

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
March 10, 2005

President Orville Knott called the meeting to order at 9:05 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, Lee Coe, and Arnold Stanley. Absent: Dale M. Nelson and Gene Tiedemann. Staff present were Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak, and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The board reviewed the agenda. Administrator Jesme requested that Public Drainage System Inventory and Mapping Proposal by Houston Engineering be added to the agenda. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board add the request and approve the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of February 24, 2005. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Coe, that the Board approve the minutes of February 24, 2005. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Carlson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated March 9, 2005.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. Discussion was held on Permit #05008 regarding the vagueness of the location of wetlands and the plugging public and private ditch systems. Administrator Jesme stated a hearing process through Minnesota Statutes for abandonment proceedings would have to be followed if any legal drain was plugged. A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 05008 from The Nature Conservancy, Tilden, Grove Park, Kertsonville, and Onstad Townships, Polk County; and No. 05011 from Gary L. Anderson, Eckvoll Township, Marshall County. Motion carried unanimously.

Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson and Permit Applicant Ron Novacek have requested that RLWD permit application No. #05009 be tabled until weather conditions allow surveying of the site. Motion by Coe, seconded by Carlson, to table the permit as requested. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme reported on a meeting with landowners of Euclid and Belgium Townships. Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson, Manager Gene Tiedemann, and Administrator Jesme had attended this meeting on March 3, 2005 regarding RLWD Permit No. 04140 applied for by John Weiland. At the conclusion of that meeting, the consensus of the group was to wait until funding is available for the potential Euclid East Impoundment site. Once the impoundment is constructed, the local landowners would then address the water problems in the vicinity of Section 14 of Belgium Township. John Weiland had contacted Administrator Jesme following the meeting and stated he would like to withdraw his permit with the Red Lake Watershed District. Motion by

Johnson, seconded by Coe, to approve the request of Mr. Weiland to withdraw his permit and directed Administrator Jesme write a letter to Mr. Weiland stating that his verbal request to withdraw his permit was approved by the Board. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated he had received a call from Houston Engineering with a proposal to submit a grant application to the Board of Waters and Soil Resources (BWSR) to inventory/map the 271 miles of Red Lake Watershed District ditches. The grant, if funded with BWSR, would cost share the project at 50%. Examples of the mapping would include showing the current benefited landowners in each watershed ditch system, maintenance history, and culvert placement at the time of mapping. Motion by Coe, seconded by Stanley, to approve hiring Houston Engineering to complete the grant application and submit to BWSR for inventory/mapping of watershed ditch systems. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby reported on legislation introduced for the formation of a joint ditch board between Pennington and Red Lake County for Red Lake County Ditch 13. Manager Knott will keep the District apprised of legislation and County Board action.

Administrator Jesme presented a written MAWD legislative update. He also stated that the Legislative Breakfast is March 22-23, 2005, with the Administrator's meeting scheduled for the morning of March 22, 2005.

Administrator Jesme presented his written report to the board. Items noted from his report are: It was requested that Legal Counsel Sparby review a parcel of land in the petitioned area of RLWD Ditch No. 11, RLWD Proj. No. 166, to determine the remaining signatures on the petition are in order to move forward; four of the seven wetlands in RLWD Ditch No. 10 project area will not have to be mitigated. The permit for the remaining three wetland's mitigation have been submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers for the 15 day review, with anticipated response by month end; Engineering Assistant Loren Sanderson, Kelly Urbanek, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Chad Konickson, MnDNR, met to discuss wetland mitigation on Ken Cwikla's ring dike; and Administrator Jesme was involved in a conference call with various Girl Scout representatives regarding a possible permit to drain some areas at Camp Moe, near Thief River Falls. A site visit will be conducted on April 6 with Ditch Inspector/Engineering Technician Gary Lane.

Vehicle quotes were received to trade-in the 1998 Ford F-150 pickup with a 2005 Ford F-150 pickup. Two quotes were received: Hanson Ford, Grand Forks, \$14,188.65 and Thief River Ford, Thief River Falls, \$13,240.00. These quotes did not include accessories such as floor mats, topper, toolboxes, etc. After discussion of possibly soliciting for more quotes, motion by Coe, seconded by Carlson, to approve purchasing a 2005 Ford F-150 from Thief River Ford for the amount of \$13,240.00. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated the Historical Society had been contacted regarding the trim and window color of the replacement windows and are waiting for a reply.

A ring dike that had been constructed has a delinquent landowner cost share. The landowner has had two separate letters of request for payment with no response. Legal Counsel Sparby was directed to write a letter to the landowner and request payment or the delinquent bill will be forwarded to the court system for collection.

Rod Ambrosie, Engineer and Executive Vice President and Chris Meehan, Engineer, of Wenck Associates, Inc. of Fargo appeared before the Board. They presented what services and staff they have available that could be of benefit to the Red Lake Watershed District and would like to have to an opportunity to provide quotes for future services.

Dan Thul and Naomi Erickson, Red River Watershed Management Board, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the activities of the Red River Watershed Management Board.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary