

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

Present were: Managers Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, Lee Coe, Jim Votava, Orville Knott, Kelly Nordlund and LeRoy Ose. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. Administrator Jesme recommended adding the maturity of a CD and Release of Securities at Border State Bank to the agenda. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nordlund, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of the maturity of a CD and release of securities at Border State Bank.

President Nelson welcomed Board Member LeRoy Ose representative for Marshall County who replaced Arnold Stanley.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering requested to appear before the Board.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of February 26, 2009. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Votava, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the minutes as printed.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated March 11, 2009. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Nordlund, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated March 11, 2009.

Administrator Jesme stated that we will be soliciting quotes for the maturity of a CD that matures on March 13, 2009. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Knott, with motion carried to authorize staff members to solicit quotes for the maturity of a CD and accept the highest responsible quote.

Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. updated the board on the Grand Marais Creek Restoration Project, RLWD Project 60F. Langan and Administrator Jesme discussed the Joint Powers Board and landowner meeting held on March 2 to discuss the RIM Program. Landowners have stated their concerns over future maintenance of the property once they have signed up for RIM. Who would be responsible for maintenance? A motion was made by the Joint Powers Board that the Board would be liable for future maintenance to property enrolled in RIM and to possibly set up a maintenance account for future maintenance costs. There is approximately 300 to 400 acres required for the project. RIM sign up is due June 1, 2009. If the landowners sign up for the RIM program, and the project does not move forward, the landowners are not required to follow through with the RIM signup. RIM signup is not final until all easements are recorded, which at that point the District will know if the project will proceed. The landowner can receive \$300 per acre for establishment of the buffer strip. Since the

District is assuming the risk of planting and maintenance of the buffer strip, the \$300 per acre would be turned over to the District. Discussion was held amongst the Board as a fair price to offer the landowners for a perpetual easement. The RIM program will pay \$1330 per acre for tillable land and \$798 per acre for non tillable farm land. There was considerable discussion concerning the price of land per acre and if the RIM payment would be adequate. It was the consensus of the Board that the Joint Powers Board will have to make a decision as to what a favorable cost per acre for the project area should be and report their findings back to the RLWD Board of Managers.

Staff member Arlene Novak discussed the request by Border State Bank to release a larger amount of security and replace it with a lesser amount. Novak stated the District will have adequate securities with the replaced amount. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Coe, to authorize the replacement of securities at Border State Bank. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the land acquisition with Roxanne and Roger Hagen has been signed. There are minor construction items that need to be finished this summer by the contractor.

Administrator Jesme discussed the RLWD Web site programming services agreement submitted by Houston Engineering, Inc. to revise and upgrade the District's website. Houston Engineering, Inc. estimated \$9,200 with a project completion date of May 15, 2009. After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize Administrator Jesme to sign the Programming Services Agreement with the understanding that staff will monitor invoices as work is completed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Votava, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 09011, Polk County Highway Department, Tynsid Township, Polk County; and No. 09013, Clearwater County Highway Department, Leon Township, Clearwater County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District does not have a Hazardous Weather Policy in the policy manual on how to compensate staff members in the event of not being able to travel to work in bad weather conditions. After discussion by the board, a motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nordlund, that in the event staff is unable to travel due to hazardous weather conditions and subject to approval by the Administrator, staff members would be allowed to either use accumulated sick leave or vacation time. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- The 2009 Overall Advisory meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, April 7, 2009 at the RLWD office. All Board members are welcome to attend.
- Included in the packet is the snow survey report dated March 7, 2009. Moisture contents have exceeded three inches for the first time this year.

- The signed Surface Water Assessment Grant from the MPCA in the amount of \$13,000 for the Nasset Brook/Upper Lost River assessment project was received.
- Included in the packet is the 2009 Legislative Bonding proposal. Line 23 shows that \$26 million dollars is being proposed for Flood Hazard Mitigation Grants. This money is used for the state to fund watershed district projects. At this time, it does not appear that any funds are intended to be appropriated to the Grand Marais Creek Restoration.
- Included in the packet is the February 2009 Water Quality Report.

Legal Counsel Sparby discussed the land transfer with Roxanne and Roger Hagen for Phase 2 of the Brandt Channel Restoration Project. The 2009 taxes will need to be paid in full prior to the county recording the transfer. The county will then split out the taxes and the District will reimburse Hagen's for the District's share of taxes.

Manager Nelson asked the status of the Roger Kriel Petition, RLWD Project No. 170. Administrator Jesme stated that a new petition will be forthcoming to include County Ditch 75 with the Kriel Petition.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. briefly addressed the Board with a status update.

Manager Ose asked about work being completed at the outlet of the Farnes Pool. Administrator Jesme stated that the outlet structure is being repaired along with replacement of the stoplogs.

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



Orville Knott, Secretary