

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
May 8, 2003

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

Mike Krejci and Polk Commissioner Eugene Mattson requested to appear before the board.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of April 24, 2003. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nikolayson, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated May 7, 2003.

Mike Krejci, Sullivan Township, Polk County, appeared before the board to explain his reasons for applying for a permit to install larger culverts on Polk County Ditches 37 and 38. President Nelson stated the engineering staff would further review the permit application. The permit will be presented at the May 22, 2003 meeting.

### **Permits**

- Motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote to deny permit No. 03003 from C.J. Knutson Farms, Inc., Tynsid Township, Polk County.
- Motion by Knott, second by Smeby, to table permit No. 03013 from Harvey Hanson, Veldt Township, Polk County. Motion carried.
- Motion by Smeby, second by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote to amend permit No. 02061 from Agder Township, Marshall County, as requested.
- A motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No. 03027\* from Roger Juve, Andover Twp., Polk County; No.S. 03028\*, 03030, and 03031 from Polk County Highway Department; No. 03033\* from Rob Bakken, Andover Twp., Polk County; No. 03034 from Sullivan Township, Polk County; and No. 03036\* from Lawrence Bjerken, Smiley Twp., Pennington County. \*With conditions stated on permit.

Polk County Commissioner Eugene "Jeep" Mattson appeared before the board to further discuss the culverts and water problems on Polk County Ditches 37 and 38.

The board reviewed a project cost estimate from the engineer on completion of the Bagley Urban Runoff Reduction Project. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the retention of John Hodgson, North Central MN SWCD's Joint Powers Board, as engineer for the completion of the Bagley Urban Runoff Reduction Project.

Bids were opened for the construction of the BWSR Flood Storage Easement Pilot Project No. 133C. Upon opening the bids, a motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board accept the apparent low bid, contingent upon review by Legal Counsel and the engineering staff.

Bids were opened for the North Parnell Storage Site, Project No. 154. Upon opening the bids, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board accept the apparent low bid, contingent upon review by Legal Counsel and the engineering staff.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, presented a timeline-to-date on Project 60, and also explained what needs to be accomplished in the next couple months to keep the project moving along. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that HDR Engineering should proceed with the submittal of Step 1 to the Red River Watershed Management Board.

The board reviewed project cost estimates for engineering and inspection for construction of the Flood Storage Easement Impoundments, Sites 1 and 2. A motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD retain Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, as the project engineer for completion and signing off on the two storage sites, otherwise known as the BWSR Flood Storage Easement Pilot Project #133C and the North Parnell Storage Site Project #154.

Wayne Goeken and Dani Halvorson, monitoring team from the RRWMB, presented a review of the River Watch Program within the RLWD. They requested assistance from RLWD staff in overseeing some of the sites. It was the consensus of the board that RLWD staff may add these sites; those being Grygla, Clearbrook/Gonvick, Red Lake County Central, Red Lake Falls, Fosston, and Win-E-Mac. The additional sites will take approximately 2.5 days of staff time per month.

The board discussed the hiring of summer help. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that Administrator Jesme may hire two temporary employees for the summer of 2003, at an hourly rate between \$8.00 to \$10.00 per hour, dependent upon experience, to be determined by the Administrator.

The board was given an agenda for the MAWD Summer Tour.

Administrator Jesme presented his update to the board. He informed the board that the wetland banking from the Greenwood 27 project would be used to mitigate wetlands for the Bagley Urban Runoff Project #151 and the Winsor-Hangaard Project #113.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented an update to the board and requested the meeting be closed to the public. A motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the meeting be closed.

A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the meeting be re-opened to the public.

Following discussion of the lawsuit with Parnell area townships, it was the consensus of the board that Legal Counsel Sparby should write a letter to the townships stating that the RLWD would split the cost with them for a survey performed by a certified appraiser and/or licensed State of MN firm. This survey will be performed by someone other than Widseth Smith Nolting, since they performed the original survey.

The board reviewed the Warranty Deed and Release and the Settlement Agreement regarding the Mike Gasper lawsuit. Following the review, a motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the president and secretary of the board be authorized to sign the Settlement Agreement with Mike Gasper.

Upon receipt of a signed resolution from the Sand Hill River Watershed District, a motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve permit No. 03032 from the Polk County Ditch Authority.

A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the meeting adjourn.

Signed  
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary