

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
October 14, 2010

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

Landowner Marlin Iverson requested to appear before the Board.

Tammy Audette read the minutes of September 23, 2010. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nordlund, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the minutes with corrections.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated October 13, 2010. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated October 13, 2010.

Marlin Iverson appeared before the Board to discuss a drainage concern located in Section 36, Tilden Township, Polk County. Staff member Loren Sanderson stated that he had viewed the area recently, and that the concerns are with high water levels between private landowners and The Nature Conservancy. Iverson stated that the local landowners feel this is a negative impact to the area and wish to have the water table drawn down. The Board instructed Sanderson to investigate the matter and report back to the Board.

Administrator Jesme stated that two computers in the office are in need of upgrading at an approximate cost of \$2,500.00. Motion by Coe, seconded by Knott, to approve the purchase of two computers for staff members. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that he had spoken with Pat Lynch, MnDNR in regard to funding for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Mr. Lynch stated that the MnDNR will fund 35%, or up to \$700,000 of the project cost and that the District needs a resolution authorizing Jesme to sign the funding agreement once it is received. Motion by Knott, seconded by Norlund, to give Administrator Jesme authority to sign the Flood Damage Reduction Grant Assistance Program Application for funding from the MnDNR for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the funding commitment the District is willing to participate in for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, that the District match the MnDNR funding of 35% up to \$700,000. Motion

carried. Administrator Jesme stated that Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. is currently working on the details of a Water Management District to submit to BWSR.

Administrator Jesme discussed the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service meeting he attended along with staff member Corey Hanson to discuss Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge. It has been determined that vegetation and sediment within the refuge is expanding into the Agassiz Pool thus reducing the storage capacity. Discussion was held on where the sediment loads are coming from and what can be done. From the watershed standpoint, it needs to be determined where the sediment sources are coming from and determine how to slow down this process by managing the upstream watershed. Discussion was held on Judicial Ditch No. 11 that goes through Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge and the current state of that drainage system.

At 9:30 a.m. an "Informational Meeting" was held on Four Legged Lake, also known as Judicial Ditch No. 5, RLWD Project No. 102. Administrator Jesme and staff member Gary Lane discussed the history of the ditch and recent lakes levels that are higher than what has been witnessed in the past. Lane stated that a culvert in a township road located at the downstream end of the system had been replaced in the past 15 years and appears to have been installed at a higher elevation than what the ditch was originally designed. The constructed ditch elevation located upstream and downstream of the culvert is at a much lower elevation than the present culvert. It is unclear as to who changed the elevation of the culvert. Discussion was held on beaver and beaver dams located within the system. Dan Thul, MnDNR stated that that DNR does not have any issues with beaver maintenance. Legal Counsel Sparby discussed the District's obligation to ditch law and the possibility of an improvement petition. Clearwater County Highway Department Engineer Dan Sauve stated that from an engineering and road safety standpoint, he would like to see the elevation of the culvert through the township road set at the same elevation as the centerline culvert upstream through CSAH #2. He also indicated that at this point the County Board is not asking for the culvert in question to be lowered but would like the beaver dams removed.

The MAWD 2010 Annual meeting and Trade Show will be held December 2-4, 2010 in Alexandria.

The Board reviewed Permit No. 10145, Agder Township, Marshall County. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to table Permit No. 10145, Agder Township for further review. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Permits for approval. Motion by Nordlund, seconded by Knott, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 10144, Hubert Rodrigue, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 10146, 10149, and 10151 Douglas Peterson, Grand Forks Township, Polk County; No. 10147, 10148, and 10150 Douglas Peterson,

Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 10153, Micahel L Knott, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 10154, Polk County Highway Department, Lowell Township; No. 10155, Randy Weiss, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County; No. 10156, Mark Pester, Fairfax Township, Polk County; No. 10157, Darrin Olson, Tilden Township, Polk County; No. 10158, Garnes Township, Red Lake County; No. 10159, Duane Knott, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County; and No. 10161, Onstad Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- The 2nd meeting with the Watershed & Basin Management Round table, that MAWD asked Jesme to participate in, will take place on October 18, 2010 in Alexandria.
- Staff member Gary Lane will meet with the Technical Evaluation Committee on October 18, 2010 for RLWD Ditch #10 Wetland Mitigation Site. This meeting will assist in completing the 4th year Monitoring Plan that was required as part of construction of RLWD Ditch #10.
- Jesme and Manager Knott will attend the RRWMB meeting in Fertile on October 19, 2010.
- The design of a state funded ring dike has been completed with construction to start this week. Final payment has been received from the NRCS on the Barry Newton ring dike. We will be reimbursing Newton the remaining balance owed to him.
- Survey of the Brandt channel has been completed. After all data has been reviewed, we should be able to instruct future petitioners as to which statutes should be followed.
- Gates on the Moose River Impoundment were opened on October 11th in hopes of drawing down the impoundment by deer season.
- Staff member Jim Blix will attend a two day Water Resources Seminar in Minneapolis on October 18-19th. This seminar is on water resources practices and techniques along with highlighting research about Minnesota resources.

Engineer Jeff Langan presented the Preliminary Engineers Report for a Lateral to Pennington County Ditch 75, RLWD Project No. 170A. Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to accept for filing the Preliminary Engineers Report for a Lateral to Pennington County Ditch 75, RLWD Project No. 170A. Langan stated that he will submit the report to MnDNR and BWSR for their review and comment.

Motion by Knott, seconded by Nordlund, to set the hearing for the Preliminary Engineers Report for a Lateral to Pennington County Ditch 75, RLWD Project No. 170A for November 23, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the District office. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that they had made service upon the necessary parties for the Louisville Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 121 Quiet Title Action. Publication is being done and upon completion he will obtain a hearing date. This process has to be completed before the wetland banking project within the impoundment can be satisfied.

Legal Counsel Sparby discussed his concern over the road safety issues due to elevation of the culvert located on Four Legged Lake, Judicial Ditch 5, RLWD Project No. 102. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to appoint Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. to work with District staff to explore the elevation of the lake and determine a proposed elevation for the culvert in question. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to adjourn the meeting.



Orville Knott, Secretary