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

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.

Mr. Brian Enright requested to appear before the board regarding his permit application.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of February 10, 2005. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Coe that the Board approve the minutes of February 10, 2005. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Financial Report, Investment Summary, and the 2005 Levy to the counties. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated February 23, 2005.

Administrator Jesme reported on the joint meeting with the City of Thief River Falls, Pennington County, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Rocksberry Township, and the Red Lake Watershed District regarding Pennington County Ditch 1 held on February 15, 2005. Administrator Jesme presented the two alternatives that had been presented at that meeting along with a quote from HDR Engineering to complete a cost analysis of the two alternatives. The estimated engineering cost to complete the two alternatives is $3,940. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Nelson, and passed unanimously, to pay a portion of the anticipated $3,940 to complete the engineer’s estimate of the two alternatives.

Brian Enright appeared before the Board to get answers to his questions regarding his permit application to remove a trap installed on a culvert between Fanny and Nesbit Township in Polk County. After considerable discussion, the consensus of the board was to have Mr. Enright and Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson meet with the town board and adjacent landowners to discuss the removal of the trap on the culvert and report back at a future board meeting.

Correspondence from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency requesting that the Board appoint a representative to the Red River Basin Water Quality Team (RRBWQT). Administrator Jesme stated that Water Quality Coordinator Corey Hanson is presently attending the meetings. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Stanley, and passed unanimously, that Corey Hanson continues to represent the RLWD as the representative to the RRBWQT.
Administrator Jesme presented his written report to the board. Items noted from his report are: The bond has been received from the petitioners of RLWD Ditch No. 11, RLWD Proj. No. 166. The petition and bond will be forwarded to Legal Counsel Sparby for review; He had attended a meeting in McIntosh with the Technical Evaluation Panel regarding the wetland mitigation for RLWD Ditch No. 10 and wetlands in the Louisville Parnell Impoundment site; the bonding bill for funding of the Grand Marais, RLWD Proj. No. 60B has passed the House and the Senate and will now go to Conference Committee. An LCMR grant in the amount of $50,000 may be available for this project. Consensus of the Board was to have Administrator Jesme meet with Penny Dody, Polk County SWCD, to apply for the grant; A meeting regarding Belgium Township permit applied for by John Weiland will be held at the RLWD office at 9:00 a.m., March 3, 2005.

In addition to his written report, Administrator Jesme stated an article appeared in the local paper that Pennington County had met with Red Lake County regarding Browns Creek and Red Lake County Ditch No. 13 stating Pennington would pay Red Lake County a one-time outlet fee. It was unknown the amount of the outlet fee. President Knott will meet with Red Lake County regarding this issue.

Manager Stanley inquired on the telephone conference Administrator Jesme had with Randy Huelskamp, Brian Dwight of BWSR, and Soil Conservation Service representatives on February 11, 2005, regarding the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP) funds that have been set aside for the Grand Marais, RLWD Proj. No.60B area. At this time, the funding will remain available for this project.

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