

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
October 11, 2012

Present were: Managers Lee Coe, Orville Knott, Dale M. Nelson, LeRoy Ose, Les Torgerson, Gene Tiedemann and Albert Mandt. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Torgerson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to dispense reading of the September 27, 2012 Board meeting minutes and approve them with a minor correction. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated October 10, 2012. Motion by Knott, seconded by Mandt, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated October 10, 2012. Motion carried.

District Staff presented a letter requesting the Board to consider an increase in the District's contribution to the staff health insurance premiums.

Staff member Arlene Novak discussed a mutual understanding and agreement between the Northwest Service Cooperative Wellness Institute and the District with respect to the operation of a Wellness Program for District Staff to participate in. Novak stated that if Staff members choose to participate in the Wellness Program, the Wellness Institute would agree to pay incentives to the employee at no cost to the District. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the agreement between the District and the Northwest Service Cooperative Wellness Institute. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that currently the District offers life insurance to the Staff through USABLE Life. Jesme received various quotes comparable to what is currently offered to the Staff. If the District switched to a Sun Life Policy the District would have a savings of \$1,666.20 per year. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Knott, to approve the change in life insurance carriers from USABLE Life to Sun Life. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the interest rate for the purchase of a bond for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. At the September 27, 2012, the Board voted to levy the allowable amount of \$700,000 for the Water Management District, but had not set the interest rate. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the District could bond the levy through Pennington County or the District could fund the project and collect the interest. Pennington County is currently working on financing the bond for construction of RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171. Motion by Mandt, seconded by Coe, to pursue bonding for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A through Pennington County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a request from the East Polk SWCD for the Bruce Grundyson Water/Sediment Basin Project located in Section 28, King Township. The total project cost is \$44,371.90, with the East Polk SWCD requesting \$12,500 from the 2012 Erosion Control Funds,

RLWD Project No. 164. Motion by Mandt, seconded by Ose, to approve the request of the East Polk SWCD for cost share in the amount of \$12,500 for the Bruce Grundyson Water/Sediment Basin Project from the 2012 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion carried.

The MAWD Annual meeting will be held November 29 – December 1, 2012 at the Arrowwood Conference Center in Alexandria, MN.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conference will be held January 22-24, 2013 at the Alerus Center and Canad Inns, Grand Forks, ND.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed a permit violation that took place in Section 22, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County. Sanderson stated that the landowners had until October 25, 2012 to restore the road slope or the District would take further action to repair the work. The violators completed the work on October 10<sup>th</sup> and will complete an after the fact permit application.

Sanderson discussed Permit No. 12082, Polk County Highway Department, Belguim Township. Sanderson discussed the application and request of the Polk County Highway Department for the installation of several pipes under paved roads, installation of a driveway crossing and installing a berm along the south side of CSAH 19. Sanderson is recommending that the County consider running the water along the north side of CSAH 19 where a berm currently exists and the jacking of culverts under tar roads would not be necessary. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Mandt, to approve Permit No. 12082, Polk County Highway Department, and that conditions be stated on the permit that we approve the permit with reservations in that the District staff felt there was a better alternative that should have been considered. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Knott, seconded by Torgerson, to approve the following permits with conditions states on the permit: No. 12141, Leland Nelson, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 12142, Bryton Wagner, Fanny Township, Polk County; No. 12143, GMG Farms, Belgium Township, Polk County; No. 12144, Richard Salentiny, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 12145, Andrew Anderson, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 12146, JTO, Inc., Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 12147, Tim Sandland, Valley Township, Marshall County; No. 12148, George Cariveau, Northland and Tabor Townships, Polk County; No. 12149, Reiner Township, Pennington County; and No. 12150, Gary Grove and Pat Witcherman, Gervais Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

#### Administrators Update:

- Manager Knott and Jesme will attend the RRWMB meeting held at the Sandhill River Watershed District office on October 16, 2012.
- The 2012 River Watch Kick-Off meeting was held at the Best Western in Thief River Falls on October 9, 2012. Staff member Jim Blix attended and Jesme gave a presentation showing FDR and NRE projects throughout the valley which gave the students a better understanding of what their research leads to. There was approximately representation from 8 schools and upwards of 60 participants.

- A preconstruction meeting with Taggard Excavating was held on October 2, 2012 for the Clearbrook Stormwater Project. There was some delay in construction due to the fires in northwestern Minnesota as Taggard has a contract with the State for emergency fire calls. Work should begin the week of October 15, 2012.
- A preconstruction meeting with Wright Construction was held on October 9, 2012 for the Flage Erosion Control Project. Phase I construction which consists of the diversion ditch and structures should start on this site within a week's time.
- Included in your packet is a thank you letter from Daniel Svedarsky for the cost share of a research project concerning a storm water study in the City of Crookston.
- Included in your packet is an article written by Community Development Director labeled "A Low Red Lake River Can Cause Problems, Too".

Administrator Jesme stated that he is in the process of extending the grant agreement from the Board of Water and Soil Resources to allow a phase II permit be applied for through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to allow the District to expand the project area for the Grand Marais Creek Cut Channel, RLWD Project No. 60F.

Manager Knott stated that the landowners on the Flage Erosion Control Project, RLWD Project No. 174 will be contributing approximately \$5,000 of funding towards the project cost. Knott stated that Phase 2 construction will take place after the stabilization of the diversion ditch.

Manager Knott discussed the funding of the Red River Retention Authority.

Administrator Jesme updated the Board on construction activities for Ditch 14, RLWD Project No. 171 and Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A.

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



---

Orville Knott, Secretary