

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
July 28, 2005

President Orville Knott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the City Council Chambers, Clearbrook, MN.

Present were: Managers Orville Knott, Dale M. Nelson, Lee Coe, Allan Carlson, Arnold Stanley, Vernon Johnson, and Gene Tiedemann. Staff present: 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.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nelson, to dispense of the reading of the July 14, 2005 minutes and approve as printed. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Financial Report as of July 27, 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.

Audit quotes were received from James Maiser, Waconia, MN; Hoffman, Dale & Swenson; Drees, Risky & Vallager, Ltd.; and Brady Martz. After discussion of the quotes received, a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann to accept the quote of Drees, Risky & Vallager, Ltd. for a three year audit period, 2005, 2006, and 2007. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that he had reviewed the Viewers Report for RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Proj. 161 and noticed that the land of two landowners was omitted from the damages portion of the report and the land of one landowner was omitted from the benefited area. After discussion with the Viewers, it was agreed that this was done in error. After discussion with the landowners whose land was mistakenly omitted from payment for damages and whose land was omitted from inclusion in the benefited area, the involved landowners agreed that the damages portion of the report should be corrected to include the omitted damages and the land omitted from the benefited area should be included as benefited land in this project. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Coe, to amend the Viewers Report to include the omitted landowners' damages and benefits and approve President Knott's signature on the amended Viewers Report on RLWD Ditch No. 10, Proj. 161. Motion carried. Administrator Jesme was instructed to obtain written confirmation from the landowners agreeing to said amendment.

A Minnesota Statute change was made to the manager's compensation which would change the maximum daily fee a manager can charge from \$55 to \$75 per day effective August 1, 2005. Motion by Stanley, seconded by Carlson, to change the manager's daily compensation fee from \$55 to \$75 effective August 1, 2005. Motion carried.

Correspondence from Andover Township requesting cost share assistance in replacing 3 railroad trestle type bridges with concrete pipe in Polk County Ditch 63, RLWD Proj. No. 134 was reviewed. The work to be completed is necessary to improve a section of road as well as to allow better drainage of ditches in the vicinity of the railroad tracks. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann, to send notices to benefited landowners describing work to be undertaken in the ditch system, cost of the project, and set a public hearing for August 25, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office.

The Seeger Dam repairs were reviewed by the Board. Red Lake Falls Township board has indicated that minimal funding will be available to assist with the repairs. After considerable discussion on different options that had been presented at the July 14, 2005 Board meeting, motion by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, to seek quotes from contractors for Option 4 which was to modify the structure and Option 5, to lower road and flatten the surface with completion of the repairs to be done as soon as possible. Motion carried.

Keith Mykleseth, Glacial Ridge Project Administrator, presented an update of the project. Aaron Parish, Crookston City Administrator, also spoke of the importance the Glacial Ridge Project has on the community of Crookston and surrounding area as well as the State of Minnesota. Dave Bennett, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and manager of Glacial Ridge Wildlife Refuge spoke of the gravel leases within the project.

Gary Pulkrabek appeared before the board to appeal the letter he received notifying him to remove a dike by July 29, 2005. Based upon further information and Board review, it was determined that the material placed by Mr. Pulkrabek did not qualify as an above ground level dike. Manager Coe brought a motion, seconded by Carlson, to rescind the letter to Mr. Pulkrabek and have RLWD staff attempt to assist landowners in solving this problem. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 05047 from Bradley Bjerke, Greenwood Township, Clearwater County; No. 05048 from Scott Baatz, Fairfax Township, Polk County; No. 05069 from Ronald Kiesow, Moylan Township, Marshall County; No. 05070 from Richard Schmitz, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 05072 from Curtis Olson, King Township, Polk County; No. 05073 from Eric Engelstad, Tilden Township, Polk County, and No. 05075 from Monte Casavan, Louisville Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

RLWD permit No. 05051 applied for by Roger Hinrichs was presented to the Board for denial. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, and passed unanimously to deny the permit applied for by Roger Hinrichs. Motion carried.

Monte Casavan provided the Board with a letter withdrawing his RLWD Permit application No. 05064. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Coe, to approve the withdrawal of RLWD Permit No. 05064 applied for by Monte Casavan. Motion carried.

Manager Stanley inquired about a culvert installed in the area in the NW corner of Sec. 2 in Valley Township, Marshall County. Administrator Jesme stated staff will check on the situation. It was also stated that discussion had been held with staff regarding implementing a sheet that would be returned when the project for which the permit had been applied for had been completed.

Concerns of Board members were voiced in not receiving the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) permit for RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161. This permit is needed in order for the contractor to continue construction of the ditch system. Administrator Jesme is to contact Maynard Pick, Congressman Collin Peterson's aide, and state the Corps' permits are needed as funding will be in jeopardy if construction is not completed by December 31, 2005.

Administrator Jesme read his written report: The construction of the outlet structure of RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Proj. No. 161, should be completed during the week of August 1, 2005.; The grant agreement form for the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed Project, RLWD Proj. No. 60B is yet to be received. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Red River Watershed Management Board feel the two impoundment sites are two distinct projects when in fact it is one project and Administrator Jesme will re-submit a cost share request that will include a star value based on the fact that this is one project.; A low quote was accepted from RBR, Inc. of Middle River to complete the repair of the south berm of the Louisville Parnell project and construction should begin by the middle of August. An MPCA stormwater permit has been applied for. The Corps have given us the authority to proceed under their General Permit requirements.; Managers Knott and Carlson and Administrator Jesme attended a review in Fergus Falls on July 25, 2005 of a Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge presentation that will be presented in St. Louis later this year.; and a 50/50 grant application was submitted to the Minnesota Historical Society for window replacement and repairs of the basement.

In addition to his written report, Administrator Jesme stated that appropriate permit(s) will be applied for the Seeger Dam repairs.

Managers Knott and Nelson left the meeting and Managers Johnson, Tiedemann, Carlson, Stanley, and Coe, along with Administrator Jesme and staff member Arlene Novak toured the Bagley Urban Runoff Project area. Following lunch, presentations by Doug Thompson, Clearwater SWCD; Corey Hanson, RLWD Water Quality Coordinator; Deb Walchuk, Clearwater NRCS Director; and Molly McGregor, MPCA, were held at the City Council chambers in Clearbrook on various water quality projects within Clearwater County.

A tour of the Gourmet House/Riviana Wild Rice processing plant in Clearbrook, a horseradish processing plant in rural Clearbrook, along with a site visitation of the Greenwood 27 project was held.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary