

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
July 12, 2007

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

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

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering and Wade Robinson, Clearwater SWCD requested to appear before the board.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of June 28, 2007. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as read.

The board reviewed the Financial Report as of July 11, 2007. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated July 11, 2007.

Wade Robinson, Clearwater SWCD, discussed funding breakdown of the Eddy Township Stream Channel Restoration Project which is designed to restore 1500 feet of the Silver Creek to its original stream bed. Mr. Robinson stated they had received funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Clearwater County, Clearwater SWCD, and Eddy Township. The RLWD had previously allotted \$17,000 toward the project and are requesting an additional \$6,000 to be used from the 2007 funds allocated to SWCD's for streambank erosion control projects. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann, to contribute an additional \$6,000 towards the Eddy Township Stream Channel Restoration Project from their 2007 funds allocated to SWCD's for stream bank erosion control projects. Motion carried.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed the Clearbrook Stormwater Retention Pond Project and possible cost share with the MPCA.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. thanked the board for the opportunity to present a proposal for the preliminary engineering for the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration Project. Mr. Langan stated his proposal will include a task list of what they propose to do, billable rates, most importantly what approach and tactics they will use to deliver the feasibility of the project to present to the public. Further discussion was held concerning if the Board was going to hire on proposal cost alone or was the Board also going to review the scope of task for each project. After lengthy discussion, it was determined that proposal costs alone was not going to dictate which firm would be hired, but that tasks and ideas within the proposal would also determine which firm was hired.

Administrator Jesme updated the board on ring dike construction. Construction on Shannon Schauer's ring dike will proceed once the river levels on the Red River recede. High water levels filled the borrow pits with water.

Administrator Jesme stated that the contractor has moved his equipment to the Brandt Channel Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60E. Jesme also indicated that CREP seeding will not take place until next year and that the project would be required to pay for approximately twenty acres of temporary seeding within the project area. Jesme informed the Board that the West Polk County NRCS suggested seeding half bushel of barley per acre within the CREP area.

Legal Counsel Sparby discussed the history of the Con Con lands and the letter written by Jerry Von Korff of Rinke-Noonan. Discussion was held regarding organizing a meeting with watershed districts and local legislators.

Administrator Jesme stated he had called Mike Moore, City of Thief River Falls, indicating that we will be vacating the RLWD building by August 31, 2007.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 07045, Virgil Thompson, Lee Township, Beltrami County; No. 07046, Douglas Cote, Chester Township, Polk County; No. 07047, Tim Useldinger, Bygland Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Nate Dalager and Keith Winters, HDR Engineering, Inc. presented the Wetland Mitigation Proposals for the Euclid East and Brandt Impoundments. Approximately 2 acres of wetlands will be mitigated for the Euclid East Impoundment due to direct impacts to wetlands on this site. Dalager also indicated that the replacement ratio for mitigation is a 2:1 ratio therefore 5.7 acres will be mitigated on Euclid East. Dalager continued with the Brandt Impoundment proposal and indicated that approximately 40 acres of wetlands would be impacted, therefore 67 acres will be required for mitigation. There will be approximately five thousand trees and shrubs planted in the area. Discussion was held regarding what happens to trees and shrubs if they get drowned out due to a flood event. Trees and shrubs will be planted in 2008, with the possibility of inundating the entire impoundment with water next year to wet the entire set. There is a risk of possible reseeding/planting if weather conditions are dry. The Contractor will have some risk to get the grass established. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Wetland Mitigation Proposals for both the Euclid East Impoundment and the Brandt Impoundment and to proceed with the bidding process. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed the dedication ceremony for the Brandt and Euclid East Impoundments. It was the consensus of the board to have the dedication ceremony on August 21, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. to coincide with RRWMB meeting that will be held at our office that morning.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. discussed the preliminary engineering proposals for the Grand Marais Restoration Project. Mr. Dalager stated that he would like to submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) as a formal process. Mr. Dalager stated he had provided survey information that HDR Engineering had obtained to Houston Engineering per their request.

Pay Estimate No. 9 in the amount of \$121,018.60 for Schmitz Builders, Inc. for the construction of the new RLWD Building was presented for approval. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Stanley, to approve Pay Estimate No. 9 in the amount of \$121,018.60. Motion carried. Tom Jones discussed the punch list to be completed including the landscaping and

carpeting. Administrator Jesme stated that there has been a tentative agreement for compensation in the amount of \$750.00 from the carpet company for unsatisfactory workmanship of the carpet in the Board Room.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he had worked with Administrator Jesme on a letter to be mailed to landowners along RLWD ditch systems. Mr. Sparby suggested contacting local newspapers that our office has moved.

Manager Stanley asked about the work to be completed by Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge at the outlet of Ditch No. 11 at Mud Lake. Stanley also requested from the Board that he meet with Maggie Anderson (Agassiz Wildlife Refuge) and tour some of the new projects that are being completed on the Refuge.

Manager Coe and Administrator Jesme discussed the MAWD summer tour.

Manager Tiedemann stated that vegetation is growing on Red Lake Watershed District Ditch No.11, Project No. 166, and asked about the timeline for proceeding with construction to the outlet ditch improvement. Administrator Jesme indicated that according to the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan submitted to the MPCA, the contractor would proceed with the completion of the outlet when substantial vegetation has been established on reach #1 and reach #2.

Manager Johnson toured the Winsor Hangaard Ditch, RLWD Project No. 113, where a local landowner had disturbed the ditch. Once repairs are completed, a bill will be submitted to the landowner.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary