

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
January 12, 2006

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, Lee Coe, Arnold Stanley, Dale M. Nelson, Allan Carlson, 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 Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of December 29, 2005. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Carlson, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as read.

The board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary as of January 11, 2006. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated January 11, 2006.

Election of officers was conducted, with President Knott turning the meeting over to Vice President Nelson for the nomination of president. Manager Nelson called for nominations for President. Manager Stanley nominated Orville Knott, Manager Knott declined. Manager Knott nominated Dale M. Nelson. Vice President Nelson called for further nominations three times. Manager Tiedemann motioned that nominations cease and the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dale M. Nelson as president of the Board, seconded by Knott. Motion carried.

The President's chair was relinquished by Knott and President Nelson assumed the chair.

Nominations were opened for vice-president. Manager Johnson nominated Gene Tiedemann for vice-president. Upon calling for further nominations three times, a motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott that nominations cease and the secretary cast unanimous ballot for Tiedemann for vice president of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for secretary. Manager Carlson nominated Vernon Johnson for secretary. Upon calling for further nominations three times, Manager Stanley moved that nominations cease, seconded by Carlson, and the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Vernon Johnson as secretary for the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for treasurer. Manager Coe nominated Allan Carlson for treasurer. Upon calling for further nominations three times, Manager Tiedemann moved that nominations cease, seconded by Knott, and the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Allan Carlson as treasurer for the Board.

Administrator Jesme stated that he had been notified by Clearwater and Polk Counties that Managers Johnson and Tiedemann, respectively, had been reappointed to the RLWD Board for a three year term.

The Board reviewed the list of the Overall and Area Advisory Committees. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the committee members remain as they are. If at anytime throughout the year the managers hear of any changes to the list, they are to bring it to a board meeting in order to appoint a replacement.

Nominations for a delegate for the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) were opened. A motion was made by Coe to nominate Vernon Johnson for the position. Upon calling for further nominations, a motion was made by Stanley to nominate Knott for the position of delegate of the RRWMB. Upon calling for a vote of Knott, three votes were cast for Knott. Upon calling for a vote of Johnson, three votes were cast for Johnson. President Nelson cast his vote for Knott thereby breaking the tie and electing Manager Knott to the position of delegate to the RRWMB Board.

Nominations for the position of alternate to the RRWMB were opened. A motion was made by Manager Johnson to nominate Manager Stanley for alternate of the RRWMB. Upon calling for further nominations, Manager Knott nominated President Nelson but Nelson declined. Manager Johnson motioned that nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Stanley for the position of alternate to the RRWMB, seconded by Tiedemann. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme reviewed with the Board the JD 2 and JD 72 Ditch System committees. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously to accept the JD boards as they are.

The Budget/Salary committee was discussed by the Board. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Johnson to have Nelson, Knott, and Stanley serve on the Budget and Salary committee. Motion carried.

The Building committee was discussed. Consensus of the Board was to have Nelson, Carlson, and Knott continue on to serve on the committee.

A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the regularly scheduled Board meetings continue to be held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month of 2006.

A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the following financial institutions be designated as depositories for the RLWD: Northern State Bank, Unity Bank North, Northwest Community Bank-Plummer, Bremer Bank-Crookston, and Border State Bank-TRF.

A motion was made by Stanley, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the following be approved on the signature cards at the depositories of the RLWD:

Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, Vernon Johnson, Allan Carlson, Myron Jesme, and Arlene Novak.

Nominations were open for a voting delegate to the MN Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD). Lee Coe was nominated. A motion was made by Stanley, seconded by Carlson that Coe serve as voting delegate on MAWD Board for 2006. Motion carried.

First and second alternates are needed for the MAWD annual meeting. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Coe to have Carlson and Nelson as first and second alternates, respectively, to the MAWD. Motion carried.

Dues to the MN Viewers Association were discussed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Knott to pay the \$125 dues to MN Viewers Association. Motion carried. Attendance at the upcoming MN Viewers Association meeting to be held on January 19, 2006 at Jackpot Junction Hotel and Convention Center in Morton, MN was discussed. Manager Coe has indicated that he may attend the meeting.

The steel building on the Robert Zammert property that was acquired for the Euclid East Site of the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed Project will need to be removed and individuals have inquired about its removal. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Stanley, to advertise in a newspaper in Polk and Pennington County for the removal of the building by July 1, 2006, with the sealed bids to be received in the office by 9:30 a.m., February 23, 2006. A bond will not be required for the removal and the concrete will not need to be removed. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme presented a spreadsheet to the Board showing the land acquisitions and costs related to the Euclid East and Brandt Impoundment.

