

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
December 23, 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; 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. Vernon Johnson was absent.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of December 12, 2002. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Nikolayson, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Love, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated December 20, 2002.

The board reviewed the transfers from the construction fund to construction fund projects as of December 30, 2002. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the recommended transfer of funds for projects.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, was present to review the Preliminary Engineer's Report for the Flood Storage Easement Project, Sites 1 and 2. He stated that he filed the report with the RLWD office staff. Following discussion, a motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Knott, that the RLWD schedule an informational meeting for January 9, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., as well as a public hearing for this project on January 23, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., at the Red Lake Watershed District office. Motion carried with Manager Love abstaining from voting.

As a result of the discussion regarding the Flood Storage Easement Project Sites 1 and 2, it was the consensus of the board that Nate Dalager and Managers Nelson and Love should meet with the townships involved in this project. This meeting will be scheduled by Manager Nelson and Nate Dalager.

The board reviewed a letter from the Minakwa Golf Club stating the status of the project between the City of Crookston and the RLWD. The project is planned for completion during the summer of 2003.

The board reviewed a letter from Kays, Benton, Safranski, & Co., LLP, which stated they would not be fulfilling their contract with the RLWD to perform the 2002 and 2003

Audits, since they no longer perform government audits. Although State Statutes do not require an annual audit, Legal Counsel Delray Sparby recommended an audit be done annually. It was the consensus of the board that Arlene Novak should contact this firm to persuade them to fulfill their contract. If this could not be accomplished, she should then solicit quotes from other firms for the 2002 and 2003 annual audit.

The board reviewed permit No. 02164. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve permit No. 02164 from Veldt Township, Marshall County.

Nate Dalager and Loren Sanderson explained to the board that the surveying was done on the Polk County Ditch 19 Project, but felt it was a more involved project than the petitioners were aware of. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that Loren Sanderson, Manager Nelson, and Nate Dalager should meet with the petitioners to discuss the scope of the project and the options of the petitioners.

Manager Smeby informed the board that the three flap gates, previously approved for installation, were not yet installed. It was the consensus of the board that this should be taken care of by RLWD staff.

Loren Sanderson informed the board that Red Lake County Commissioner Ron Weiss had contacted him regarding some disaster monies to be used for tree removal on rivers and tributaries. The grant would provide manpower for the project, but the RLWD would be required to purchase chainsaws. It was the consensus of the board that Loren should pursue this and report back at a future meeting.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby gave his update to the board. He stated that counties are required to appoint a manager for a three-year term at least twenty days prior to the January 10 starting date.

Legal Counsel Sparby also requested board action on the filing of a Response to the Appeal from the townships regarding the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that Legal Counsel Delray Sparby should file a Response.

A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Smeby, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed  
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary