptionist; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

Arnold Stanley and Stacy Martin requested time slots on the agenda.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously that the board approve the agenda, with the additions of Stacy Martin and Arnold Stanley.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of May 24, 2001. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, that the board approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

The Financial Report was reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated June 13, 2001.

Manager Johnson stated he felt the RLWD should contact the City of Crookston to inform them the district would like to be involved in the riprap project near the dam in Crookston. It was the consensus of the board that President Nelson should contact the City of Crookston to discuss this issue.

The board reviewed the schedule for the 2002 budget. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Budget and Salary Committee meeting be scheduled for July 24, 2001, at 9:00 a.m., and the Administrative Budget hearing be held at 10:00 a.m. on August 23, 2001.

The ditch inspection policy of the RLWD was reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Moe, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the policy presented.

Following further discussion, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, that Gary Lane be assigned the responsibility of keeping the RLWD ditch inspection files and program up-to-date. President Nelson noted that, as for the ditch inspection itself, anyone from the RLWD staff may do the inspection.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented his update to the board.

The board discussed the Nature Conservancy/Tilden Farms project in Polk County. Upon recommendation by Legal Counsel Sparby, it was the consensus of the board that

President Nelson should write a letter to the Nature Conservancy stating the RLWD is interested in being the administrative entity for this project.

The board discussed the concerns of Gary Mathis, Clearwater County, where he may be assessed by two ditch systems should an improvement take place. It was the consensus of the board that Polk County Commissioner Jeep Mattson should inquire about a meeting of the JD 72 ditch system. Managers Johnson and Nikolayson will be attending this meeting and report back to the RLWD.

Stacy Martin presented concerns to the board regarding State Ditch 83 monies received from the MN Department of Natural Resources.

Arnold Stanley asked the board if they had met with affected landowners on the proposed lower diversion of the Thief River FDR Project. President Nelson stated that he and Manager Moe will be in contact with Marshall County to discuss this issue.

The board reviewed permit applications, which were individually explained by Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Moe, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No. 01059* from Minakwa Country Club, Lowell Township, Polk County; No. 01062* from Daniel Dale, Grove Park Township, Polk County; and No. 01065 from the Polk County Highway Department. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Love, and passed unanimously to table the following permits: No. 01060* the Nature Conservancy, Tilden Township, Polk County and No. 01064 from the Polk County Highway Department. *With conditions stated on permit.

Loren Sanderson also discussed permit No. 01057 from Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, Marshall County, stating that he was waiting for a written explanation of exactly what the permit required.

At 10:00 a.m., Charlie Anderson and Nate Dalager presented the revised Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan. President Nelson asked that the board managers review the modifications on their own and discuss the Plan at the June 28, 2001 meeting. A motion was made by Love, seconded by Moe, that the discussion of the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan be tabled until a future meeting. Motion carried.

The board invited those in attendance to join them on a tour of the proposed lower diversion site of the Thief River FDR Project.

Following the tour, Brent Johnson from Houston Engineering presented sites for doing maintenance on State Ditch 83. He recommended doing the sites downstream from County Ditch 20. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, that the RLWD should pursue the clearing of the five sites, contact the landowners that will be involved, and bring this information back to the June 28, 2001 meeting. Motion carried.

By direction at a previous board meeting, Brent Johnson was asked to estimate how much work remained on the upper end of County Ditch 75 in Star Township. He presented an estimate of approximately \$6,000.00. It was the consensus of the board that President Nelson should contact Pennington County with this cost estimate and report back to the board.

Manager Love asked what the status was regarding the permits from Douglas Peterson. Brent Johnson explained that the permits had been applied for on nine miles, after which Doug Peterson was informed what needed to be done.

Manager Moe asked the board if the RLWD was going to drop the lower diversion phase of the Thief River FDR Project. President Nelson stated that Legal Counsel Sparby recommended bringing all three phases of this project to a public hearing, hopefully, to be scheduled later this summer.

Manager Moe made a motion that the meeting adjourn. Manager Love seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Signed
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary