Present were: Managers Dale M. Nelson, Lee Coe, Orville Knott, Albert Mandt, Kelly Nordlund, Gene Tiedemann and LeRoy Ose. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nordlund, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

Motion by Knott, seconded by Mandt, to dispense reading of the July 14, 2011 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.


A certificate of deposit was purchased at Ultima Bank of Fosston. Motion by Coe, seconded by Mandt, and passed unanimously to approve Ultima Bank of Fosston as a financial depository of RLWD funds.

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2012 Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) Joint Powers Agreement levy adopted at their July 19, 2011 meeting. One-half of the proceeds of this levy stays within the Red Lake Watershed District to be used for Capital Projects and one-half is submitted to the RRWMB.

Beltrami County Board submitted a resolution to the RLWD regarding the withdrawal of lands within Beltrami and Itasca County that are presently within the boundaries of the Red Lake Watershed District and that are apparently outside the actual watershed. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, and unanimously passed to accept the resolution approving the withdrawal of land, update the District's resolution and submit it to the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

A draft letter addressed to Collin Peterson regarding serious water quality issues threatening Refuge wetlands and downstream impacts and seek funding through Federal programs (Farm Bill) for a pilot project to reduce the sediment loads. It was the consensus of the Board to table this until the next Board meeting to allow time to review the letter and make recommendations.

Administrator Jesme presented a survey of the south boundary ditch of the RLWD property. Throughout the years the ditch has silted in and trees have grown within the ditch causing poor drainage. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Mandt, to approve the cleaning of the south boundary ditch. Motion carried.

East Polk SWCD District Manager Gary Lee and District Technician Katie Engelmann, presented plans for the construction of two (2) water and sediment basins on the Edgar Olson property, Queen Township, Polk County and requested cost share. Motion by Coe, seconded by
Tiedemann, and passed unanimously to approve the expenditure of $12,500 from the 2011 Erosion Control project funds for East Polk County.

Notes from the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners meeting regarding Merle Kolstad’s appearance at their Board meeting were distributed. After considerable discussion on options for Mr. Kolstad, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Knott, to pursue cost sharing with different entities to do clearing and snagging, and bring results back to a future Board meeting. Motion carried. Manager Knott agreed to check with various entities.

Revisions to Permit #11070 issued to Darrell Dolalie permit were discussed. All requested work addressed by the Board on June 14, 2011 has been satisfactorily completed.

Tabled RLWD permit #10192 issued to Roger & Greg Herden, Greenwood Township, Clearwater County was presented. Motion by Nordlund, seconded by Mandt, and passed unanimously to approve RLWD Permit #10192 issued to Roger & Greg Herden. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Mandt, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 11074, James Reinbold, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 11080, Marshall County Highway Department, East Valley Township, Marshall County; No. 11081, Paul Engelstad, Parnell Township, Polk County; No. 11082, 11083, and 11084, Mike Tiedemann, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 11085, Sanders Township, Pennington County; No. 11086, Clearwater County Highway Department, Pine Lake Township; No. 11087, Nature Conservancy, Onstad Township, Polk County; No. 11088, John Bugge, Black River Township, Pennington County; No. 11089, Vance Thoreson Inc., Roome Township, Polk County; No. 11090, Folson Farms, Bryan & Barry Folson, Keystone Township, Polk County; No. 11091, Polk County Drainage Dept. CD 32, Nesbit Township, Polk County; No. 11092, Bruce Newhouse, Fisher Township, Polk County; No. 11093, Bruce Newhouse, Tynsid Township, Polk County; No. 11096, Wade Forsberg, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 11098, Donald Magner, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 11099, Josephine Vilen, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; and No. 11100, Kenneth Asp, Numedal Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Board recessed.

At 9:30 a.m. President Nelson reconvened the Board meeting. Jerry Bennett and Rodney Langaas, Viewers for Improvement to Pennington County Ditch No. 1/Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project; Thief River Falls Mayor Steve Nordhagen, Jodie Torkelson and Mark Borseth, City of Thief River Falls; April Schienoha, TRF Times; and Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering Inc., were in attendance. Jerry Bennett gave a presentation on the history of the project, explained how the Viewers had arrived at the benefits and damages of the project, and answered questions of the Board. Informational meetings to be held prior to the Hearing were discussed. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to accept the filing of the Viewers Report pending the signature of Roger Beiswenger. Motion carried.
Administrator’s Update:

- Due to recent rains over the weekend of July 23-24, gates were closed temporarily on Parnell, Euclid East, and Brandt. They were opened again on Monday, July 25.
- Jesme and Manager Knott attended the RRWMB meeting held on July 19, 2011 at Fertile. Included in the Board’s packet is the approved minutes dated June 21, 2011.
- Mowing has been or will be completed on State Ditch #83, RLWD Ditch No. 3, Burnham Creek, RLWD Ditch No. 12, and Polk County Ditch Improvement Project No. 119. Mowing should move into Clearwater County this week.
- Jesme and Manager Nordlund are scheduled to submit RLWD’s 2010 Annual Report to the Clearwater County commissioners meeting on Tuesday, August 9.
- Jesme and Arlene Novak attended the retirement party for Gerald Amiot, Polk County Auditor Treasurer on July 26.
- The grant application for the Grand Marais Outlet restoration has been submitted to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.
- RLWD staff attended two Environmental Quality Incentive Programs (EQIP) Work Group meetings over the past week. One was held in Pennington County and one was held in East Polk County.
- Red Lake Falls is notifying neighbors and overlying units of government of its intent to develop a wellhead protection plan. They will be holding two public informational meetings, October 2011 and May 2012.
- Enclosed in the Board’s packet is a BWSR update dated July 21, 2011 and a copy of LAWS of MINNESOTA for 2011 Ch. 12 which relates to Sec. 5, NATURAL RESOURCES.

Manager Coe reported that due to a conflict he was unable to attend the Beltrami County Board of Commissioner’s meeting to present the RLWD’s 2010 Annual Report as originally scheduled. He has rescheduled to Tuesday, August 2.

Discussion was held on the timeframe of the hearing date and hosting informational meetings for the Improvement to Pennington County Ditch No. 1/Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project Nos. 171 and 171A, respectively. Motion was made by Ose, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously to hold the hearing on the Improvement to Pennington County Ditch No. 1, RLWD Project No. 171, on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ralph Engelstad Arena Imperial Room.

Additional discussion was held on the hearing date and time for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Motion by Ose, seconded by Knott, to hold a hearing for the Establishment of a Water Management District concerning the Thief River Flood Damage Reduction Project, on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at the Ralph Engelstad Arena Imperial Room. Motion carried.

The timeframe of completing the Property Owners Report for RLWD Project No. 171 and addressing landowner questions concerning Project 171A was discussed. Motion by Mandt,
seconded by Ose, to hold the joint informational meetings for RLWD Project No. 171, and 171A at the RLWD office, at least 2 weeks prior to the hearing, have at least one Viewer present, and with the actual date being set to accommodate staff and Viewers’ schedules.

Legal Counsel Sparby will submit a letter of response to Sue Johnson for her questions of the RLWD Board at the previous Board meeting. Landowners along Lateral to Pennington County Ditch 75 were sent easement forms to sign and return and the permanent and temporary damage checks will be sent to the landowners prior to construction.

Legal Counsel Sparby also indicated that he would draft a letter to Mr. Dolalie explaining the rules and regulation of the District which allows the District to require permitting. The draft letter to Collin Peterson was re-addressed by the Board. It was noted that in the letter it does not address cleaning out the drainage system.

President Nelson presented the Proposed 2012 General Fund Budget. Nelson stated that the Budget/Salary committee members Nelson, Coe, and Tiedemann had met previously to the review the 2011 Budget and Salary recommendations. The Board met in closed session to discuss salary negotiations.

Motion by Mandt, seconded by Nordlund, and passed unanimously to approve 2012 staff salaries and to set the 2012 General Fund Budget hearing for 9:30 a.m. Thursday, August 25, 2011 at the RLWD office.

Motion by Coe, seconded by Nordlund, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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Orville Knott, Secretary