

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
February 12, 2009

Present were: Managers Dale M. Nelson, Lee Coe, Gene Tiedemann, Orville Knott, and Kelly Nordlund. 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 Coe, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

President Nelson welcomed Board Member Kelly Nordlund representative for Clearwater County who replaced Vernon Johnson.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of January 22, 2009. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the minutes with minor corrections.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated February 11, 2009. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated February 11, 2009.

Administrator Jesme stated that we will be soliciting quotes for the maturity of a CD that matures on March 3, 2009. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, with motion carried to authorize staff members to solicit quotes for the maturity of a CD and accept the highest responsible quote.

Polk County has scheduled a hearing for April 2, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at the Youngquist Auditorium, University of MN Crookston, to transfer the three laterals of Polk County Ditch 53 over to the RLWD to be included into the RLWD Ditch 12, Project No. 169, Polk County Ditch 53 Improvement. Administrator Jesme and Manager Tiedemann will attend the hearing.

Administrator Jesme stated that a meeting was held with permitting agencies for the Grand Marais Creek Restoration, RLWD Project 60F. A RIM meeting will be held on February 19 to review the RIM process with local agencies. A meeting with landowners along the Grand Marais Creek Channel will be held in Alvarado at the Alvarado Community Center on March 2, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. Jesme distributed an Outdoor Heritage Funding Proposal submitted by the MN Center for Environmental Advocacy for the Grand Marais Creek Restoration, RLWD Project 60F.

Construction cost estimate for repairs to the Elm Lake Outlet-Farmes Pool is approximately \$89,773.00, not including engineering or administration. Repairs will be paid by the RLWD, USFWS, and DNR.

The Board reviewed a draft letter to counties within the RLWD regarding county approval of watershed district budgets. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, with motion carried to authorize Administrator Jesme to proceed with submitting the letter to counties within the RLWD. Legal Counsel Sparby will review the letter prior to mailing it out.

Discussion was held on legislation that Representative Morrie Lanning is authoring to establish a state basin watershed management policy.

The 2009 MAWD Legislative Breakfast and Day at the Capitol will be held March 18 and 19th at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul.

Administrator Jesme stated that Jan Kaspari, Marshall County SWCD, requested the RLWD appoint a representative to the Marshall County Water Resources Advisory Committee as a voting authority until the Marshall County Manager's position is filled. It was the consensus of the Board that Manager Nelson will be the alternate to the Marshall County Water Resources Advisory Board until a Marshall County representative is appointed and that no representative of the District other than a Board of Manager shall have a voting right.

The Board discussed the Water Quality Coordinator Salary. Upon a favorable 6 month review, a motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, to approve the 10% pay increase as outlined in the August 14, 2008 minutes effective February 14, 2009 for the Water Quality Coordinator position. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Staff members Jesme and Hanson and Managers Johnson and Votava met with various agencies to discuss permits and other environmental issues which may arise for the construction of the Clearbrook Stormwater Retention Project. It was determined that the TEP (Technical Evaluation Panel) would view the sites early this spring to determine mitigation. Wade Robinson will be leaving the Clearwater SWCD effective February 17, 2009.
- Staff member Jim Blix has been asked to joint the Pine to Prairie (P2P) GIS Users Group Steering Committee. This committee provides assistance to various entities towards GIS application development. Blix has been working with this group the last 7 months to assist the District in revamping our webpage using GeoMoose and other web based mapping programs. There is no charge to belong to this group and most meetings will be web cast which will minimize travel. It was determined that we will evaluate this program after one year to see if it has advantages for the Districts needs to continue.
- Included in today's packet is a snow survey report dated February 5, 2009. This report does not take into account the rainfalls that we received earlier this week.
- The Agricultural Subsurface Drainage Forum will be held on February 24, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. at the University Memorial Union Century Theatre, Fargo, North Dakota.

- Included in the packet is a copy of general information on the RLWD which will be included in the 2009 BWSR Guide Book. This book will be distributed to legislators throughout the state in an attempt to better show the accomplishments of Watershed Districts.
- Correspondence is included in the packet from Representative Brita Sailer inviting the public to various town meetings throughout the eastern portion of our district. Meetings will be held to give Minnesotans across the state an opportunity to share their thoughts on the budget recently proposed by Governor Tim Pawlenty.
- The Red River Basin Monitoring Advisory Committee is hosting the 6th annual RRBWQ Monitoring Training Session to be held at the University of Minnesota-Crookston on March 4, 2009. Staff members Hanson and Blix will be attending this session. Hanson will be giving two presentations during the morning session.
- The January 2009 Water Quality Report is included in the packet.

Discussion was held on the purchase of RLWD apparel for staff members. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, that staff members would be provided with at least one item of apparel identifying or representative of the RLWD to be worn while performing out of office duties as required, at the discretion of the Administrator, who would be responsible for coordination of purchasing apparel items. Apparel would not be worn for non work related activities. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the agreement with Roger Hagen for the construction of the Brandt Channel, RLWD Project 60E. Legal Counsel Sparby suggested the land description be proofed with the original survey completed by Pribula Engineering. A date and time for closing will be set up by Administrator Jesme.

Manager Coe discussed the training session information for the MAWD Education Committee.

Manager Knott stated that the Wild Rice Watershed District is trying to set up a new taxing authority by asking the counties to pass a resolution for additional taxing authority due to the higher cost of project completion.

Manager Tiedemann stated he will not be in attendance at the February 26th meeting.

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



Orville Knott, Secretary