

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 11, 2002

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; LeRoy Ose; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; Roger Love, Orville Knott, 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 Knott, seconded by Ose and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the agenda.

Requests to appear before the board included Arnold Stanley and Delray Larson.

Ryan Odenbach, Water Quality Coordinator, requested approval by the board to extend the River Watch Program to include the Red Lake Public High School, Red Lake, MN. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Love, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the proposal to include Red Lake High School in the River Watch Program.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of March 28, 2002. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated April 10, 2002.

Arnold Stanley appeared before the board for clarification as to where the brushing had been done on State Ditch 83.

Delray Larson, Marshall County Commissioner, presented a petition to the board with signatures of landowners along Ditch 20 who are both opposed to and in support of the impoundment project, which is part of the Thief River Storage and Diversion.

Mr. Larson also requested the Project Team be suspended for the Thief River Storage and Diversion Project, until after State Ditch 83 is cleaned. He also requested public notification of meetings regarding the Thief River Storage and Diversion Project, and not to just notify those who had signed the Statement of Commitment.

Permit No. 02013 was reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Love, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve permit No. 02013 from the Nature Conservancy, Tilden Township, Polk County.

President Nelson updated the board regarding the Gene Tiedemann property. He stated that Nate Dalager met with Mr. Tiedemann to explain the engineering portion. He also stated that Mr. Tiedemann was willing to accept a price of \$62,000 for the 80-acre parcel. Following discussion, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, that the RLWD

enter into an "Option to Obtain an Easement" from Mr. Tiedemann to purchase his land, for the amount of \$62,000, contingent upon project approval. Motion carried.

Loren Sanderson reported that he and Chad Konickson, DNR, had visited the Parnell Impoundment site regarding the culvert installation on the east pool. Mr. Konickson will be submitting written recommendations to the RLWD regarding this culvert.

Manager Johnson reported on the joint county meeting he attended on April 3. He stated the group briefly discussed the state audit, but that the main discussion was in regard to the Thief River Storage and Diversion FDR Project and the Statement of Commitment. Pennington County Commissioner Don Jensen explained that the purpose of the meeting had been to discuss the mediation process, not a particular project. Mr. Jensen stated that he felt this group of county commissioners would be able to compose a Statement of Commitment that team members, whether they are for or against the project, would be able to sign.

At this time, President Nelson stated the board would like a report from the Project Team's meeting of April 10, 2002. Loiell Dyrud, who conducted the meeting, stated that he felt the purpose of the mediation process was to get all the permitting agencies together at one time in order to cut down on the cost of projects. He added that the meeting went well, but questioned why Leonard Moe sat at the table as a team member when he is no longer on the RLWD board. He also questioned why other team members sat at the table, when they had not signed the Statement of Commitment. Mr. Dyrud explained that two alignments were discussed and also who would be the facilitator of the team. Recommendations for the board were to go with Alignment "O" and to use a rotating facilitator to conduct meetings. The group also discussed potential future meeting dates.

Following lengthy discussion of the Thief River Storage and Diversion FDR Project, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Smeby, to schedule an informational hearing to present information gathered thus far. Following discussion, Smeby withdrew his second on the motion. President Nelson called for another second. Manager Love seconded the motion. Upon calling for a vote, Managers Johnson and Love voted aye, with Managers Smeby, Nikolayson, and Knott voting naye. Motion failed with Manager Ose abstaining from discussion and voting.

At this time, Manager Smeby made a motion to drop the Thief River Storage and Diversion FDR Project. Manager Love seconded the motion. President Nelson addressed each board member for their input, with the exception of Manager Ose. Upon calling for a vote, Managers Johnson, Smeby, Knott, and Love voted aye, with Manager Nikolayson voting naye. Motion carried, with Manager Ose abstaining from discussion and voting.

President Nelson asked if there were any volunteers from the board to represent the RLWD at the joint county meetings. Having no one volunteer, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Smeby, that the RLWD discontinue their attendance at the joint county meetings; however, if the counties had any issues to discuss, they could contact individual board members or request to be on the RLWD board meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

President Nelson updated the board on the State Ditch 83 maintenance. Ditch inspector Gary Lane will check the depth of the sloughing following the spring thaw.

President Nelson explained that, because of advertising timelines, the public hearing on the City of Bagley Project could not be conducted on April 25. Following discussion, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote, that the April 25, 2002 board meeting be re-scheduled for May 29, 2002, at the Clearwater County Courthouse in Bagley.

An extension request regarding a permit was reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Knott, to approve a one year extension on permit No. 99085 from Daniel Thiel, Minnie Township, Beltrami County. Motion carried unanimously.

Legal Counsel Sparby gave his update to the board.

Motion was made by Ose, seconded by Love, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Signed

Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary