

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
May 24, 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; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The board reviewed the agenda. Dana Klos and Arnold Stanley requested to appear before the board. Motion by Moe, seconded by Knott, to approve agenda with Dana Klos and Arnold Stanley as additions to the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of May 10, 2001. Discussion of an item from the minutes of May 10, 2001 prompted discussion of repairs to a Moose River ditch system. The Marshall/Beltrami SWCD has applied for funds and have been notified they have passed the first phase in the funding process. This item will be added to the next agenda for discussion. A motion was made by Love, seconded by Smeby, that the board approve the minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

Dana Klos, representing concerned landowners, presented a petition to the Red Lake Watershed District stating their opposition to the FDR Storage and Diversion.

The board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated May 23, 2001.

Jody Horntvedt, facilitator for the mediation process for the Thief River FDR project, reported on the meeting of May 23, 2001. Jody proposed to put time on the next agenda of the Thief River Work Group to allow for public input. Consensus of the Board was to give notice of the meeting and Jody will contact the Red Lake Watershed District prior to the work group meeting. Consensus of the Board was to select Option G, which is the same option the Work Group selected. The next meeting scheduled for June 27, 2001 is to discuss the upper diversion.

Arnold Stanley appeared before the Board to state his concerns of a potential assessment in the Thief River FDR project. It was stated that there would not be assessment to landowners if FDR funds are used.

Rod Voss, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) appeared before the Board requesting the Red Lake Watershed District consider being an Administrative entity/sponsor for the study portion of the Glacial Ridge Project. The USGS has indicated they would make a commitment of \$100,000 to the project providing the TNC could find matching sponsors. The FDR group has committed \$25,000 to this project. The permitting issues of the project were questioned. Delray Sparby and Rod Voss are to work together to devise a clause in the agreement to state that the working relationship would have no impact on

the permitting process of the project. Rod also presented a permit for the first phase of the restoration project.

Ryan Odenbach introduced Zeb Lamp to the Board. Zeb began working with the Red Lake Watershed District on May 21, 2001 and his main workload will be with the Water Quality program this summer.

Ryan stated that West Polk County District Manager, Paige Guetter, had offered to share a booth at the Polk County Fair in Fertile, July 13-15, 2001. Consensus of the Board was to participate and comprise a work schedule for the managers to assist in manning the booth.

Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, presented information on proposed repairs to Schirrick Dam. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Knott, to seek quotes for repair of the Schirrick Dam, set the quote opening for June 5, 2001, and have Manager Knott and President Nelson present during the opening of the quotes. Motion carried.

Repairs to the Moose River structure were discussed. Motion by Smeby, seconded by Moe, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize Holthusen Construction and/or Ralph Smith to complete repairs to the Moose River structure.

Permits were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: Nos. 01044 and 01045 from Polk County Highway Department, Northland Township; 01050\* from Ray Brault, Tilden Township, Polk County; 01052\* from Patrick L. Baranski, Gentilly Township, Polk County; 01053\* and 01058 from Polk County Highway Department, Bygland Township, Polk County; 01054\*, 01055\*, and 01056\*, Jerry Hasnedl, River Falls Township, Pennington County; and table permit #01057, Agassiz Wildlife Refuge, Marshall County until further information can be obtained for work requested in permit.  
\*With conditions stated on permit.

Engineering Assistant Sanderson updated the Board on the Douglas Peterson permits and the Onstad Township permit.

The Ditch Inspection Policy was reviewed by the Board. Discussion was held on changing of the policy. It was tabled until the June 14, 2001 Board meeting.

Wright Construction is scheduled to mobilize equipment at the Greenwood 27 site within the next week. The disposal site of the Thief River Reservoir dredging has been drained of water of what can be drained. Landowner Daniel Trontvedt has asked the Board to push up the sand and gravel in an order that can be scooped up and hauled away rather than spread over the agricultural land. Legal Counsel Sparby will draft a modification to the contract and review with the Board President prior to a joint signature from Daniel Trontvedt and the Red Lake Watershed District.

The impoundment levels of Good Lake and Moose River and lake levels of Pine Lake were given by Engineering Assistant Sanderson.

Legal Counsel Sparby reviewed correspondence from DNR Hydrologist Ed Fick regarding the funding of the Thief River FDR project.

The letter from Kays Benton Safranski & Co LLP stating they would withdraw from their contract for one year and extend it for two years to allow the State of Minnesota to conduct the audit for the year 2001 was accepted by the Board.

Manager Nikolayson reported on meeting activities at the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) meeting held on May 15, 2001. Lance Yohe has been hired as the Executive Director of the Red River Basin Board. Naomi Jagol was hired as newly formed Associate Director position for the RRWMB. Ryan Odenbach, Water Quality Coordinator, presented his report to the RRWMB board. Next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2001.

Discussion was held on signatures needed for grants from various agencies for funding. The following resolution was moved by Johnson, seconded by Nikolayson,

WHEREAS the Red Lake Watershed District enters into contracts with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and other state agencies,

WHEREAS these agencies require authorized signatures for their grants and other documents,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Board be authorized to execute these documents on behalf of the Red Lake Watershed District.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Moe, seconded by Knott, and carried unanimously that the meeting adjourn.

Signed  
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary