President Orville Knott called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office at 102 North Main Avenue, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Managers Dale M. Nelson; Vernon Johnson; LeRoy Ose; Lowell Smeby; Bob Proulx; Allan Carlson, and Orville Knott. Staff present were Myron Jesme, Arlene Novak, and Sandy Radniecki, and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of February 26, 2004. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Nelson, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.


At their February 26 meeting, the Board reviewed the 2003 Annual Audit Report, which was conducted by Drees, Riskey, & Vallager, LTD. Following discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the 2003 Annual Audit Report.

Administrator Jesme presented a request to the Board from the Fourtown/Grygla Sportsmen’s Club to include the Moose River Impoundment dike as part of a potential State-operated trail. Following discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Smeeby, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD should submit a letter of support to the Fourtown/Grygla Sportsmen’s Club as an aid in assisting them to acquire permission from the State to have this trail designated under the ‘State Trail System’ for the use as an ATV trail.

Administrator Jesme presented his update to the Board. In discussing the land acquisition process for Project 60, the following motions were made:

- Motion by Nelson, second by Proulx, that the RLWD should enter into an agreement with Robert Zammert for compensation of up to $5,000.00 for the purchase of a steel building with concrete floor within the potential Euclid East Impoundment, located in Section 2, Euclid Township; Motion carried.

- Motion by Johnson, second by Carlson, that the RLWD enter into an agreement with Ron Salentine that Mr. Salentine be given the first option to buy back the lands described in his Agreement, should the RLWD purchase his land. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme informed the Board that Corey Hanson, Water Quality Coordinator, had expressed interest in attending a “Fluvial Geomorphology and Stream Classification” workshop in Grand Rapids on May 17-21, 2004. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve his attendance at this workshop, with the possibility of some of the expenses to be paid by grant monies.
Administrator Jesme explained to the Board that he reached an agreement with Phillip Quam for rental of land in Section 31 of Lessor Township, Polk County, at a rate of $20.00 per acre. Mr. Quam had requested opening more of the land, to be surveyed by RLWD staff, in addition to the approximately 12 acres he already farms. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD will allow Phillip Quam to open more land in Section 31, Lessor Township, as long as he does not violate any federal or state regulations.

Doug Thompson, Clearwater County SWCD, was present to request cost-sharing from the RLWD for two streambank erosion sites on the Clearwater River. He explained that the design work has already been done by the Joint Powers Board engineer, Jon Hodgson. The Board reviewed a handout with photos of the sites and discussed these projects in detail with Mr. Thompson. A motion was then made by Johnson, seconded by Nelson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve cost sharing of fifty percent, or up to $11,000.00, of the project cost on the two streambank erosion sites, within the dredged portion of the Clearwater River, in Section 22, Greenwood Township, Clearwater County.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented his update to the Board.

Permits were reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the following permits: No. 04005 from the MN Department of Transportation, Polk County; and No.s 04006 and 04008, Pine Lake Twp., Clearwater County; 04007, Columbia Twp., Polk County; and 04009, Queen Twp., Polk County, all from Garden Valley Telephone Company.

A Petition had been previously submitted, pursuant to Minnesota State Statutes 103E.215, for the Improvement of Polk County Ditch #19. Subsequently, a Petition was filed requesting dismissal of the afore-mentioned Petition. Kurt Deter from Rinke Noonan, appeared before the Board on behalf of the petitioners of Polk County Ditch #19. Mr. Deter requested that the petitioners be allowed to withdraw their request for dismissal, and that any further action on the Polk County Ditch #19 Improvement Petition be stayed at the present time. Kurt Deter also presented a Petition before the Board for an erosion control project, pursuant to MN State Statutes 103D.705, and said Petition was accompanied with a $20,000.00 cost bond. Following lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD allow the withdrawal of the petitioners’ Request for Dismissal of the Polk County Ditch #19 Improvement Petition, that further action on the Polk County Ditch #19 be stayed the until control project, under MN State Statutes 103D.705, has been established and assigned project No. 163, Tynsid Erosion Control Project, pending approval of the Board.

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

Signed _______________________
LeRoy Ose, Secretary