

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
September 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, 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.

Manager Nelson welcomed new board member Jim Votava from Erskine.

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

Tammy Audette read the minutes of August 23, 2007. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes.

The board reviewed the Financial Report as of September 12, 2007. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated September 12, 2007.

Kathy Fillmore, Pennington NRCS, and Luther Newton, Red Lake NRCS, gave an update on NRCS programs for 2008 with their fiscal year beginning October 1, 2007. Kathy informed the Board of a sign up for EQUIP which begins in November. She also indicated that the Advisory Committee (Panel) will then meet to prioritize the applications received. Field border and filter strips and Conservation Security Programs (CSP) are a few other programs offered within the NRCS.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed a complaint from a landowner in Badger Township, Polk County, regarding Badger Township's blockage of drainage in an established roadway ditch. Mr. Sanderson showed a general location map and discussed work completed by the township. In his opinion, Badger Township is in violation of the RLWD permit process for not obtaining a permit prior to construction. Landowners Bill and Bob Kresl and Badger Township Supervisors Art Lee and Ogden Farder Jr. were also in attendance. It was the consensus of the Board that Badger Township should immediately remove the ditch plug blockage and apply for a permit for the installation of a culvert at the proposed crossing site. Administrator Jesme will send a letter to Badger Township officials.

Discussion was held on the petition submitted from the Winsor Township Board to remove four miles of road from the Branch 11 benefited area of Judicial Ditch #72 system. Legal Counsel Sparby stated he is working on two petitions for Winsor Township to sign. One petition will be for the removal of township road benefits from the Branch 11 JD #72 system and one petition for the addition of benefits to township roads to the Winsor-Hangaard Ditch, Project #113.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., presented information for the removal of the structure and lowering of the road on the Seeger Dam. Mr. Dalager estimates the cost to be approximately \$193,125.00. After lengthy discussion by the board, it was the consensus of the board to place gravel on the sloughing edges, send notice to Red Lake Township that the District has a concern

for safety to the road therefore recommending to the Township Board of the need to close the road and to direct Mr. Dalager to report back to the board with an estimate of removing the road at which point a 4:1 slope on each side of the existing roadway can be retained.

Administrator Jesme stated that due to advertising requirements, the date for final payment hearing for the Brandt and Euclid East Impoundments needs to be changed to September 27, 2007. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe to change the final payment hearing date on the Brandt and Euclid East Impoundments to September 27, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that Dave Friedl, MnDNR, contacted him regarding an additional \$20,000 in funding to continue construction on the Brandt Channel Outlet Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60E. Jesme indicated that matching funds are not a requirement of this grant but additional funding would be beneficial. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to authorize Administrator Jesme to pursue other funding sources, in addition to the \$20,000 from the MnDNR. Motion carried.

Correspondence from the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) regarding the timeline for the 2007 Resolutions for the MAWD Annual Meeting was reviewed. Resolutions are due to MAWD by October 12, 2007.

The Final 2007 Precipitation Report was received from the Thirty Lakes Watershed District. A CD version of the report has been given to Manager Coe. Additional copies can be provided if requested.

Change Order No. 5 from Schmitz Builders, Inc., for additional work performed during construction of new office building, by Rude Construction in the amount of \$4,574.50 was presented for approval. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann and pass by unanimous vote to approve Change Order No. 5 from Schmitz Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$4,574.50.

Special Assessment Levies for 2008 were presented and discussed. The Jensen Petition, RLWD Project No. 106 was abandoned and has funds remaining in its account. Legal Counsel Sparby stated funds remaining should be given as a credit to the landowners that were assessed on their tax statements. Discussion was held that the following ditches would pay their levys based on a five year payoff: Main JD 2, RLWD Project No. 51; Winsor-Hangaard, RLWD Project No. 113; RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann to approve the following Special Revenue levies: State Ditch No. 83, RLWD Project No. 14, \$50,000; Pine Lake Maintenance, RLWD Project No. 35, \$3,000; Burnham Creek, RLWD Project No. 43B, \$10,000; Wild Rice Allocation, RLWD Project No. 45, \$10,000; JD 2B, RLWD Project No. 49, \$4,500; Krostue Petition, RLWD Project No. 53, \$1,000; Winsor-Hangaard, RLWD Project No. 113, \$5,000; Polk County Ditch Improvement, RLWD Project No. 119, \$5,000; Polk County Ditch No. 63, RLWD Project No. 134, \$11,000; RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161, \$7,000. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that we are in need of new staff gages at an approximate cost of \$2,000. Motion by Coe, seconded by Johnson and passed by unanimous vote to authorize Administrator Jesme to order staff gages not to exceed \$2,000.

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. 07067, Kelly Solie, Woodside Township, Polk County; No. 07068, Garden Valley Telephone Company, Red Lake County; No. 07069, City of Clearbrook, Leon Township, Clearwater County; No. 07070; Dennis Brinkman, Gully Township, Polk County; No. 07071, City of Thief River Falls, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 07072, Tim Bergstrom, Godfrey Township, Polk County; No. 07073, Trever Spokely, Tynsid Township, Polk County; Polk County Ditch 67, Bygland Township, Polk County; No. 07075, Monte Casavan, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 07077, Monte Casavan, Black River Township, Pennington County; No. 07078, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County; No. 07079, Gary Hoerner, Hammond Township, Polk County; No. 07080, First Presbyterian Church, Hines Township, Beltrami County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Three quotes were received for seeding of the disturbed area around the new office. The low quote was accepted from Wayne's Lawn Service in the amount of \$2,930.
- Enclosed in today's packet are the RRWMB meeting minutes of June 19, 2007. The next RRWMB will be held at the RLWD office on September 19 at 2:00 p.m.
- Attached is a thank you from Randy Kramer, Chairman of the BWSR Board, regarding the dedication ceremony for the Euclid East and Brandt Impoundments.
- Nate Dalager and Jesme met with Prairie Restorations to review the seeding of the wetland mitigation sites for the Euclid East and Brandt Impoundments. They have completed some spraying but have not seeded yet as its still too early for dormant seeding.
- Tammy has started setting meeting dates with County Boards to distribute the 2006 Annual Reports.
- Spot Cleaning on State Ditch No. 83 is progressing and will continue as weather permits.

In addition to his written report Administrator Jesme stated he had received a call from Polk County Auditor/Treasurer Gerald Amiot in regard to the payment of expenses for the dismissal of the petition for Polk County Ditch No. 19, RLWD Project No.158 and Tynsid Erosion Control Project, RLWD Project No. 163. The petitioners had a deadline date of September 1, 2007 to repay expenses incurred. It was the consensus of the Board to direct Administrator Jesme to send the petitioners a letter stating they are in default and if payment is not made the RLWD will contact the bonding company.

Administrator Jesme stated that until the grants agreements are signed for the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration, all engineering expenses has been stopped. Costs cannot be incurred prior to signing the grant agreements.

Discussion was held on construction of RLWD Ditch No. 11, RLWD Project No. 166. Seeding is being completed on the lower areas of the ditch. Engineer Jerry Pribula will be submitting a Certification of Substantial Completion. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Stanley to set the final payment hearing for R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. for October 25, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the RLWD office. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed the increase of premiums of 2008 staff health insurance. Jesme indicated that the increase was \$186.50 per month per family policy and \$56.50 per month per single policy. President Nelson then excused Jesme and Audette from the meeting. After considerable discussion, the Board instructed Administrator Jesme to invite Orren Bendickson, Bakke Insurance Inc. to meet with the Board at a later date to discuss other health insurance options that may be available to staff.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary