

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
March 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, Vernon Johnson, and Allan Carlson. Absent: Gene Tiedemann. Staff present: Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak.

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

Arlene Novak read the minutes of February 23, 2006. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as amended.

The board reviewed the Financial Report of March 8, 2006. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated March 8, 2006.

Manager Stanley inquired about the engineering of the Grand Marais Creek Subwatershed impoundments and bidding procedures for engineering services of projects.

Staff member Corey Hanson gave a Power Point presentation on the results of the first year of the Farm to Stream Tile Drainage Study. The February 2006 Water Quality Program Progress Summary was distributed with the Board packets and Mr. Hanson also reviewed the hit report from the RLWD website listed in the Progress Summary with the Board.

Correspondence from Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) soliciting bids to purchase wetland credits for the Road Replacement Program was reviewed by Administrator Jesme. The consensus of the Board is to maintain the wetlands for anticipated mitigation use in watershed projects.

A press release regarding the Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study prompted discussion of the RLWD's buffer strips on their ditch systems. The consensus of the Board is to direct the RLWD ditch inspector to inspect the watershed ditches for buffer strip compliance and report back to a future Board meeting the findings of the inspection.

A Minnesota Department of Commerce's (DOC) notice of pipeline routing permit application and acceptance and public information meetings from MN Pipe Line Company was reviewed by the Board. The Red Lake Watershed District's drainage area in Clearwater County is in the affected area of this potential project. The informational

meeting and open house for the county of Clearwater will be held on March 13, 2006 at the Clearwater County Courthouse from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Conference hosted by the Red River Watershed Management Board and the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2006 at the Northland Inn, Crookston, MN.

Administrator Jesme read his written report:

- RLWD Ditch No. 11, Polk County Ditch #40 Improvement - Administrator Jesme attended a meeting with the appraisers/viewers and the project engineer on March 1, 2006 for an update on their progress for determining benefits to the improved portion of this ditch.
- Farnes Pool (Elm Lake) Impoundment – A meeting was held on March 1, 2006 with Administrator Jesme and staff member Loren Sanderson along with Ron Adrian of Houston Engineering, landowners Darrold Rodahl and Don Lunke, and Agassiz representative Gary Huschle to discuss the possible implementation of trigger points and to better define what the phrase “significant flooding” as related to the operating plan of the impoundment.
- Ten Year Comprehensive Overall Plan – A meeting was held on February 28, 2006 with Brian Dwight of BWSR, Managers Knott, Tiedemann, and Stanley, staff member Corey Hanson and Administrator Jesme to discuss the comments received to the draft copy of the plan.
- Overall Advisory Committee meeting – The Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on March 15, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at the RLWD office. Manager Stanley indicated he would attend the meeting
- A letter was mailed to Jon Mankie notifying him of the Board's acceptance of his high bid for the purchase of the Agsco Wonder building located in Sec. 24 of Euclid Township, Polk County.
- Winsor-Hangaard Project, RLWD Proj. No. 113 – A notice has been sent to all interested parties concerning the Board's action to include Red Lake Farms' request to include 60 acres of land to outlet into the Winsor-Hangaard Ditch. A letter was also sent to the Red Lake Farms and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians notifying them of the Board's decision and instruction of payment of the previous years' assessment.
- Watershed District Ditch Inventory and Mapping – Staff members Jim Blix, Corey Hanson, Gary Lane, and Administrator Jesme, met with Cristy Shostal of Houston Engineering concerning procedures of compiling data and presenting maps for display.

Manager Stanley expressed some concerns over some recommended changes to the Ten Year Comprehensive Plan. The Board will address these potential changes to the Plan at the next Board meeting. Administrator Jesme will notify the Comprehensive Plan Engineer Nate Dalager to delay making the changes to the Plan until the Board has met and discussed the recommended changes.

Manager Knott stated he had been notified by a landowner of many snags in the Clearwater River that may back up water this spring. Administrator Jesme will check to see if the area is under our jurisdiction.

Manager Coe reported that he had started the Precipitation Study on March 1, 2006 and had collected 3 samples thus far.

Manager Stanley asked that he and Delray Larson be notified of meetings scheduled to study peak flows at Farnes Pools.

Motion was made by Knott, seconded by Carlson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.


Vernon Johnson, Secretary