

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
September 23, 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 Orville Knott, LeRoy Ose, Lowell Smeby, Gene Tiedemann, Allan Carlson, and Vernon Johnson. Absent Dale M. Nelson. Staff present were Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak, and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Carlson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of September 9, 2004. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Johnson, that the Board approve the minutes of September 9, 2004. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Financial Report and investment summary. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated September 22, 2004.

Due to a purchase of a Certificate of Deposit at Bremer Bank of Crookston, the RLWD should approve the financial institution as a depository. Motion by Ose, seconded by Johnson, to approve Bremer Bank as a depository of the Red Lake Watershed District funds. Motion carried.

Oklee Sportsmens Club request permission to establish an ATV trail along Lost River. Motion by Smeby, seconded by Ose, to grant permission to the Oklee Sportsmen's Club to use the area covered by the Red Lake Watershed District easement as an ATV trail, subject to approval by landowners, assumption by Oklee Sportsmen's Club of maintenance and upkeep of the trail, provision of reasonable liability insurance, and provided that any use as an ATV trail would be subject to easement interest of the RLWD. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby clarified to the board the statutory limits of annual maintenance levies, specifically State Ditch 83, and also reviewed the prior agreement with State of Minnesota regarding the limits for which the State has agreed to pay repair levies on State Ditch 83.

Nate Dalager, HDR Inc. presented the Louisville Parnell Impoundment operating plan. Following a timeline presentation, a motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the proposed operating plan. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits: No. 04113 from R. J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc., Huntsville Township, Polk County; No. 04114* from Great Lakes Gas Transmission,

Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 04115* from The Nature Conservancy, Tilden Township, Polk County; No. 04116* from Red River Valley Co-op Power Assn., Hammond Township, Polk County. Motion carried unanimously. *With conditions stated on permit.

Administrator Jesme explained the purpose of Permit #04117 applied for by Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) for Terry Beich. The permit application is for preparing Terry Beich's CRP field to be used by the EERC as a test site for the Waffle plan. Motion by Ose, seconded by Johnson, to approve Permit No. 04117, contingent upon applicant notifying the local ditch authority. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme presented his written report to the Board. Items noted from his report: Updated the Board on the status of 3 potential ring dike applicants; the stop logs on Pine Lake have been removed to establish winter levels; the anticipated start of winter draw down of Moose River and Good Lake Impoundments will begin around the week of October 18; and presented the approved RRWMB Policies and Procedures for Public Access to Documents and two other watershed districts policy on public data requests along with the RLWD public data policy. Discussion was held on updating the RLWD public data policy. Administrator Jesme requested approval to attend a seminar in St. Paul on September 29. Consensus of board to allow the Administrator to attend the seminar on Data Privacy Act on September 29, 2004, in St. Paul, if his schedule permits. In addition to his written report, Administrator Jesme was notified the wetland banking credits for Greenwood 27 in Clearwater County have been approved and Natasha DeVoe will be faxing us a letter of approval.

Doug Thompson, Clearwater SWCD, gave the board an update on the completed cost-share projects: Silver Creek Buffer Initiative project, Greenwood 22 project, Walkerbrook TMDL, and the Bagley Urban Runoff. As part of the appreciation of the cooperative efforts with the Red Lake Watershed District, the Clearwater SWCD is nominating the Bagley Urban Runoff project for MAWD's Capital Project of the Year. An invitation was extended to Board and staff to attend a 50th Anniversary celebration of the Clearwater SWCD to be held on Tuesday, September 28, with a tour including some of the joint projects of the RLWD. He also extended an invitation to attend the banquet on October 5th.

Jim Hest, NW MN Joint Powers Board, and Wayne Weber, Red Lake SWCD, presented the Final Engineer's Report for RLWD Ditch No.10, RLWD Project No. 161. Manager Knott informed the Board that a petitioner's meeting had been held and the consensus of the petitioners was to proceed with the revised Final Engineer's Report. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed unanimously, to approve the Final Engineers Report for RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161.

Mike Flaagan, Pennington County Highway Department Engineer, and Don Jensen, Pennington County Commissioner, appeared before the board to discuss questions raised at the previous board meeting on Pennington County Ditch No. 1, Rocksbury Township

drainage issue. Consensus of the board was to address the issue at the next board meeting, when the quotes from two engineering firms for an estimation of the cost for doing preliminary engineering work will have been received and reviewed.

Water Quality Coordinator Corey Hanson explained a potential grant application called the Farm to Stream Project with the NW Minnesota Foundation. The goals of the project are to investigate the effects on water quality of agricultural practices and best management practices related to drainage. The funding of the proposal would be a 50/50 cost share, including in-kind, with total expenditures estimated to be \$35,000. After an explanation of the goals of the grant application, a motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Johnson, and passed unanimously to approve the grant application. Motion carried.

Manager Ose inquired about the maintenance and contractors on St. Ditch 83. At the Board meeting of September 9, direction was given to Administrator Jesme to hire two contractors. After review of the State Statutes, Attorney Sparby advised Administrator Jesme that the use of one contractor would be legally permissible. Administrator Jesme stated that a contractor has been contacted and the repair and maintenance would begin as soon as weather conditions permit.

The graveling of the dike on the Moose River Impoundment was discussed. Motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Tiedemann, to apply gravel as needed to the previously graveled portion of the dike when weather conditions permit and contingent on funds being available to do so. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Tiedemann, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed _____
LeRoy Ose, Secretary