

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
October 25, 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, Lee Coe, Orville Knott, Gene Tiedemann, Arnold Stanley, Vernon Johnson and Jim Votava. Staff present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Manager Nelson requested dispensing of reading of the minutes and asked each manager to briefly review the minutes. A motion was made Knott, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously that the Board dispense reading of the minutes and approve them as printed.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary as of October 24, 2007. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated October 24, 2007.

The Board reviewed a letter submitted by Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. giving a progress update for Preliminary Engineering for the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60F.

Discussion was held on the Petition for Removal of Property from the Branch 11 Benefited Area of J.D. No. 72 received from Winsor Township. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that since Winsor Township did not sign the Petition for the township to be included into the Winsor Hangaard Ditch, RLWD Project No. 113, the Board would not be able to accept the Petition for Removal from Branch 11, JD No. 72. Administrator Jesme stated he had spoken with Winsor Township Representative LeRoy Sundquist. Mr. Sundquist indicated that in the township's opinion they are already included in the Winsor Hangaard benefited area. Jesme indicated that after harvest is completed and Mr. Sundquist has more time he will meet with him to discuss this issue further.

Administrator Jesme discussed the 2007 and 2008 State Ditch No. 83 levy along with the settlement agreement with the State of Minnesota concerning Con Con lands. Jesme explained that the District received first payment from the State in 2007 in accordance with the agreement and explained how it affects levee payment from Beltrami and Marshall Counties. Jesme indicated that Beltrami County paid the State Ditch No. 83 system the full 2007 levee requested from the District which included \$8,589.26 that was to come from unpaid Con Con lands. Since the District received the cash settlement from the State of Minnesota in lieu of payment for Con Con lands, Beltrami County was suppose to withhold the \$8,589.26 levee from their portion and pay just the landowner portion. It was suggested by Jesme that the District should reimburse Beltrami County the amount over paid for the 2007 levee and return the \$8,589.26 upon receipt of the 2008 State Ditch #83 levee.

A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote to reimburse Beltrami County \$8,589.26 for the over payment of the 2007 State Ditch No. 83 levy.

The 37th MAWD Annual Meeting and Trade Show handouts were distributed.

Administrator Jesme stated that the floor heat in the building has been activated and is working, with a few adjustments being made. Paving of the parking lot should be completed by the end of October. Manager Nelson asked if the District has heard anything from the electrician concerning the lighting in the Board room. Jesme indicated that a few months ago the electrician came in with a lighting expert to review and make recommendations for alternate lighting, but to date we have not heard anything. Manager Nelson indicated that he would contact the electrician and have him contact Jesme.

Permit No. 07099, Parnell Township, Polk County was discussed. Administrator Jesme requested the permit be tabled until after the 2008 spring runoff event. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to table permit No. 07099, until the 2008 spring runoff event. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Votava to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 07100, Curtis Olson, Lessor Township, Polk County; No. 07101, Applequist Brothers, Russia Township, Polk County; No. 07102, Dale M. Nelson, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 07103, Dale M. Nelson, Sanders Township, Pennington County; No. 07104, Donald Kobetsky, Angus Township, Polk County; No. 07105; Minnesota Department of Transportation, Red Lake Reservation, Beltrami County; and No. 07107 and 07108, Les Sannes, Parnell Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Included in today's packet is the unsigned but approved RRWMB minutes of September 19, 2007.
- The Minnesota Association of SWCD 70th Annual Convention and Trade Show will be held in Rochester, December 2-4, 2007.
- Construction has progressed rapidly on the Seeger Dam. Final grading should be completed by the weeks end with dormant seeding completed late next week. Administrator Jesme added that he had spoken with contractor Paul Zavoral (Higher Ground) who indicated that they had uncovered a layer of stinky moist dirt with vegetation approximately 10 feet below starting elevation which could be remnants of previous attempts to repair.
- Moose River and Good Lake Impoundments are prepared for winter levels and the other impoundments will be verified in the next two weeks. Damaged signs are being replaced on the Parnell Impoundment.
- We have completed mailing out the buffer strip compliance letters to landowners. Most calls received concerning the letter have been favorable and seems to have made the public aware of the grass strip requirement.

Administrator Jesme stated he had spoken with Marshall County Engineer Lon Aune in regard to Permit No. 07086, Excel Township. Mr. Aune stated that he does not believe that Marshall County has jurisdiction over the requested work.

Legal Counsel Sparby discussed the issue of landownership on the Brandt Impoundment and presently owned by Ron Salentine. Sparby indicated that a recorded deed was overlooked by Stander Abstracting during the Title search at the time Salentine purchased the property and was overlooked again during the Title search when the District purchased an easement. Sparby will be in contact with the proper channels to resolve this issue.

Manager Tiedemann discussed BWSR's 2007 Strategic Plan, and that he would supply a copy for Administrator Jesme. Deadline for comments is November 14, 2007.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary