

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
December 13, 2007

President Dale M. Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office, 1000 Pennington Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Managers Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, Arnold Stanley, Vernon Johnson, Lee Coe, Orville Knott and Jim Votava. Staff present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. Administrator Jesme stated that the Clearwater County SWCD needs to obtain further information therefore will not be present at today's meeting. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of November 19, 2007. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as printed.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of December 12, 2007. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated December 12, 2007. Administrator Jesme discussed the purchase of a CD and anticipated revenue. It was the consensus of the Board that Administrator Jesme research interest rates with the potential of an additional purchase of a CD.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed a phone call he received from a landowner in Badger Township, Polk County regarding the installation of a culvert by Badger Township officials without applying for a RLWD permit. Sanderson stated that he had contacted Badger Township and they indicated that they will apply for an after-the-fact permit. He further stated that the township replaced the culvert with same size, but at a higher elevation. The Board discussed policy changes that may have to be addressed in the near future concerning entities that habitually perform tasks which require a permit but fail to apply until they are questioned.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., presented a "Draft" Preliminary Engineers Report for the Improvement of Polk County Ditch No. 53, RLWD Ditch No. 12, Project No. 169. Notices of today's meeting were sent out to the petitioners and landowners adjacent to the channel. The following landowners were in attendance: Jerry Ketring, Bruce Newhouse, Jerry Larson, George High and Ardis Maney. Dalager stated that at a previous landowner meeting, landowners discussed problem areas along the ditch. Dalager reviewed 11 different alternatives to the project, recommending alternative No. 8. The preliminary engineers report will be submitted at the December 27, 2007 meeting. Once the report has been filed with the Polk County Auditor, a hearing date will be set.

Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. updated the board on activities of the Grand Marais Outlet Channel Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60F. Langan gave a brief update on the landowner meeting held on December 18, 2007 and various obstacles which will have to be addressed, some of which included future maintenance and funding sources. Langan indicated that in his opinion, the next step is to finish the Preliminary Engineers Report and possibly have one

more project team meeting. Langan will complete a Preliminary Engineers Report in January with a hearing to be held in February.

Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$4,230.00 for Prairie Restorations, Inc. for the Brandt Impoundment Wetland Replacement Project, RLWD Project No. 60D, was presented for approval. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$4,230.00. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed a Step III funding submittal in the amount of \$163,607.76 for cost over run to be submitted to the RRWMB for construction of the Brandt and Euclid East Impoundments, RLWD Project No.'s 60C and 60D respectively.

A Services Agreement with the University of Minnesota for the Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation, RLWD Project No. 168, was presented for approval. The Services Agreement is for \$1,000 compensation for work performed by a student worker who assisted with water monitoring this past summer. The Services Agreement was drafted for signature by Corey Hanson, RLWD Water Quality Coordinator. Nelson expressed concerns that Grant Agreements requiring payment or cost share by the District should be signed by the Administrator and not staff. Jesme indicated that he agreed but that he would like an exception in this case due to the small amount requested and the delay it would cause to get the agreement changed. A motion by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize Corey Hanson to sign the Services Agreement with the University of Minnesota, with future agreements to be drafted for signature by the Administrator. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed three Options for the purchase of water quality/flow measurement equipment. Jesme recommended purchasing Option 1 in the amount of \$2,864.85, which would allow a staff member to stream gage sites individually, versus sending out two staff members. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, with motion carried to approve the purchase of the water quality/flow measurement equipment in the amount of \$2,864.85.

Monte Casavan requested an amendment to his RLWD Permit No. 07075 to include additional cleaning of a short portion of the south ditch of Red Lake County Road #13 on the North side of Section 1, Louisville Township, Red Lake County. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Votava, to amend Permit No. 07075 at the request of the applicant. Motion carried.

Darold Rodahl, Agder Township representative, requested an extension on RLWD Permit No. 05159. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Stanley, to accept the request of a one year extension for RLWD Permit No. 05159, Agder Township, Marshall County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a permit for approval. A motion was made by Stanley, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following permit with conditions stated on the permits: No. 07116, D. Joseph (Joe) Philipp, North Township, Pennington County. Motion Carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed the Pay Equity report that needs to be completed by January 31, 2008. Jesme recommended updating the employee job descriptions prior to completion of the Pay Equity Report. It was the consensus of the Board to direct Administrator Jesme to update the employee job descriptions and report back to the board for approval of them.

Administrators Update:

- Marshall and Beltrami Counties have started the process of advertising for vacancies' on the RLWD Board. Managers Stanley and Coe need to reapply if they so choose.
- Enclosed in today's packet is the agenda for the Red River Basin Commission sponsored seminar which will be held January 22-24, 2008 at the Ramada Plaza Suites in Fargo, ND. Managers wishing to attend should contact Tammy for arrangements.
- Administrator Jesme contacted Red Lake Falls Township concerning the gravel cost to the recent Seeger Dam improvement. The township indicated that although they were prepared to abandon the existing township roadway, they are happy the way it turned out and agreed to pay 50% of the gravel costs. A picture of the openings in the structure that were cut in late November is in today's packet.
- The 48" CSP culvert for the Burnham Creek Project has been installed through the spoil in Section 13, Russia Township, Polk County as directed by the Board at our October 11, 2007 meeting.
- A "Draft" dam inspection report has been received for the Schirrick Dam from JOR Engineering, Inc. We hope to have the Moose River Impoundment report available soon at which time Charlie Anderson will give a presentation to the Board.
- Staff Loren Sanderson and HDR, Inc. staff members have completed the survey and investigation of Polk County Ditch No. 66, Branch C located in Section 16, Euclid Township, downstream of the Euclid East Impoundment. Although the area appears to have adequate slope, there is an area that is choked with vegetation which causes an obstruction of flows. Loren has contacted the Polk County Ditch Inspector about this issue.
- Staff Loren Sanderson and Gary Lane have continued installing right of way stakes on legal systems under the District's jurisdiction. They have also started installing new and replaced damaged staff gages throughout the District.
- Staff Jim Blix attended a GIS and Web site program meeting in Fergus Falls, December 5-6. Jim is presently working with Houston Engineering to update our web page. A presentation will be given to the Board sometime in the near future.
- Enclosed in today's packet is Corey Hanson's Water Quality update for your review.
- I will be on vacation from December 26 thru January 2, therefore will not be present for the December 27th board meeting.
- A bill has been received from Valley City College lab department for costs for the completion of the invertebrates study collected concerning the Habitat/Bioassessment of the Clearwater River, RLWD Project No. 46K.
- Managers Coe, Votava and Tiedemann and Administrator Jesme attended the MAWD convention in Alexandria November 28-December 1.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated he had spoken with a representative from the MN Historical Society regarding the former RLWD building. The MN Historical Society is researching the issue.

Managers Votava, Tiedemann, and Coe discussed the MAWD Annual Meeting they attended.

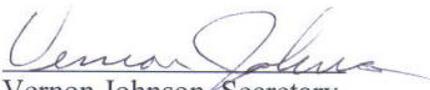
Manager Coe stated he presented the 2006 Annual Report to the Beltrami County Commissions on November 20th.

The Board discussed finalizing the RLWD Building fund budget prior to the end of the year and set a payment schedule. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Building Committee meet prior to Christmas and bring a recommendation back to the Board.

Manager Tiedemann discussed the possibility of TMDL funding for the Restoration of the Grand Marais Project. Due to the Grand Marais being declared impaired by the MPCA, there is a possibility of some Clean Water Legacy money available.

Discussion was held on money owed by a landowner for construction of his ring dike. It was the consensus of the board to proceed with small claims court. Legal Counsel Sparby will provide the necessary forms to proceed with this matter.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Votava, with motion carried to adjourn the meeting.


Vernon Johnson, Secretary