

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
July 14, 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, Dale M. Nelson, Lee Coe, Allan Carlson, Arnold Stanley, and Gene Tiedemann. Absent: Vernon Johnson. Staff present: Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak. Others present: Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of June 23, 2005. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, that the Board approve the minutes. Motion carried.

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

Steve Goodwin appeared before the Board to address a dike constructed that is damaging his property. He presented a petition signed by township officials and adjoining landowners. Motion by Coe, seconded by Carlson, to authorize Administrator Jesme write a letter to the landowner to remove the plug by a specified date, if not removed by that date, the watershed would hire a contractor and bill the landowner for the dike removal.

Richard Dougherty appeared before the Board to appeal the denial of RLWD Permit No. 05028 applied for by him. Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson gave a Power Point presentation of the area ditches and a history of the ditch systems surrounding Mr. Dougherty's property. The consensus of the Board was to deny the appeal of the permit. The engineering staff will continue to monitor the drainage area.

Lawrence Woodbury, Houston Engineering, came before the Board to introduce professional engineer Jeff Langan as the Office Manager of the new satellite office which opened on May 1, 2005 in Thief River Falls and professional engineer Jeff LeDoux, Vice President of Houston Engineering and head of the northern operations. Mr. Woodbury gave a history of the RLWD projects engineered by Houston Engineering. Mr. Langan introduced Engineer Brad Johnson who will be moving to Thief River Falls to join the TRF office on September 1, 2005.

Administrator Jesme informed the Board that as a cost-saving measure, the RLWD will be notifying those that receive the approved minutes and draft agenda that those items will be available online and will no longer be mailed via U.S. Postal Service. Those that do not have internet capabilities and/or pay a subscription fee will continue to receive them via the U.S. Postal Service.

The solicitation of audit quotes of the Red Lake Watershed District was discussed. Motion by Tiedemann, to solicit for quotes for a three-year time period from auditing firms which audit governmental agencies, seconded by Coe and motion carried. The quotes will be addressed at the July 28, 2005 Board meeting.

The dues for the Minnesota Viewers Association for one year are \$125 for associate membership or \$20 per individual members. Following discussion of the dues, motion by Nelson, seconded by Stanley, to approve the submitting dues to the MN Viewers Association in the amount of \$125. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 05041 from Ron Mickey, Smiley Township, Pennington County; No. 05050 from James Reitmeier, Fanny Township, Polk County; No. 05052 from Paul Erickson, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 05053 from Jeff Boutain, Polk Centre Township, Pennington County; No. 05054 from Curt Beyer, Wylie Township, Red Lake County; No. 05055 from Christensen Brothers, Kristen, Inc. and Dean Philipp, Smiley Township, Pennington; No. 05056 from John Hammer, Dean Philipp, and Christinson, Smiley Township, Pennington County; No. 05057 from Pennington County Highway Department, Deer Park Township; No. 05058 from Robert O'Neill, Chester Township, Polk County; No. 05059 from Woodside Township, Polk County; No. 05060 from Andrew Skaar, Norden Township, Pennington County; No. 05061 and No. 05062 from Monte Casavan, Wylie Township, Red Lake County; No. 05066 from Monte Casavan, Polk Centre, Pennington County; No. 05067 from Ulrich Farms, Kenneth Ulrich, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; and No. 05068 from Richard Schmitz, Wylie Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

The progress of RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Proj. No. 161 was discussed. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, to issue the Notice to Proceed to Olson Construction TRF Inc. for construction of the outlet structure only on RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Proj. 161. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme read his written report. Wayne Weber, Red Lake SWCD, notified Administrator Jesme that all information requested from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has been submitted to them for RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161. The MPCA have submitted a letter to the RLWD stating they waive their authority to certify the wetlands on this project; Craig Stroot notified the RLWD that a GPS survey had been completed for the tillable agricultural lands in the Parnell Impoundment in accordance with the lease agreement. The survey indicated that 96 acres are the tillable agricultural acres which is what Administrator Jesme amended the land rental agreement to. The payment schedule will be a annual payment of \$2400 payable semi-annually each May and September, based on 96 acres at \$25.00 per acre; The grant agreement from the State of Minnesota for cost share funding of Euclid East and Brandt Impoundments should be received during the week of July 18, 2005;

Approval of the wetland permit under the general permit guidelines has been received from USACE for the repair of Louisville/Parnell south berm and the Minnesota Department of Transportation has indicated that the approval for the repair of the south berm should be received by the week of July 18, 2005; Olson Construction TRF Inc. has completed the repair of the concrete structure of Lost River in the vicinity of RLWD Ditch No. 1, Lateral C; A letter of solicitation from JB Associates Limited, Inc. (Jerry Bennett) for general office services was presented for review; The Glacial Ridge Project was selected as one of 30 projects showcased at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation and an invitation is extended to the RLWD for a preview and case study presentation to be held on Monday, July 25, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Fergus Falls. Managers Knott and Carlson along with Administrator Jesme indicated they would attend the Glacial Ridge Project presentation.

Also in Administrator Jesme's written report was: The final payment for the delinquent ring dike cost share from the landowner was received this week; and an invitation to a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) public meeting on the Red River Basin Turbidity Total Maximum Daily Limits (TMDL) will be at East Grand Forks on July 28, 2005.

In addition to his written report, Administrator Jesme stated a preliminary grant application for the Minnesota Historical Society for potential repairs to the RLWD building is due on July 29, 2005. Motion by Coe, seconded by Nelson, to apply for a preliminary Minnesota Historical Society grant for cost sharing of the repairs to the building. Motion carried.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Inc., came before the Board to address the Seeger Dam sloughing. HDR Engineering Assistant Gordy Hall, RLWD staff member Loren Sanderson, an employee of Determan Tiling of Brooks, and a landowner met on site during the week of July 4 and discussed various alternatives for the repair. Those alternatives were presented along with estimated repair costs and possible sources of funding of the repair costs. The consensus of the Board is to notify the township to see if they can seek funding to assist in repairing the township road. The alternatives and funding sources will be discussed at the July 28, 2005 Board meeting.

Legal Counsel Sparby presented the Findings of Fact and Order of Establishment for the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed, Red Lake Watershed District Project No. 60B to the Board for their review. The Board accepted the Findings as written and approved President Orville Knott's signature on the document.

Manager Coe reported on the Minnesota Association of Watershed District's tour hosted by Thirty Lakes Watershed District on June 23-25, 2005.

Manager Stanley addressed the diking policies of the watershed district.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary