

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
February 9, 2012

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

President Dale M. Nelson welcomed Board Member Les Torgerson who replaced Kelly Nordlund for Clearwater County.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Knott, to dispense reading of the January 27, 2012 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated February 8, 2012. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated February 8, 2012.

Staff member Corey Hanson presented an agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the Red Lake River and Grand Marais Creek Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG), RLWD Project No. 157CC. Hanson stated that the grant would consist of 100% funding, with no matching funds required. The District will partner with the Pennington, Marshall and Red Lake SWCD offices along with the International Water Institute for water quality monitoring. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the grant for Red Lake River and Grand Marais Creek Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG), RLWD Project No. 157CC. Motion carried.

Pennington SWCD submitted a request for a financial donation for the Area I Envirothon. The Area I Envirothon will be held on April 25, 2012, at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to donate \$300 to Area I Envirothon. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order from the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources certifying the Withdrawal of Territory from the Red Lake Watershed District into the Mississippi watershed. The request for Withdrawal of Territory was petitioned for from Beltrami County.

MAWD dues for 2012 were presented to the Board. Motion by Knott, seconded by Mandt, and passed unanimously to approve paying \$3,500 for the 2012 MAWD dues.

The Minnesota Viewers Association annual dues for 2012 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Ose, with motion carried to approve the payment of \$125.00 for the Minnesota Viewers Association 2012 dues.

Engineer Jeff Langan presented the Engineers Report for the Grand Marais Creek Cut Channel, RLWD Project No. 60FF to the Board for informational purposes. Langan gave an overview of the project and answered questions of the Board. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to accept the Engineers Report for the Grand Marais Creek Cut Channel, RLWD Project No. 60FF for filing. 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. 11230, Ray Kvalog, Sanders Township, Pennington County; 12007, Clearwater County Highway Department, Pine Lake Township; No. 12008 and 12009, Pennington County Highway Department, Sanders Township; No. 12010 and 12011, Pennington County Highway Department, Rocksbury Township; and No. 12013, Lessor Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

#### Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott will attend the RRWMB scheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup> at the District office.
- Jesme was informed that landowners circulating a petition for the new legal drainage system downstream of the Brant Impoundment have approximately 52% of the lands required. Landowners were encouraged to continue circulating the petition to assure adequate signatures in the event any signatures are not valid. Jesme recently met with a township official downstream of the potential ditch to answer questions and explain the petition process.
- Included in the packet is a spreadsheet showing all Certified Special Taxing District Levy Changes for CY 2012.
- Jesme will attend a WRP and RIM/FDR meeting in Detroit Lakes on February 13<sup>th</sup> with most of the Watershed District Administrators in the Red River Valley and NRCS staff to get a better understanding of how WRP/RIM dollars can assist in developing FDR projects.
- Jesme, Corey Hanson and Loren Sanderson met with Beltrami SWCD District Manager Bill Patnaude and Beltrami NRCS Conservationist Larry Voltz to discuss a long term water quality plan for the Moose River.
- The District staff are working with a local contractor to assist in clean up of debris along the banks of the Moose River Impoundment. Debris has been accumulating over years which has made it difficult to mow.
- Minor brushing will take place on the Parnell Impoundment this winter and staff will inspect other impoundments to determine if any additional work is required. Funds will be taken from the yearly budgeted maintenance fund. The District has received the controlled burn plan from the USFWS for the Parnell Impoundment. The burn will be completed this spring/summer at the direction of the USFWS and will be completed in-kind and at no cost to the District other than staff time.

- Included in your packet is the January 2012 Water Quality Report. Staff member Corey Hanson has been busy organizing and holding the Thief River Watershed Assessment Stakeholder and Committee meetings that have been held in the district office over the past few weeks.

At 10:00 a.m., the bid opening for the construction of the Improvement to Pennington County Ditch 1/Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171/171A, was conducted. Legal Counsel Sparby noted the time and that all bid proposals have been accepted by the 10:00 a.m. bid closing. Bids were opened and bid amounts were publicly announced and are on file at the office of the Watershed District.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that Fox Lawson is reviewing Job Descriptions and pay range recommendations for District employees.

Motion was made by Coe, seconded by Ose, to accept the apparent low bid for construction of the Improvement to Pennington County Ditch 1, RLWD Project No. 171, contingent upon the audit and review of the bids and approval by Legal Counsel Sparby, District staff, and Project Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to accept the apparent low bid for construction of the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A, contingent upon the audit and review of the bids and approval by Legal Counsel Sparby, District staff, and Project Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the recent increased cost estimate from HDR, Engineering, Inc. for completion of the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Administrator Jesme indicated that he has been in contact with Pat Lynch, FDR Hydrologist, MN Department of Natural Resources in regards to an increase in funding share from the State of Minnesota and that Mr. Lynch indicated that he felt any increase of funding share request should be addressed after the bids were received. Administrator Jesme will contact Mr. Lynch with the outcome of the bids. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, that the District will increase their contribution an additional 50% to match any increase in State cost share in order to meet the anticipated gap in project completion costs for the construction of Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Motion carried.

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



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Orville Knott, Secretary