

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 24, 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 Knott, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of April 10, 2008. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Stanley, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as printed.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of April 23, 2008. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated April 23, 2008.

The Board discussed the Working Lands Initiative Grant Agreement for construction on the Brandt Outlet Channel, RLWD Project No. 60E. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, with motion carried to authorize Administrator Jesme to sign the Working Lands Initiative Grant Agreement.

Administrator Jesme discussed the Project 60 Work Team meeting held on April 17, 2008. It was the consensus of the Project Work Team to request the RLWD Board of Managers to proceed with the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration, RLWD Project 60F. After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Johnson, to accept the recommendation of the Project Work Team to move forward with the Grand Marais Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 60F. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the request from Sullivan Township about the perceived loss of two miles of the shoulder of the township road during construction of RLWD Ditch No. 11, Project No. 166. Administrator Jesme stated that he, along with Managers Tiedemann and Stanley, staff member Loren Sanderson, Engineer Jerry Pribula and representatives from Sullivan Township met on site to discuss the issue. Jesme further stated that Pribula and a local contractor had visited the site to determine if it was possible to add approximately 3' of shoulder to the road and indicated they would produce a cost estimate. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the road design was presented as part of the hearing process. Engineer Pribula has stated that the road was constructed as per design. The hearing process is for voicing of any questions or concerns and an appeal process is available for anyone who chooses to challenge the design as presented. The Board approved the project including the road design and no appeal was taken. After further discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Coe, that RLWD Ditch 11, Project No. 166 was built to

the designed specifications presented at the hearing, and that the request from Sullivan Township should be denied. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that Legislation was passed requiring all Watershed Districts to perform an annual audit by a certified public accountant. Nelson advised Jesme to contact our Auditor about this legislation.

Information was presented for the 2008 MAWD Summer Tour on June 19-21, 2008, hosted by the Bois de Sioux Watershed District

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. A motion was made by Stanley, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: Nos. 08005, 08006 and 08007, Polk County Highway Department, Fanny Township; No. 08011, Andy Olson, River Township, Red Lake County; No. 08014, City of Blackduck, Summit and Hines Township, Beltrami County; No. 08015 and 08016, Ronald L. Anderson, Grove Park-Tilden Township, Polk County; No. 08017, Howard Hanson, Hickory Township, Pennington County; and No. 08018, Keith Danks Jr, Columbia Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed the next steps needed for the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60F. Langan stated in his opinion the following items should be addressed: contact should be made with landowners on the northern end of the project; a joint meeting with both the RLWD and MSTRWD Board members; joint powers agreement with the MSTRWD is needed prior to going forward with the design, and a public hearing.

Administrators Update:

- Administrator Jesme and Manager Knott attended the RRWMB meeting held in Fertile on April 15th. Ron Harnack, Project Coordinator, RRWMB, is recovering from a recent surgery.
- Work continues on the land acquisition and CRP contracts for the Brandt Outlet Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60E.
- Administrator Jesme met with the viewers on the Improvement and Lateral to Polk County Ditch No. 53, RLWD Ditch 12, Project Nos. 169 and 169A. The viewers report should be complete by late June. Gary Bennett, Hydrologist, MnDNR, has indicated that the District will not be required to complete an EAW for this project as part of the permit application.
- Included in today's packet is a water quality update.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby stated that he had spoken with Attorney Dan Rust in regard to a possible Quiet Title Action in regard to our easement interest on property within the Brandt Impoundment. Dan Rust indicated that he would speak to his client and would get back to us with a response.

Manager Stanley discussed the Advisory Committee meeting, asking the board if they would be interested in opening up any dialogue concerning a State Ditch 83 project.

Staff Members Loren Sanderson and Gary Lane presented the 2007 Project Update that they also presented at the Advisory Committee meeting.

Manager Knott discussed issues brought up by the Advisory Committee, and the request by Gordon Foss to review the Moose River for erosion sites. Administrator Jesme indicated that the Moose River is a judicial ditch system under the jurisdiction of the Marshall and Beltrami County and that spending district money on inspection would not be advisable. Manager Stanley and staff member Loren Sanderson both indicated that they had recent discussions with Beltrami County, who will be assessing the area.

Manager Stanley discussed certain concerns with Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge drainage issues.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary