

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
March 25, 2004

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

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of March 11, 2004. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Proulx, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report and investment summary. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated March 24, 2004.

The Board reviewed a request for membership dues from the MN Viewer's Association. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD submit payment of \$125.00 for annual membership dues to the MN Viewer's Association.

A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD submit payment of \$75.00 for membership dues to the MN Association of Drainage Inspectors.

Arlene Novak stated that the RLWD is now required to appoint a HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Privacy Officer and also explained the purpose of this position. Following discussion, a motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that Arlene Novak be appointed Privacy Officer for the RLWD.

Jim Hest, NW MN Joint Powers Board Engineer, was present to inform the Board of a streambank erosion problem on Burnham Creek in Section 23, Andover Township, Polk County. He stated this erosion is threatening a farmstead and requested the RLWD consider cost sharing in this stabilization project. It was the consensus of the Board that Administrator Jesme should determine if this would be considered within the benefited area of Burnham Creek and report back at the April 8, 2004 meeting.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented his update to the Board. As a result of his update, the Board discussed the State Ditch 83 fund balances. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Nelson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD should

transfer the remaining MN DNR settlement money into the State Ditch 83 maintenance fund.

Administrator Jesme joined the meeting.

At 10:00 a.m., President Knott called to order the public hearing for RLWD Ditch #10 and turned the hearing over to Legal Counsel Delray Sparby. Legal Counsel Sparby explained the purpose of the hearing was to have the engineer present the Preliminary Engineer's Report and what is being proposed, based on the Petition presented to the RLWD. Jim Hest, NW MN Joint Powers Engineer, presented his Preliminary Report and briefly described the project. Wayne Weber, Red Lake County SWCD, presented a history of the project, stating it has been a concern since the early 1980s. Questions were addressed from the Board and several affected landowners in the audience. Legal Counsel Sparby read into the record comments received from the MN Department of Natural Resources, as well as from the Board of Water and Soil Resources. He stated copies of these comments were available for the public upon request. The hearing adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Proulx, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD accept the Preliminary Engineer's Report with the two Alternatives, deem the Report practical and feasible, and appoint three viewers for the project.

Administrator Jesme informed the Board that Brent Johnson, Houston Engineering, would be presenting the Preliminary Engineer's Report on State Ditch 83 to the Board at the April 8, 2004 meeting.

Administrator Jesme reported that land acquisition for Project 60 was progressing. To date, we have one signed agreement.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that public hearings are scheduled for April 13, 2004, at the University of MN in Crookston for the use of Joint Ditch 60 and Polk County Ditch 126 by the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan.

Manager Carlson stated that several landowners on Oak Lake would like direction as to how to go about raising the lake level by 3 to 4 feet. Legal Counsel Sparby will report back at the April 8 meeting as to how the process should be implemented..

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
LeRoy Ose, Secretary