

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 14, 2005

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, Vernon Johnson, Allan Carlson, Arnold Stanley, Dale M. Nelson, Lee Coe, and Gene Tiedemann. Staff present were Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak, and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of March 24, 2005. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Johnson that the Board approve the minutes of March 24, 2005. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Nelson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated April 13, 2005.

The Annual Report was reviewed by the Board. Some additional suggested items to add were the rock riffles project on the Clearwater River and the cost sharing with the Marshall-Beltrami SWCD on the riprap project in Moose River Project area.

Water Quality Coordinator Corey Hanson distributed a Marshall County Local Water Plan questionnaire and asked for the Board's recommendations/comments by April 19. The hydrogen sulfide smell in and around the City of TRF was discussed and possible solutions to the problem. Corey stated that one common cause for the smell is lack of oxygen and that an earlier study indicated that strategically located rock riffles may help with this problem.

Brian Dwight, Board of Water and Soil Resources, came before the board to discuss a leadership program that he and Jody Horntvedt had compiled for watershed districts that was scheduled in three sessions to be held in January, February, and March of 2005. Due to low enrollment, the sessions were cancelled. Funding for the program came from the Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) Work group and the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB). Mr. Dwight proposed that the RLWD take over this program with the funding for the sessions from the FDR Work Group and RRWMB and open the program to attendees from other agencies, i.e. Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the RLWD area. After considerable discussion and President Knott receiving input from the Board members, the consensus of the Board was to develop a plan for the Leadership sessions with Managers Knott, Coe, and Stanley and Administrator Jesme serving on the planning committee and present the plan to the Board.

The Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) Summary report entitled "Results of the Spring 2004 Waffle Project Field Trial" was distributed for information to the board.

Kim Durbin, CPA, Drees, Risky, and Vallager, Ltd. presented the 2004 Annual Audit of the Red Lake Watershed District. After reviewing and discussing the report, motion by Nelson, seconded by Johnson, to accept the 2004 Annual Audit and passed by unanimous vote.

Administrator Jesme stated the Bonding Bill that included funding for the Project 60B, Parnell Area Phase Projects, had been signed by Governor Pawlenty. A check list of items for project completion in a sequential format was reviewed. After considerable discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that we proceed with the development of RLWD Project No. 60B and that the project work team should be notified. The Board directed Administrator Jesme to arrange for a facility for the hearing, tentatively scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on June 23, 2005 in Crookston, and report back at next Board meeting of the location for the hearing and notify Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, to complete the Preliminary Engineer's Report.

The RLWD Advisory committee met on April 7, 2005. Administrator Jesme stated the Advisory Committee wished to address the Board on April 28 to address the wording of the Mission Statement of the RLWD and consider revising it. Motion by Stanley to change the RLWD Mission Statement to what the advisory committee recommends. Motion died for lack of a second. After additional discussion, it was noted that the October 28, 2004 minutes stated the word "management" whereas the Draft Ten Year Overall Plan states "habitat". Motion by Nelson, seconded by Coe, to change the wording "management" to "habitat" to read: The Mission of the Red Lake Watershed District is to reduce flooding and flood damages, to seek to improve water quality, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat through sound water management. Motion carried with Manager Stanley voting nay.

An agreement with Agder Township, signed by 1990 RLWD Board President Arnold Person, was presented to the Board regarding the maintenance of the structures for the Elm Lake project. Agder Township had recently signed and ratified this agreement and a fully executed copy was presented to the RLWD.

The joint annual meeting with Middle-Snake-Tamarac River Watershed District and the RLWD was discussed. Consensus of Board to have Administrator Jesme arrange the meeting and report back at next board meeting.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Nelson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 05007 from Gunvalson Farms, Johnson Township, Polk County; No. 05014 from Jeffrey Rustvold, Lee Township, Beltrami County, No. 05015 from Pierre A. Uebe, Gentilly

Township, Polk County, 05017 from Pat Paquin, Knute Township, Polk County, and Garden Valley Telephone, various townships, Polk County. Motion carried unanimously.

Bryan Enright appeared before the Board to discuss his permit application, RLWD Permit No. 05006. Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson explained the timeline of permitting of a previous permit and actions. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to deny the permit and that the permit previously issued should be operated as described on RLWD Permit No. 01097 dated September 25, 2001. Motion carried.

The Call Before You Dig annual meeting hosted by Garden Valley Telephone Company is scheduled for April 27, 2005. Board members wishing to attend should respond to Garden Valley Telephone by April 15, 2005.

Administrator Jesme read his written report. Items to note are: The bond from Steve Olson, Olson Construction TRF Inc., contractor for Red Lake Watershed District Ditch No. 10, has been returned for a name revision on the bond to make the name of the project concur with what was on the bid notice and the Army Corps of Engineer's permit has not yet been received; Polk County Ditch 40 Improvement Petition has received the number of signatures needed to make the petition valid and Jerry Pribula has been notified that he can proceed with the Preliminary Engineer's Report as instructed by the Board on February 10, 2005; Polk County Ditch 19 Petitioner Jerry Larson notified Administrator Jesme that he had traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with U. S. Legislators to request Federal Assistance for the project; The site visit was held at Girl Scout's Camp Moe, rural Thief River Falls, on April 6 to view their water issues; A meeting was held with Agder Township supervisors Darrold Rodahl and Doyle Nelson, Brad Lunke, Ken Grundhaus, and Administrator Jesme to discuss options available for the construction and costs for the construction of a new township road along the north portion of the Ken Grundhaus ring dike; and The draft copy of the Ten Year Overall Plan has been mailed to all the TAC/CAC members for their review. A meeting of the TAC/CAC members is scheduled to be held on April 21, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. at the RLWD office.

Manager Tiedemann stated he knew of a place that was in need of a ring dike and questioned the availability of remaining ring dike funding.

Manager Gene Tiedemann, Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson, Administrator Jesme and landowners in the Burnham Creek project area met on April 11, 2005 to discuss the Sand Hill River Watershed District (SHRWD) and RLWD boundary and a project in the SHRWD. Administrator Jesme indicated that a permit may be forthcoming to help clarify the flow of water in this area.

The Erosion Control Seminar held on April 6, 2005 at the C'Mon Inn was well attended with Administrator Jesme, Gary Lane, and Jim Blix from the RLWD office attending.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby stated that the City of TRF has come to an agreement with the Barzen Ave. issue and the Red Lake Watershed District may be contacted regarding drainage issues in that area.

Manager Tiedemann questioned the status of the Louisville Parnell Project wetland and the repair of the south berm. It was noted that the RLWD is awaiting the determination from MnDOT to the impact the repair of the south berm and operation of the impoundment would affect existing wetland.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary