

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
May 22, 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 Knott, seconded by Votava, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of May 8, 2008. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Johnson, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as printed.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of May 21, 2008. Administrator Jesme stated that we will be soliciting quotes for the maturity of a CD. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated May 21, 2008.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. introduced their staff member Tony Nordby who was hired as an Engineer in Training. Nordby, a recent college graduate, will be working in the area of hydrology with Houston Engineering, Inc. in the Thief River Falls office.

Langan updated the Board concerning Clearbrook Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 160A. Langan indicated that prior to completing the additional survey that was requested by the Board, his office had discussion with MnDNR and Clearwater County Highway Department concerning the requirements needed to acquire a Dam Safety Permit for this project. Langan was instructed by the MnDNR that a Dam Safety Analysis would be required as this dam would be considered a high hazard dam since the City of Clearbrook is downstream of the proposed site. A Dam Safety Analysis study would cost approximately \$30,000 to \$50,000 and based on his conversation with Clearwater Highway Engineer Dan Sauve, the county was not interested in financing the analysis. Langan stated that Clearwater County has indicated that with the survey information that was provided by the District, the county would investigate other FDR alternatives with the City of Clearbrook and the Clearwater SWCD which could alleviate the present flooding conditions.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed the RLWD Permit and Drainage Rules requirements pertaining to reoccurring work being done without applying for a permit application. It was the consensus of the Board that if a landowner has been provided a copy of the current permit requirements and continues to ignore the Districts requirements, RLWD staff is authorized to implement all remedies and enforcement allowed under the RLWD permit rules and statutes.

Discussion was held on RLWD Permit No. 08019 and No. 08020, Agder Township, Marshall County. Sanderson stated time constraints have not allowed him to do the necessary surveying required and is requesting the Board to table the permit applications. A motion was made by Stanley, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board table permit No. 08019 and No. 08020, Agder Township until survey information can be obtained.

The Board reviewed RLWD Permit No. 07020, David Thompson, Thompson Brothers Farm, Grand Forks Township, Polk County. Sanderson stated that this permit was tabled until wetland issues located within the Grand Marais coulee could be resolved. The wetland issues have since been resolved and Sanderson therefore recommended approval of the permit. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve RLWD Permit No. 07020, David Thompson, Thompson Brothers Farms.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 08027, Marshall County Highway Department, Excel Township; No. 08028, Marshall County Highway Department, Veldt Township; No. 08029, Canadian Pacific Railway, North Township, Pennington County; and No. 08031, Dealer Sites, LLC, C.I. Construction, LLC, Lowell Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Water Quality Coordinator Corey Hanson presented the following activities update; Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation Project, Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL Study, and the Red Lake River Watershed Farm to Stream Tile Drainage Study. Hanson stated other activities on his schedule include District monitoring, several presentations he has given over the past several months and installation of equipment on the Brandt Channel, RLWD Project No. 60E.

An Agreement with Houston Engineering, Inc. for website hosting and maintenance which expires May 31, 2008 was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize Administrator Jesme to renew the present agreement with Houston Engineering, Inc. for website hosting and maintenance.

Manager Knott stated that the RRWMB is willing to pay up to \$500 for each watershed for a calendar program to use in conjunction with the RRWMB website.

The Board reviewed the 2009 Proposed Levy that was received from counties within the RLWD.

Administrator Jesme reviewed the current balances in the 2008 Administrative Construction Budget.

Administrator Jesme indicated to the Board that the Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge Update and Activities Planned for 2008 is included in today's agenda for information purposes only.

Administrators Update:

- The signed \$50,500 grant agreement from the Working Lands Initiative has been received for the Brandt Outlet Channel, RLWD Project No. 60E.

- Included in today's packet is a thank you card for the District support of the 2008 Envirothon held April 23, 2008.
- Administrator Jesme and Manager Knott attended the RRWMB meeting in Ada and participated in a tour of the Wild Rice Watershed District Project No. 42 located south of Ulen. Included in today's packet is RRWMB approved minutes from March 19, 2008 as well as the minutes that were approved at this week's meeting, April 15, 2008.
- Enclosed in today's packet are two newspaper articles that may be of interest to the Board.
- The viewers for Polk County Ditch No. 53 Improvements, RLWD Ditch 12, are continuing to work on the viewing process. HDR has indicated that they are close to being ready for the final hearing. We are presently waiting for the \$125,000 bond which is an increase of \$25,000 from the existing bond. Red Lake Agency anticipates the bond will be received sometime this week. It is anticipated that we would need to increase the bond by an additional \$25,000 to get through the viewing process and final hearing. The viewers hope to be complete by late June, hearing held in late July early August and if the project is approved, let bids and start construction mid to late September.
- The 2007 Annual Report will be presented to the Red Lake County and Pennington County Commissioners on Tuesday, May 27th at 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. respectively.

Manager Knott stated that the RRWMB passed a resolution requesting BWSR to evaluate the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District.

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


Vernon Johnson, Secretary