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; Vern Johnson; LeRoy Ose; Lowell Smeby; Bob Proulx; Orville Knott; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/Receptionist; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby. Dennis Nikolayson was absent.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of January 27, 2003. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Smeby, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.


A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve payment of $2,000.00 for annual dues to the MN Association of Watershed Districts.

The following managers will be attending the Legislative Breakfast on March 12 and 13 in St. Paul: Johnson, Nikolayson, Knott, Ose, and Nelson. Meetings with area legislators have been scheduled for those two days.

Roger Love appeared before the board and stated there were several landowners with him who wished to make verbal statements within the 30 day appeal period following the hearing on the Parnell Area Project Sites 1 and 2. Legal Counsel Delray Sparby stated the RLWD would not be holding mini-hearings and, if need be, another public hearing will be scheduled.

John Jeffrey (Huntsville Township) and Tom Wold (Rhinehart Township) were present to discuss permit No. 03002. They were requesting the RLWD put a 60-day delay on its approval, in order for them to obtain an engineer’s report from their consultant. The project engineer for the City of East Grand Forks, as well as attorney Carl Lindquist, were present to speak on behalf of the City. It was the consensus of the board that the permit remain approved.

Corey Hanson, Water Quality Coordinator, updated the board on wetland banking issues.

Manager Nelson updated the board on the City of Bagley Urban Runoff Reduction Project. Following the update, a motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and
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passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD advertise for bids for construction of this project, contingent upon approval of permits. Following further discussion, a motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD should proceed with the land acquisition for this project.

Nate Dalager and Gordy Hall, HDR Engineering, presented options on how the Ten-Year Comprehensive Study may be approached. Brian Dwight, Board of Water and Soil Resources, was also present to answer questions on funding. Following their presentation and questions from the board, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Proulx, that HDR Engineering should proceed with the modeling for the entire watershed district. Motion carried with Manager Smeby opposed.

Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, updated the board on two permits in Marshall County, stating he is working with the county on the permits.

The board reviewed permit No. 03003 from C.J. Knutson Farms, Tynsid Township, Polk County. Upon recommendation from Loren Sanderson, a motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that permit No. 03003 be tabled.

Permits were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No. 03004* from Gary Abrams, Woodside Township, Polk County; No. 03005 from Woodside Township, Polk County; and No. 03006* from Fred Barrett & Sons, Bygland Township, Polk County. *With conditions stated on permit.

Manager Nelson reported that the tree removal will begin in approximately three weeks at the Parnell Impoundment. He also stated that the Pay Equity Report had been filed prior to the January 31 deadline.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby requested the meeting be closed to discuss the Mike Gasper lawsuit.

The meeting was re-opened to the public.

The board review the applications for the position of Administrator. The board will interview five of the applicants on March 10, 2003.

Motion was made by Ose, seconded by Knott, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary