

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
December 8, 2005

President Orville Knott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office, Thief River Falls, MN.

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

The board reviewed the agenda. Manager Coe requested the precipitation study item be moved to the agenda of December 29, 2005. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the change of moving precipitation study to the Board meeting of December 29, 2005.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of November 22, 2005. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as read.

The board reviewed the Financial Report as of December 7, 2005. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated December 7, 2005.

Administrator Jesme stated that Parnell Township had requested payment for mowing a township road near the Parnell Impoundment. A motion was made by Nelson, was to pay the bill, but notify the township that we would like to be notified in advance prior to their mowing. Motion was seconded by Coe and passed unanimously.

Administrator Jesme stated that the survey equipment has not been functioning to its capacity for the past 8 years and recommends that the equipment be upgraded or improved. Two different options were presented with the staff recommending a system from Frontier Precision, Inc. of St. Cloud, MN in the amount of \$21,136.50 plus appropriate sales tax. A motion was made by Nelson to approve purchasing the Trimble 5605 (5") Autolock Total Station DR200, with accessories for \$21,136.50 plus appropriate sales tax, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously.

RLWD Project 60B funding of the purchase of land was discussed. The consensus of the Board was to submit bills to the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) on as needed basis.

The Winsor-Hangaard hearing date for inclusion of the 60 acres of land in Hangaard as requested by the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Red Lake Farms, Inc. was discussed. Motion by Nelson, to set the hearing for February 9, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. at the RLWD office, seconded by Johnson. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme reviewed the Midwest Helicopter's bill in the amount of \$18,551, along with maps of the RLWD ditch systems sprayed.

Information was presented of the proposed levy to be submitted to the Red Lake County Auditor for RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Proj. 151. Manager Knott stated that the area around some of the side inlet pipes is eroding and questioned how the erosion was going to be corrected. Administrator Jesme stated that riprap would be applied in the spring to those areas.

Administrator Jesme discussed the distribution of the "Draft" version of the Ten Year Comprehensive Plan for comments and the fact that there are several small municipalities that exist in our watershed district. Jesme asked the Board's recommendation as to whether to send copies of the draft printed report/CD version of the Ten Year Overall Plan to them. The consensus of the board was to mail a CD version to all municipalities, in addition to mailing to the chair of county township associations within our watershed district, as well as other entities/citizens as required by statute, along with a letter stating this is the start of the 60 day comment period on the report and if they wish to have a final copy of the Ten Year Overall Plan when completed.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, to approve permit No. 05159 from Agder Township, Marshall County, with conditions stated on permit. Motion carried.

At 10:00 a.m., President Knott recessed the board meeting and called the hearing for RLWD Ditch No.11, RLWD Proj. No. 166 to order. President Knott stated the process of the hearing and turned the hearing over to Legal Counsel Sparby. Mr. Sparby stated that Jerry Pribula had been appointed by the board as the engineer for the project and has presented his plan to the watershed board previously, all notices have been published and landowners notified, and this is the time set for the hearing of the proposed plan. Mr. Sparby stated that due to the length of the DNR Advisory report and the fact that all individuals present had received a printed copy for review, he would refrain from reading the document and that the original copy of the report be included into the record of the hearing. The meeting was turned over to Jerry Pribula, Pribula Engineering, who gave the history and location of the ditch system, explained the proposed work to be completed. Following questions from the board, it was opened up to the members in the audience. The hearing was videotaped and a list of attendees recorded. At 11:15 a.m. the hearing closed and President Knott called the regular meeting back to order.

Administrator Jesme read his written Administrator's report. Items noted from his report are: The Public Employees Retirement Association rate increase will become effective on January 1, 2006 with employee rates going from 5.10% to 5.50% and the employers rate will change from 5.53% to 6%; Land acquisitions for the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed, Proj. No. 60B is progressing very well and we hope to have the purchase agreements signed within a few weeks. The survey crew has completed a very preliminary survey of the Grand Marais Outlet as well as parts of a portion of the

abandoned Grand Marais Creek. This potential project has been defined in the overall description of the entire Grand Marais Creek Sub-Watershed Project 60. A brief outline will be presented to the Board at their December 29, 2005 board meeting; Manager Handbooks were distributed at the MAWD convention and are available for the Board members today. The presentation at the MAWD convention of the Bagley Urban Runoff project went well, but felt with the weather conditions, it limited the number of attendees; The "November 2005 Water Quality Program Progress Summary" is included in the Board manager's packets today. The Red River Watershed Water Quality Reporting Handbook has been completed by staff member Corey Hanson. The objective of this handbook is to report/explain the procedures used and products developed from the RRW Assessment Protocol Project and provide guidance to water quality staff from the RLWD and other groups/agencies conducting water quality monitoring programs; and RLWD staff has been compiling data for the ditch inventory project which is a main objective for completion this winter. In addition to his written report, Administrator Jesme stated that he had conferred with Delta Dental and the determination is that the dental insurance is not available to board members, only full time employees of the watershed district.

Manager Stanley inquired on the CSP program on two sub-watersheds of the RLWD: Thief River and Red Lake. Administrator Jesme stated this program is run by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Natural Resource Conservation Service with landowners volunteering to be in the program

RLWD Ditch No. 11 project was re-addressed by the board. The question of inclusion of an additional four miles into the ditch system was directed at the project engineer Jerry Pribula and Legal Counsel Sparby. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann to accept the preliminary plan as presented and direct Legal Counsel Sparby to prepare the Findings of Fact and Order for presentation to the Board at the December 29, 2005 Board meeting. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he is completing titles for land purchases for the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed Project and some parcels will be purchased by year-end 2005.

Manager's updates: The Building committee consisting of Managers Knott, Carlson, and Nelson and Administrator Jesme met on December 7, 2005 to review the costs of repairs needed on the current property compared to other options such as moving to a rental building being constructed in 2006. Following considerable discussion on the cost of repairs to the current building versus rental of a joint facility being constructed, the consensus of the board was to direct the Building Committee to investigate the costs of purchasing property and building new versus renting. The Building Committee will present its finding to the entire Board. Administrator Jesme will contact the administrator of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District to review their costs of constructing their new building.

Manager Coe reported on his attendance of the new manager's orientation meeting held during the Minnesota Association of Watershed District (MAWD) annual meeting on December 1, 2005. He also stated that that the resolution regarding Con Con lands that had been submitted to MAWD was not going to be presented to the legislators until a ruling from the Supreme Court is received.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary