

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
February 9, 2006

President Dale M. Nelson 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: Arlene Novak and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of January 26, 2006. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes.

The board reviewed the Financial Report as of February 8, 2006. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated February 8, 2006.

Manager Stanley questioned the timeline and the hearing process of the Ten Year Comprehensive Plan and if the public will have the opportunity to comment on the draft plan.

Correspondence and an agreement from the U.S. Department of the Interior regarding a Joint Funding Agreement for the ongoing hydrologic monitoring at the Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge and the Nature Conservancy's Glacial Ridge property was reviewed. The joint funding agreement was previously approved and consists of a cost share agreement of which the RLWD has committed funds of \$10,000, The Nature Conservancy \$14,000, and matching funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service totaling \$24,000 for a total project amount of \$48,000. The RLWD previously agreed to be the administrative entity for this project.

A fact sheet on the Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration was reviewed by the Board. Considerable discussion was held on requesting funding from this year's State bonding session. The consensus of the Board was to table the funding request until more landowners in the area could be surveyed on their views/opinion of the project, a more detailed cost of the project can be presented, and a more conceptual plan for repair/directional flow of water to the Grand Marais channel would be available.

Staff member Loren Sanderson explained the Wild Rice Water Allocation Project, RLWD Proj. No. 45, and a request of the wild rice growers to recalculate the pumps. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Carlson, and passed unanimously to approve the staff recalculating the pumps when the weather permits.

A request from Administrator Jesme to enter into an agreement with the Sentence to Service to brush and clear a segment of the Moose River Impoundment area for the amount of \$2,000 was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Johnson to approve the agreement with the Sentence to Serve. Motion carried.

Quotes from Thune Insurance Network for vehicle insurance were presented to the Board. Following discussion of the present insurance and its premium, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Coe to approve the insurance change to a \$250 deductible with an annual premium of \$5,371 from Thune Insurance Network effective at the expiration of the insurance on May 6, 2006. Motion carried.

Three quotes were received for the purchase of a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado pickup with a trade in of the RLWD's 2002 Chevrolet pickup: Northern Motors, Thief River Falls, \$15,309.30; Brost Chevrolet-Cadillac, Inc., Crookston, \$13,000; and Thibert Chevrolet and Buick, Inc., Red Lake Falls, \$13,220. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Stanley, and passed unanimously to accept the lowest quote from Brost Chevrolet-Cadillac, Inc., Crookston, MN in the amount of \$13,000 with the trade-in of the 2002 Chevrolet pickup.

Legal Counsel Sparby updated the Board on the timeline of the rezoning process on the proposed property acquisition for a new watershed building. Mr. Sparby stated if the rezoning was approved by the City of Thief River Falls, with the hearings scheduled, etc. the earliest date the land could be acquired would be the end of March. Discussion was held on hiring an architectural firm to design a building and then solicit for bids from various companies. Cost was an issue in hiring an architectural firm. The consensus of the Board was to have the Building Committee tour completed buildings such as the Bois de Sioux Watershed District's building to get ideas for plans. Manager Coe requested that a study should be completed on what the annual cost of maintenance/utilities of a new building versus the current building's annual expenses.

The "general" permit application for what would be considered routine "types of work/maintenance" was addressed by Legal Counsel Sparby. Mr. Sparby stated that all items requested for a general permit are already addressed in the Permit and Drainage Rules of the Red Lake Watershed District under Section 5.A., therefore he recommended that another "permit application" does not need to be drafted.

President Nelson recessed the board meeting. At 10:00 a.m., President Nelson called the petition hearing for inclusion of lands into the Winsor-Hangaard, RLWD Project No. 113 to order and turned the hearing over to Legal Counsel Sparby to explain the hearing process. Mr. Sparby explained that a petition had been accepted from the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians by the RLWD for inclusion of 60 acres of land to be allowed to drain and pay benefits into a legal ditch system referred to as Winsor-Hangaard, RLWD Project No.113. The property to be included is as follows: 20 acres of lands located in the S ½ of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ in Section 35 and 40 acres of lands located in the S ½ of the S ½ of the SE ¼ in Section 34 all located in Hangaard Township, Clearwater

County (T151N, R38W). Engineer Ron Adrian, Houston Engineering, Inc., explained the hydrologic area of the project and answered questions from the Board and audience. Joel Rohde, Farm Manager of Red Lake Farms, Inc. explained on behalf of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, the drainage area that was requested to be included in the project area. Comments were received from members of the audience and all in attendance were given a chance to speak for or against the petition. At 10:38 a.m., the hearing closed and President Nelson called the regular meeting back to order. The hearing was videotaped, attendees registered and made a part of this record.

The annual dues for the Minnesota Association of Watershed District (MAWD) were discussed. Motion by Coe, seconded by Carlson, and passed unanimously to approve paying the annual MAWD dues of \$2,000.

The March 23, 2006 regularly scheduled Board meeting is the same day as the Minnesota Association of Watershed District's annual Legislative Breakfast. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously to change Board meeting date to March 30, 2006.

Managers Coe, Knott, Tiedemann, and Carlson and Administrator Jesme are registered to attend the MAWD sponsored Legislative Breakfast on March 23, 2006.

In Legal Counsel Sparby's update to the Board, he stated that the "general" permits could be reflected in the minutes stating that they had been approved prior to the Board meeting by Administrator Jesme, after consultation with the manager and district engineer, if necessary. Mr. Sparby continues to work on land acquisitions of the Euclid East and Brandt sites, RLWD Project Nos. 60C and 60D.

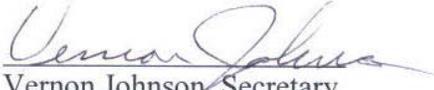
The hearing held earlier in the Board meeting for the inclusion of 60 acres into the Winsor-Hangaard, RLWD Proj. No. 113, drainage area was discussed. A motion was made by Coe to allow the 60 acres be added, establish a benefit cost per acre of \$100 for these parcels for inclusion in the project, and to include the amounts of \$397.50 for each year of 2004, 2005, and 2006, as an outlet fee to be paid by the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians directly to the Clearwater County auditor to be credited to RLWD Project No. 113, seconded by Johnson. Motion carried. The consensus of the Board was to notify the public of the inclusion of this land by placing a legal ad in a Clearwater County newspaper stating the RLWD Board had accepted the petition to include lands into the benefited Winsor-Hangaard ditch system and notify those in attendance of the Board's decision.

The hearing process for the approval of the Ten Year Comprehensive Plan was discussed. President Nelson reviewed a printed timeline of the plan with the Board. More information regarding the public hearing will be obtained and presented at the Board meeting of February 23, 2006. At the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (FDRWG) meeting held at Crookston on February 1, 2006, a presentation of the Ten Year

Comprehensive Plan was given by HDR Engineer Nate Dalager and Administrator Jesme.

Manager Johnson stated an Overall Advisory Board member had inquired if a meeting is being scheduled. The Board discussed hosting subwatershed Advisory committee meetings during the regular Board meeting so those committee members could address their concerns.

Motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.


Vernon Johnson, Secretary