

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
April 10, 2008

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, Arnold Stanley, Vernon Johnson, Lee Coe, Orville Knott, and Gene Tiedemann. Absent: Jim Votava. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of March 27, 2008. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes with minor corrections.

The Minutes of the April 7, 2008, Winsor Hangaard, RLWD Project No. 113 Hearing were reviewed. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, with motion carried to dispense reading of the minutes and approve them with a minor correction.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of April 9, 2008. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated April 9, 2008.

The Board discussed the renewal of the Directors and Officer and Employer Practices Liability Insurance. Staff member Arlene Novak explained the coverage and cost of the premium and the option to increase the coverage. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, with motion carried to maintain the current coverage for the Directors and Officer and Employer Practices Liability Insurance and to review the coverages next year prior to renewal.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., discussed permitting for the Improvement and Lateral to Polk County Ditch No. 53, RLWD Ditch 12, Project No's 169 and 169A. Dalager explained the permitting process and the possible need of an EAW. An EAW is required when channelization occurs in public waters which consist of either deepening or widening the channel. Dalager explained that a portion of the improvement is in public waters, but in his opinion, the plan calls for the removal of accumulated sediment/silt therefore the District should not be required to complete an EAW. We should have an opinion from the MnDNR by the next board meeting. Dalager stated they have been working with Polk County Highway Department in regard to three downstream culverts that need to be replaced along the downstream portion of the project. Polk County Highway Department has agreed to allow the District to salvage and replace one of the existing culverts to another location within the project area, as well as cost share another culvert which will be a substantial cost savings to the project.

The Board reviewed the JOR Engineering, Inc., fees breakdown for the inspection report on the Moose River Impoundment and the Schirrick Dam. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, with motion carried to authorize payment to JOR Engineering, Inc.

The Board reviewed the 2007 Annual Report. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, to approve the 2007 Annual Report. Motion carried. Meetings will be scheduled with County Commissioners for presentation of the annual report.

The Fosston Municipal Airport/City of Fosston, requested an extension on RLWD Permit No. 07019. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to accept the request of a one year extension for RLWD Permit No. 07019, Fosston Municipal Airport, City of Fosston. Motion carried.

The Board discussed RLWD Permit No. 07099, Parnell Township. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, with motion carried, to deny RLWD Permit No. 07099, Parnell Township.

The Board reviewed the permit for approval. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to approve the following permit with conditions stated on the permit: No. 08013, Parnell Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

#### Administrators Update:

- Included in the packet are a copy of the 2008 Bonding Bill Line-Item Vetoes and a copy of a letter from Governor Pawlenty explaining the Line-Item Vetoes. The Flood Damage Reduction bill made it as well as various other watershed bills.
- Included in the packet is a copy of the letter received from Paul Swenson, MnDNR, stating our request for a Project Acceleration Grant for the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration Project from the FDRWG was approved.
- Since we are to receive a \$50,000 grant from the Working Land Initiative (WLI) for the Brandt Channel restoration Project, Jesme was asked to give a presentation of the project at a WLI Meeting in Morris, MN, on April 4, 2008. Jesme indicated that there were approximately 50 people in attendance and a majority of them were from southwestern Minnesota where it appears WLI program is very active. The WLI committee would like to get this program running in Polk County and are scheduled to attend our Project Work Team meeting on April 17, 2008. As part of the grant, we must have a project team and the WLI committee has agreed to make up their required project team by using volunteers from our project team as well as adding more if needed.
- The District has received the delinquent payment of \$287.68 from one of the ring dike participants. Before continuing with the claim through the Polk County Courts, Jesme contacted the landowner to explain the direction of the Board. Following the conversation, the landowner agreed to pay the remaining balance.
- Included in the packet are the approved minutes from the February 19, 2008 RRWMB meeting and a reminder of the next meeting to be held on April 15, 2008, at the Sand Hill River Watershed District in Fertile.

Manager Knott questioned if the meeting had taken place with Sullivan Township in regard to the construction of RLWD Ditch 11, Project No. 166. Jesme stated that he has spoken to the Project Engineer and a meeting will be held the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Legal Counsel Sparby discussed the easement interest on the Brandt Impoundment. It was the consensus of the Board to have Legal Counsel Sparby contact Attorney Dan Rust in regard to a possible Quiet Title Action in regard to our easement interest to all people involved.

Manager Knott discussed the meeting he attended in Clearbrook for the Clearwater River TMDL study.

Discussion was held concerning the completion of the counties' Comprehensive Local Water Plan and how it appears to be a duplicating process required by the State since watershed districts are also required to complete a Comprehensive Ten Year Overall Plan.

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

  
Vernon Johnson, Secretary