

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
August 11, 2011

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

Motion by Mandt, seconded by Ose, to dispense reading of the July 28, 2011 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated August 10, 2011. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated July 28, 2011.

Administrator Jesme presented an email sent to Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen in regard to the Lessard Sam Outdoor Heritage Counsel (LSOHC) funding request for the Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration Project. It was the consensus of the Board that Jesme should submit letters to all of the Board members of the LSOHC. The Board reviewed the list of funding requests that the LSOHC has received.

Staff member Gary Lane discussed side water inlet pipes on RLWD Ditch No. 3, Project No. 7. Lane stated that the Red Lake County SWCD received a grant for 8 pipes to be installed in the system. After surveying the ditch, Lane estimates 25 pipes would be required at an additional estimated cost of \$10,000. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, to install the additional side water inlet pipes for RLWD Ditch No. 3, Project No. 7, and levy approximately \$3,000 per year, until costs are recovered. Motion carried.

John Bohnenkamp, Marco, presented information for installation of a server and computers for the District office. After considerable discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to take all the information under advisement and to have further discussion at a later time.

Administrator Jesme discussed a call he received from a landowner along the New Lateral to Pennington County Ditch 75, RLWD Ditch No. 13, Project No. 170A. Jesme stated that when the Viewers determined damages for the project, they paid temporary damages for spreading out the dirt on the spoil bank. The Viewers did not take into consideration that there is currently crop in place. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to pay for crop loss based upon the proven yield of the property at a rate of \$13.00 per bushel for soybeans, with the understanding that the Contractor will try to minimize crop damage if possible. Motion carried. Jesme stated that a preconstruction meeting has been scheduled with the Contractor with construction starting in approximately two weeks.

Staff is currently working on hearing notices for the Improvement to Pennington County Ditch 1/Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171/171A. The Viewers have scheduled landowner meetings at the District office on August 30 at 6:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. to provide information to landowners regarding the project and viewers report.

The Board discussed the letter addressed to Congressman Collin Peterson regarding water quality issues threatening Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge and downstream impacts. Legal Counsel Sparby commented that there is nothing in the letter about removing sedimentation from the basin. Administrator Jesme stated that he would like Staff Assistant Wally Sparby review the letter prior to submitting it to Collin Peterson.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Attorney Kurt A. Deter, Rinke Noonan, regarding recording of easements along legal drainage projects.

The Board reviewed Permit No. 11095, Paul Novacek, Northland Township, Polk County. Upon review of District staff, a permit is not required for work proposed by the applicant.

The Board reviewed Permit No. 11106, Pennington County Highway Department, Goodridge Township. Upon review of District staff, a permit is not required for work proposed by the applicant.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Knott, seconded by Mandt, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 11094, Paul Novacek, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 11097, Darrold Rodahl, Agder Township, Marshall County; No. 11101, 11102, 11103, and 11104, Ron Novacek, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 11107, Pennington County Highway Department, River Falls Township, Pennington County; No. 11108, Polk County Highway Department, Fisher Township, Polk County; No. 11109, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Stenerson Township, Beltrami County; No. 11110, Excel Township, Marshall County; and No. 11112, Gary Novak, River Falls Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

#### Administrators update:

- Due to recent rain fall events, the Moose River Impoundment south pool structure was temporarily opened. The gate was closed again on Monday, August 8th. It is our hope to burn the east pool of the Parnell Impoundment this fall. Improvements to the Euclid East Impoundment have started with completion next week.
- Manager Knott and Jesme will attend the RRWMB meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 in Ada.
- Staff is in the process of compiling a list of ditches that will need cattail maintenance this fall. Mowing of RLWD Ditch 10 has been completed. All damaged pipes and traps on RLWD Ditch 12 that were damaged by mowing have been replaced at the cost of the contractor.

- Jesme and Manager Nordlund met with the Clearwater County Commissioners on August 9th to present the 2010 Annual Report.
- Due to high water levels in the Thief River subwatershed this summer, the geomorphic sampling that was scheduled to be completed upwards of a month ago has been delayed. This past week District staff and partners were finally able to start on County Ditch #20, with plans to start on the Moose and Mud Rivers also. Water levels along the Thief River and State Ditch 83 are still high, but levels are going down so we hope to continue into that channel yet this fall.

Manager Knott stated that he is participating in interviews for the Public Relations position for the Red River Management Board position.

Manager Ose asked for a progress report on the SD#83/Marshall County Ditch 20, RLWD Project No. 14D. Administrator Jesme stated that the Engineers are working on the final plans and specifications for construction.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he drafted letters to Claude and Sue Johnson and Darrell Dolalie for review and submittal.

Manager Nelson discussed Pennington County using survey information that was paid for by the Petitioners for the Improvement to Pennington County Ditch 75, RLWD Project No. 170. The County Engineer stated to Administrator Jesme that he was using the Preliminary Engineers Report for the recent maintenance of the legal system.. Discussion was held on how to approach the use of information that was paid for by the Petitioners. Legal Counsel Sparby will contact the Pennington County Attorney in regard to the matter.

Quotes from R.J. Zavoral & Sons and Jeff Olson Construction were received for construction of the Radi ring dike. Due to the high quotes received, Administrator Jesme will contact the landowner and NRCS to see if they wish to proceed.

Manager Coe discussed the Beltrami County Commissioners meeting he attended to present the 2010 Annual Report. Coe stated that Beltrami County is working with Bemidji State University to reopen the college water quality testing laboratory.

Manager Knott stated that he had spoken with Randy Cook, Badger Township Supervisor in regard to local cost share for clearing and snagging near Merle Kolstad's property. Mr. Cook will try to seek additional local cost share.

Manager Ose stated that he recently flew over Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge and observed very silty waters from State Ditch 83 as it flows through Agassiz National Wildlife area and how clean the Red Lake River was in comparison to the Thief River. Discussion was had on the silt

that deposits into Agassiz Pool and what could be done to reduce sediment loads entering into the pool.

Manager Tiedemann asked if the petitioners along the Brandt Channel have submitted a petition and bond. Administrator Jesme stated that he has not heard from the petitioners or their attorney but will contact one of the landowners to see if anything is going to be submitted in the near future. Tiedemann also asked about the survey on the Grand Marais cut channel. Jesme stated that the water levels have been high all summer and has really stalled the progress of completing the Final Engineers Report.

Employee Arlene Novak addressed the Board regarding her concerns about recent wage and salary increases for 2012.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



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Orville Knott, Secretary