

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
March 27, 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, Gene Tiedemann, 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 Johnson, seconded by Votava, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of March 11, 2008. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes with minor corrections.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary as of March 26, 2008. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated March 26, 2008 with the exclusion of payment to JOR Engineering, Inc.

Kim Durbin from Drees Risky Vallager, Ltd. presented the 2007 Annual Audit Report. Durbin stated that this is the last year of the current contract with the District and she will submit a proposal for future options. After various questions by the Board, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the 2007 Audit Report as presented.

The Board discussed RLWD Permit No. 08009, Dean Philipp, Agder Township, Marshall County. A motion was made by Stanley, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board table permit No. 08009, Dean Philipp, for further review of the drainage area during the 2008 spring runoff event.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 08003, Polk County Highway Department, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 08010, Polk County Highway Department, Columbia Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed the Clearbrook Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 160A. Langan stated that a preliminary study was completed in November 2006 for the City of Clearbrook FDR project but was put on hold due to the fact that Minnesota Pipeline Company had purchased an easement to the property in the project area and were reluctant to approve the storage of water proposed by the project. Recently, Wade Robinson, Clearwater County SWCD, and the City of Clearbrook indicated they would like to address this issue further and hold a meeting to resurrect the project. Langan and Manager Johnson attended a meeting with Clearwater County Commissioner and Highway Department

staff, Clearwater County SWCD, and the City of Clearbrook who stated they would like to proceed further with the project and approach Minnesota Pipeline Company with better facts as to how the project would affect the pipeline property. Langan stated a flowage easement would be required from the pipeline and another local landowner. Langan stated that approximately \$12,000 - \$13,000 has been spent already on the preliminary engineering with an estimate of an additional \$5,000 to complete the report. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Stanley, with motion carried to authorize Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc., to proceed with completion of engineering for the Preliminary Report for the Clearbrook Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 160A.

Sullivan Township officials Mike Krejci and Charlie Hotvedt and local landowner Curt Amundson appeared before the board to discuss RLWD Ditch No. 11, Project No. 166. Sullivan Township is concerned about the perceived loss of two miles of the shoulder of the township road during the construction of the ditch. Administrator Jesme and Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed the current 3:1 sideslopes and the location of the ditch due to the utilities located within the project area. It was the recommendation of the Board to authorize the engineer, RLWD staff, Board manager, and township officials to meet at the site and report their findings back to the board at a later date.

Staff member Corey Hanson presented a water quality update on the Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation project and the Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL Study. Discussion was held on parts or reaches of the channel being impaired or if they should consider the entire channel as impaired. Hanson also reported on the Tile Drainage Study and indicated that additional flow monitoring is recommended. The RRWMB will continue to contribute funding for this project; District monitoring is a regular occurrence at four times a year. There are currently 38 sites, 4 were added in Beltrami County and one site on Kripple Creek in Polk County; revision of the Standard Operating Procedures for water quality monitoring in the Red River Watershed; Clearwater River Habitat/Bioassessment Project; and the Comprehensive Water Quality Report. Hanson stated that the District is hoping to do more flow measurements this year. The recently purchased new flow monitoring equipment will be helpful.

Administrator Jesme stated that insurance money in the amount of \$6,048 was received for the water quality equipment that was damaged last year during a very large summer rainfall event. Jesme stated that we can replace them for approximately \$8,000. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, with motion carried to replace the water quality equipment at an estimated cost of \$8,000.

Discussion was held on the billing that was presented for payment from JOR Engineering, Inc. for engineering fees for the Inspection Report on the Schirrick Dam and Moose River Impoundment. Administrator Jesme stated that the RLWD staff surveyed the Moose River Impoundment and that the Schirrick Dam was a visual inspection. After further discussion it was the consensus of the Board to request a complete breakdown of costs from JOR Engineering, Inc. and provide it to the Board at the next meeting.

Administrators Update:

- Included in today's packet is a resolution that was approved by the Marshall County Board which allows the RLWD and MSTRWD the authority to act on behalf of the Marshall County for the construction of ring dikes regulated under the Marshall County Floodplain Management Ordinance without filling out the required permit as long as we comply with their ordinance.
- A copy of the approved January 22, 2008 RRWMB minutes are included in the packet.
- A hearing concerning the petition from Winsor Township to add property to the benefited area of the Winsor/Hangaard Project, RLWD Project No. 113, will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, April 7, 2008. This hearing will follow a hearing held by the JD 72 Board at 10:30 a.m. in the RLWD Board room.
- We received the amended grant agreement for the Brandt Impoundment, RLWD Project 60D, which will extend the effective date of the grant to December 31, 2008. This extension will allow us time to complete the wetland mitigation site and the Brandt Outlet Restoration this coming summer.
- A landowner informational meeting on the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration will be held on April 2, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. at the Alvarado Community Center. The Informational Report will be presented to the MSTRWD Board of Managers as well as affected landowners.
- Four school districts submitted displays at the River Watch Forum, with three of the schools receiving awards.

Further discussion was held on the Sullivan Township complaint on RLWD Ditch #11, Project No. 166. It was the consensus of the Board to have Administrator Jesme set up a meeting at the site with the township officials, Engineer Jerry Pribula, RLWD staff, and Managers Tiedemann and Stanley. Legal Counsel Sparby questioned whether the work is a safety issue or not and was it built to standard road width and slope.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated he had received a call from Jeff Hane, Legal Counsel for the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, regarding a Joint Powers Agreement for the Grand Marais Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 60F. It was his recommendation that there would be an agreement drafted but only if the RLWD Board initiated this study as a project.

Managers Knott, Tiedemann, and Votava attended the RRWMB Conference in Crookston. Manager Knott stated that the RRWMB has appointed a committee for consideration of hiring a part-time public relations consultant.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary