

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 26, 2008

Vice President Gene Tiedemann called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office, Thief River Falls, MN.

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

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

Tammy Audette read the minutes of June 12, 2008. 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 June 25, 2008. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated June 25, 2008.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. presented a progress report for the Grand Marais Outlet Channel Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 60F. Langan stated there were no significant issues raised by the landowners after the last public informational meeting held in Alvarado. Nick Drees, Administrator for the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed Districts (MSTRWD), had some questions that Houston Engineering has addressed, which required some additional analysis. Langan stated that Drees sent letters to landowners north of the project and did not receive any concerns. Langan recommended that Houston Engineering present an informational report to the MSTRWD Board of Managers. If the MSTRWD feels the matter is worth pursuing as a project, the next step would be to create a joint powers agreement or joint powers board. After these items are addressed, the matter would proceed according to the normal statutory process. It was the consensus of the Board to present the informational report to the MSTRWD Board of Managers at their July 21, 2008 meeting.

Administrator Jesme stated that we received the signed Temporary Easement and Option to Purchase Real Property from landowner Roger Hagen for construction of Phase II on the Brandt Channel Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60E. Vice President Tiedemann signed the document and instructed staff to issue a check as indicated in the agreement to Mr. Hagen. Jesme also stated that Mr. Hagen is in the process of enrolling the property into CRP and upon completion of sign-up, the District will exercise the option to purchase with Mr. Hagen, after the conclusion of which we will enter into a rental agreement for the property.

Administrator Jesme stated that the grant for the Euclid East Impoundment expires on June 30, 2008. A contractor has been hired by the hour to complete various tasks within the project area of Euclid East such as construction of a small berm near a farmstead downstream of the impoundment, berm

just north of the wetland mitigation site, as well as seeding upwards of 10 acres. All project invoices must be dated no later than June 30, 2008.

A ring dike grant also expires on June 30, 2008. Construction has started on the Swanson ring dike. A partial payment will be made to the contractor for work completed prior to June 30, 2008.

Administrator Jesme discussed the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 121. Jesme stated that when the project was constructed, there was an area within the impoundment that could potentially be delineated for wetland banking credits. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize Administrator Jesme to seek quotes from HDR Engineering and Houston Engineering for potential mitigation of wetland banking credits within the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment and report back to the board at a later date.

Discussion was held on a letter that was sent to Badger Township by staff member Loren Sanderson for proposed work in Section 21 and 28, Badger Township, Polk County. The letter identifies the District's role in the project and permit compliances that would be required.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. A motion as made by Knott, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following permit with conditions stated on the permit: No. 08036, Clearwater County Highway Department, Eddy Township, Clearwater County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- The signed option agreement from Roxanne and Roger Hagen for purchase of 60.85 acres for Phase II construction of the Brandt Channel Restoration Project was received. Engineer Nate Dalager, Contractor Sam Holte, and Jesme held a preconstruction meeting for Phase II construction of the Brandt Channel Restoration Project. Phase I will be completed by the end of the month with construction following on Phase II.
- Gates on the Moose River Impoundment were opened on June 16th. Water will be released for an additional 10-12 days or as conditions warrant. Stoplogs on Pine Lake were removed on June 10th and installed June 24th. Good Lake was .3" over summer elevation as of June 24.
- Jesme met with the viewers for the Improvement and Lateral to Polk County Ditch #53, RLWD Project #12 on June 17 to review progress that has taken place. It appears that the viewers may be ready to present their report to the Board at our regularly scheduled meeting to be held on July 10th. If the report is accepted and filed by the Board, property owner's reports will be completed within 30 days of the filing and a hearing date set 25 to 50 days after the date of the final hearing notice.
- Jesme and Managers Tiedemann and Votava presented the 2007 Annual Report to the Polk County Commissioners on June 17th. Jesme and Manager Coe will meet with the Beltrami County Commissioners on July 1st.
- Jesme, staff member Loren Sanderson, and Managers Knott, Tiedemann, and Coe attended all or parts of the MAWD summer tour June 19th -21st.
- Effective July 1, 2008 the federal mileage rate will increase from 50.5 cents to 58.5 cents per mile.
- A monthly water quality report is included in the packet.

Administrator Jesme discussed the Lateral and Improvement to Polk County Ditch 53, RLWD Project No. 169. Jesme stated that in 1987, Polk County passed a motion to incorporate Polk County Ditch 108 into the Polk County Ditch 53 drainage system and benefited area.

Kathy Rausch, Clearwater SWCD presented revised costs estimates for an erosion control site located in Section 25, Pine Lake Township, Clearwater County. Rausch stated that due to a change in engineering firms the cost estimate increased by \$9,900. Rausch is requesting an additional cost share in the amount of \$3,000 from the 2008 RLWD Erosion Control Projects accounts. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Coe, with motion carried, to approve the cost share request in the amount of \$3,000 for the Clearwater SWCD for a bank stabilization project located in Section 25, Pine Lake Township, Clearwater County.

Rausch stated that the Clearwater SWCD was informed they had received an Agricultural Watershed Restoration Grant through BWSR for sub-watersheds within the Silver Creek watershed. More information will be forthcoming. Rausch further stated that Clearwater SWCD staff member Wade Robinson will be meeting with the RLWD in the near future to discuss challenge grants and staff members are currently working with Winsor Township on a streambank project on the Silver Creek.

Manager Stanley discussed erosion concerns along the Moose River road. Culverts along the road are filling up with sediment.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated his office has not received a response on the third letter sent to the MN Historical Society in regard to transferring the deed of the former RLWD office. Sparby had previously spoken with Dan Rust in regard to the Quiet Title search, but has not heard anything further in regard to his client's wishes in regard to proceeding forward.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary