

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
October 9, 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 Orville Knott, Arnold Stanley, Jim Votava, Lee Coe, Vernon Johnson, Dale M. Nelson and Gene Tiedemann. 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 Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of September 25, 2008. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Stanley, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as printed.

Tammy Audette read the Special Board of Managers meeting minutes of September 29, 2008. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, and passed unanimously that the Board approve the minutes as printed.

The board reviewed the Financial Report as of October 8, 2008. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Stanley, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated October 8, 2008.

Keith Winters, HDR Engineering, was present to discuss wetland banking on the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment. Winters stated he had performed off site delineation in early September and had determined 12.21 acres of potential wetland banking credits. On October 2, an on-site visit with staff members from BWSR, West Polk SWCD, MnDOT, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Administrator Jesme was completed. The group agreed on 11.15 acres of wetland banking credits. Winters stated that the value of the credits is worth six times the current land value. The next step is to submit a Wetland Bank Application and establishment of the upland buffer. The Board discussed value of the land in the area and the cost of establishing wetland banking credits.

Administrator Jesme presented a Drainage Records Modernization Guidelines prepared by BWSR. Jesme stated the purpose of the guidelines is to modernize drainage records/files for counties, SWCD's and Watershed Districts. Drainage records/files would be scanned and put into electronic format. Jesme stated that the grant amount is determined using \$1500 per ditch system or \$75 per mile. Jesme is requesting authorization to submit a grant application to scan into electronic format all legal information and plans for drainage systems under the jurisdiction of the Red Lake Watershed District. Motion by Knott, seconded by Johnson, to authorize Administrator Jesme to apply for a Drainage Records Modernization Grant with BWSR. Motion carried.

Staff member Gary Lane was present to discuss the Hofstad/Solien petition for inclusion of land into RLWD Ditch 7, Project 20. Lane stated that water currently drains into the Ditch 7 system,

but the land is not paying assessments to the system. Lane recommended to the Board that benefits should be \$100 per acre which is the rate of adjacent farmland with similar drainage. The hearing for Hofstad/Solien petitions will be held on October 23, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. at the RLWD office.

Rich Sanders and Jody Beauchane, Polk County Highway Department, were present to discuss the erosion site at the outlet of Polk County Ditch 19, Tynsid Township, near the Sandhill River Cemetery. Sanders explained that Representative Bernie Lieder and Senator LeRoy Stumpf secured funding in the amount of \$360,000 for bank stabilization which was recently completed. A portion of this money was used for the drop structure, creation of a plunge pool, and bank stabilization. Sanders stated that they would like to proceed an additional 100 feet where the channel bends to go past the cemetery. Sanders questioned whether the District would be willing to fund the completion of the project at an approximate cost of \$40,000. Discussion was held in regard to potential cost share partners for completion of the project. Administrator Jesme will contact the SWCD and report back to the board.

Discussion was held with Rich Sanders, Polk County Highway Department, in regard to Polk County's assessment for the construction of RLWD Ditch 12, RLWD Project No. 169. At a previous meeting, discussion was held that since Polk County is contributing the costs of the downstream culverts for the project, their assessment would be subtracted from their contribution with the balance as a credit against any future assessments. After discussion, Polk County agreed to use funds received from Polk County Highway Department for replacement of structures through Polk County roads to pay Polk County benefits assessment for the project and to use the remaining balance towards reduction of the project costs. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to accept Polk County's offer to use funds received from Polk County Highway Department for replacement of structures to pay Polk County's project assessment, with the balance of Polk County funds received to be used to reduce the total project costs. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the MAWD Annual Meeting to be held on December 4-6, 2008 in Alexandria.

The regularly scheduled Board meeting on November 27, 2008 falls on Thanksgiving Day. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to change the November 27, 2008 Board meeting to November 25, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 08074, Minnie Township, Beltrami County; No. 08075, Stephanie Olson, Eden Township, Polk County; No. 08076, Vance Wiseth, Espelie Township, Marshall County; and No. 08077, Kenneth Poole, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

#### Administrators Update:

- Draw down of the Agassiz Pool started the week of September 29 in preparation of attaining winters levels and due to the fact that the District will be releasing water from the Moose River Impoundment in two weeks. The USFWS is forced to use the new structure

that was installed a few years ago on State Ditch 83 as their sole outlet structure on Judicial Ditch 11 outlet is still under construction.

- Wade Robinson, Clearwater SWCD and Jesme will meet with the City of Clearbrook on October 20, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. to introduce the Clearbrook Stormwater Retention Project to the council and to discuss with them on how we think they should fit into this project if it proceeds. Jesme would also like to meet with landowner of one of the larger sites prior to the council meeting.
- Jesme will be attending a meeting at the Grygla Civic Building on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. to take part in discussion which may assist in defining conservation and natural resource concerns in the area. This meeting is also going to be used to identify ways for agencies and organizations to work together to meet common goals.
- Jesme, staff member Loren Sanderson, and HDR Engineering will be attending a preconstruction meeting in the RLWD office this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. with R.J. Zavoral and Sons for construction of RLWD Ditch 12. We have received the Award contract and Performance Bond so we should know today when they would like to start. We are approximately 30% complete with issuing checks to landowners for damages that we have received W-9 forms from.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated he will complete a resolution today to be to be presented to MAWD in regard to Con Con lands

Administrator Jesme stated he had contacted the West Polk SWCD and NRCS in regard to potential funding partners for the erosion control site in Tynsid Township, Polk County. It was the consensus of the Board to table this item until October 23, 2008.

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

  
Vernon Johnson, Secretary