Administrator Jesme presented the names of Jerry Bennett from Ada, MN; Rodney Langaas from Greenbush, MN; and Roger Beiswenger from Fisher, MN to the Board as potential Viewers/appraisers for RLWD Ditch No. 11, RLWD Proj. No.166. Motion by Knott, seconded by Johnson to accept the following resolution appointing the Viewers:

WHEREAS, there is a need for the appointment of Viewers/Appraisers to perform a Viewers Reports for the Improvement of Polk County Ditch 40, Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #11, Red Lake Watershed District Project #166,

WHEREAS, the viewers/appraisers appointed will accept the duties and responsibilities to appraise the benefits and damages to lands affected by the Improvement of Polk County Ditch 40, Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #11, Red Lake Watershed District Project #166.

WHEREAS, Jerry Bennett, Roger Beiswenger, and Rodney Langaas, have hereby agreed to faithfully and justly and impartially perform all the duties of the office of viewer/appraiser to the best of their ability.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers hereby appoints Jerry Bennett, Roger Beiswenger and Rodney Langaas to perform such said duties of the Viewer/Appraiser for the Improvement of Polk County Ditch 40, Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #11, Red Lake Watershed District Project #166.

A Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (FDRWG) meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2006 in Crookston, MN. Don Buckhout, Facilitator of the Work Group, has requested that the District present an update of the 10 Year Comprehensive Plan at this meeting. Administrator Jesme requested of the Board to approve contracting HDR Engineer Nate Dalager to help with presentation for the FDRWG meeting. It was consensus of the Board that Nate Dalager assist with the presentation.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Carlson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 06001 from Erskine Grain Terminal, LLC, Badger Township, Polk County and No. 06002 from Clearwater County Highway Department, Shevlin Township, Clearwater County. Motion carried.

The Red Lake Watershed District has a Board of Water and Soil Resources Challenge Grant for the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed Project but the matching funds needed for the \$50,000 grant cannot be used as a cost share from another grant. Administrator Jesme presented a portion of the Brandt Impoundment project which is not funded by the existing State Grant. This project would be used in conjunction with the project to utilize the Challenge Grant funds and would address the channel directly downstream of the Impoundment. The projects goals are to assist with the operations of the impoundment and would include cleaning the existing downstream channel, acquiring a strip of land along either side of the channel to establish setback levees and buffer strips. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to proceed with this program to utilize the BWSR Challenge Grant of \$50,000. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme read his written report:

- Grand Marais Restoration - Administrator Jesme attended a meeting on January 6, 2006, with landowners in the vicinity of the proposed Grand Marais Restoration site. Administrator Jesme will continue to work the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD) on this project to contact those landowners who did not attend the meeting in order to get their opinion of the project.
- Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement (RLRCE) - Staff member Corey Hanson attended the RLRCE Joint Powers Board meeting in East Grand Forks on Thursday, January 5, 2005. The budget was increased to add the Access Point to the Red Lake River and a bonding request for that portion was added and sent to the State of Minnesota. A draft report of the entire project is available upon request. A water quality update from Corey Hanson is also included in the Board manager's packets.
- River Watch – Staff member Jim Blix is attending a meeting on January 17, 2006 with the science department of Fisher Public High School. The purpose of the

meeting is intended to set up a program to study invertebrates in the Red Lake River.

- Eminent Domain – Included in the Board member's packets is a news release concerning eminent domain authority for private property transfers. This proposal is in conjunction with an earlier U.S. Supreme Court ruling on eminent domain.
- Building information - Michael Moore, Community Development Coordinator for the City of Thief River Falls, stated that the property available for sale located along Pennington Avenue in Thief River Falls is zoned industrial. Mr. Moore indicated that the Thief River Falls School District would have to request the City Planning Commission that this area be rezoned to commercial property and this procedure for rezoning is common. Mr. Moore also stated there is other land available in other parts of the City for sale with a much higher per acre cost.

The land acquisition for construction of a new watershed district building was discussed further. The property for sale on Pennington Avenue in Thief River Falls is four acres and has been for sale by School District No. 564 for a minimum of 4 months at an asking price of \$44,000. Following discussion of the Board, motion by Coe, seconded by Stanley, to offer \$42,000 to Anderson Realty for the Independent School District No. 564's four acre parcel of property on Pennington Avenue, with the contingency that the property can be rezoned to commercial. Motion unanimously carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby presented updates on the land acquisitions of the Euclid East and Brandt sites of RWLD Proj. No. 60C and 60D.

Manager Stanley inquired about the Overall Advisory Committee meetings and when meetings have been held and if one is being scheduled in the future. It was questioned when the MAWD Legislative Breakfast is scheduled. It was questioned if the FDRWG meeting scheduled in Crookston on February 1, 2006 in which the District is giving presentation of the 10 Year Comprehensive Plan, is open to the public. Administrator Jesme indicated that he was sure that the public would be welcome but that this is not the venue in which the public would get to ask questions about the plan. This meeting is only for the Work Group and all questions that day would be from the Work Group. It was then discussed that the District should probably advertise in the Northern Watch, Thief River Falls, that the 10 Year Overall Plan is available at the Red Lake Watershed District office upon request.

A motion was made by Carlson, seconded by Stanley, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.


Vernon Johnson, Secretary