

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
September 11, 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; LeRoy Ose; 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.

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 August 28, 2003. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Proulx, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated September 10, 2003.

Bob Cameron was present to express his concerns regarding beaver dams on Polk County Ditch 33. Loren Sanderson, Engineering Assistant, presented a brief history of this area. President Nelson stated the board would discuss this issue later in the meeting.

Permits were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No. 03091\* from William Pirkel, MnDOT, Clearwater County; No. 03092\* from Ron Salentine, Belgium Township, Polk County; and No. 03094\* from Gene Tiedemann, Euclid Township, Polk County. \*With conditions stated on permit.

Loren Sanderson presented information and history on several permits. The following motions were made as a result of board discussion:

- Motion by Proulx, second by Nikolayson, to deny permit No. 03077 from Lance Reitmeier, Crookston Township, Polk County. Motion carried.
- Motion by Proulx, second by Nikolayson, to approve permit No. 03082, with the conditions recommended by the engineering department. Motion carried.
- Motion by Proulx, second by Smeby, to table permit No. 03090 from Leon Iverson, until the September 25, 2003 meeting. Motion carried.

At 10:00 a.m., President Nelson called to order the 2004 Budget hearing. Arlene Novak orally presented the 2004 budget items and amounts. Hearing no objections from the public, the hearing adjourned at 10:07. The hearing had been properly advertised and is on videotape and available for viewing at the RLWD office at 102 North Main Avenue, Thief River Falls, MN. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following budget for 2004:

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Manager's fees, salaries, meeting expenses | \$19,000.00         |
| Board of managers' expense                 | 17,000.00           |
| Staff salaries                             | 268,500.00          |
| Payroll taxes                              | 20,540.00           |
| Employee benefits                          | 55,000.00           |
| Travel and meetings (inc. mileage & exp.)  | 5,000.00            |
| Legal                                      | 12,000.00           |
| Audit                                      | 5,000.00            |
| Office supplies                            | 13,000.00           |
| Office equipment                           | 10,000.00           |
| Engineering Equipment                      | 17,500.00           |
| Engineering supplies                       | 2,500.00            |
| Rent                                       | 1,000.00            |
| Telephone                                  | 10,000.00           |
| Dues and subscriptions                     | 3,000.00            |
| Insurance and bonds                        | 30,000.00           |
| Repairs and maintenance                    | 17,000.00           |
| Utilities                                  | 7,500.00            |
| Professional services(inc. Eng. fees)      | 2,000.00            |
| Advertising and publications               | 2,500.00            |
| Interest                                   | 3,000.00            |
| Vehicle expense & maintenance              | <u>12,000.00</u>    |
| TOTAL                                      | <u>\$533,040.00</u> |
| ESTIMATED OVERHEAD                         | <u>(402,750.00)</u> |
| 2004 GENERAL FUND LEVY                     | <u>\$130,290.00</u> |

The board reviewed the proposed levies for 2004. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following levies for 2004: Project No. 4, Lost River - \$14,500.00; Project No. 20, RLWD #7 - \$3,500.00; Project No. 35, Pine Lake Maintenance - \$1,800.00; Project No. 41, J.D. No. 72 - \$4,000.00; Project No. 43B, Burnham Creek - \$6,000.00; Project No. 45, Wild Rice Water Allocation - \$9,000.00; Project No. 48, J.D. 2 Br. A & Br. 1 of A - \$5,250.00; Project No. 49, J.D. 2, Main J.D. 2 Upstream - \$1,000.00; Project No. 101, J.D. 4 - \$500.00; Project No. 102, J.D. 5 - \$1,000.00; Project No. 106, Jensen Petition - \$5,000.00; Project No. 109, Arveson Ditch - \$1,000.00; Project No. 115, Equality/ RLWD Ditch 1 - \$3,000.00; Project No. 117, Kenneth Johnson Petition - \$2,500.00; Project No. 119, Polk County Ditches Improvement - \$5,000.00; Project No. 134, Polk County Ditch 63 - \$1,000.00; and Project No. 135, Polk County Ditch 33 - \$1,500.00.

The board discussed resolutions to be presented for the MAWD annual meeting. It was the consensus of the board that Administrator Jesme and Manager Nikolayson should draft these resolutions for the September 25 board meeting.

Brian Dwight, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), was present to discuss Project 60 with the board. He stated that this project was chosen as one of two pilot projects in the State of MN as part of the Governor's Clean Water Cabinet Pilot Project Initiative. Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, was also present to update the board on Project 60. Brian Dwight stated a meeting of the core committee will be held Monday, September 15 in Mahnomon and recommended representation from the RLWD speak to this committee. Administrator Jesme and Managers Nelson and Knott will attend this meeting.

Brief discussion was held regarding the Ten-Year Overall Plan. Nate Dalager will be present for the September 25 board meeting to update the board on the status of the Overall Plan.

Nate Dalager also presented a cost breakdown for the preliminary engineering process for Project 60. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, should complete the Preliminary Engineer's Report and present it to the board prior to the bonding session, which begins in February, 2004.

Administrator Jesme stated he made an offer to Botsford & Qualey (Alerus Financial), representing Marta Brand Sivitz, for the purchase of flowage easements on the Parnell Operating Plan and had received a counter-offer of \$10,000. It was the consensus of the board that Administrator Jesme should make a final offer of \$750 per acre on 9.3 acres. The board will review this at the September 25 meeting and if the offer is not accepted, it will be withdrawn at which time other alternatives will be discussed.

Don Lunke was present to request an extension on the completion of construction on the Flood Storage Easement Sites 1 and 2. He explained why he got a later start than anticipated, but added that construction went well and was now complete. He also added that the control structures were not available until some time in October, but they would be put in place as soon as they arrive. Mr. Lunke then requested an extension, even though the Plans stated August 31, 2003 as the completion date. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that a ten-day extension be granted to Lunke Construction, since the project was completed in a timely manner and the control structures were not available until mid-October.

Administrator Jesme informed the board of the amount of crop loss suffered by Gene Tiedemann during the construction of the Flood Storage Easement Site 1. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve payment to Gene Tiedemann for a 21-acre crop loss, in the amount of \$4,788.00.

The board revisited the request of Bob Cameron regarding the beaver dam problem on the Grand Marais, directly downstream of Polk County Ditch 33. Following a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Proulx, seconded by Ose, that the RLWD should, upon approval of affected landowner, remove the beaver dams and sediment from an outlet channel downstream of Polk County Ditch 33. Motion carried with Manager Nikolayson opposed.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented his update to the board. He stated the lease agreement with Ron Stroot and Craig Stroot for rental of land on the Parnell Impoundment was completed. Administrator Jesme will obtain the required signatures.

Administrator Jesme presented his update to the board.

The board discussed the burning of piles on the Moose River dike. Since the DNR has indicated that they will burn the piles, it was the consensus of the board that we should inquire of them as to when. This item will be scheduled on the September 25 RLWD Board meeting.

Manager Nikolayson stated he would not be able to attend the Red River Corridor meeting on Thursday evening, September 11, 2003. It was the consensus of the board that Corey Hanson should attend and report to the board on September 25 on the progress of this project.

Motion was made by Ose, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the meeting adjourn.

Signed

Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary