

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
February 14, 2013

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

Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Mandt, to dispense reading of the January 24, 2013, Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated February 13, 2013. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated February 13, 2013. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the West Polk County FSA in regard to reclassifying of CRP acreage in the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 121.

Discussion was held in regard to the bond and bond fees and how it relates to the Water Management District (WMD) for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. The District stated at the hearing that it would only bond up to \$700,000 for the WMD. Administrator Jesme stated that when purchasing the bond, the cost of purchasing the bond is also included in the \$700,000 therefore the WMD will be short approximately \$15,000, due to the administrative cost of the bond. A final number will be available once the project is complete.

Discussion regarding the filing of the Notice of Deferred Water Management District Charges for property within the WMD, Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171, was held by the Board. A Notice of Deferred Water Management District Charges that would have a deferred fee for any futures changes in land use that should be recorded with property within the WMD. The deferment of charges is intended to assure all properties developed in the future will be charged at the same rate as developed properties are today.

Duane Steinbrink, West Polk SWCD and Jim Hest, Red River Valley Conservation Service Area, presented the Wayne Sorenson Grade Stabilization Project to prevent erosion at the tail end of a drainage system that is not part of the legal ditch system. The project would create a grass waterway and installation of rock riprap structure/grade stabilization structure. The project is located in Section 36, Fisher Township, Polk County. The total project cost is \$33,614.30, with the West Polk SWCD requesting \$12,500.00 from the Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the request of the West Polk SWCD for cost share in the amount of \$12,500.00 for the Wayne Sorenson Grade Stabilization Project from the 2013 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion carried.

Nicole Bernd, West Polk SWCD, discussed the Burnham Creek Subwatershed Erosion Control Project grant that she applied for and was granted in the amount of \$208,610 through the MN Board of Water & Soil Resources Clean Water Funds. Bernd stated that this project is strictly for water quality enhancement and will include the placement of rock weirs in approximately a two mile stretch of Burnham Creek. Bernd stated that the District is required to contribute a 25% match of the grant received. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to accept the grant in the amount of \$208,610 from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources Funds, with a 25% match from the District for the Burnham Creek Erosion Control Project, RLWD Project No. 43C. Motion carried.

Staff member Gary Lane discussed a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Grant that was received for fish habitat on the Burnham Creek in the amount of \$50,000. Lane stated that culverts are too high within the Burnham Creek therefore fish passage is not possible. Although the District would be responsible for 25% match as part of the grant, Lane indicated that he felt a 40% match would be required to complete all tasks in the project. It was also mentioned that the 40% match can be cash or in-kind services. Lane further stated that a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant has been applied for and if received can be used towards the 40% match. Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to accept the grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the MN Department of Natural Resources, with a 40% match from the District for the Burnham Creek Fish Habitat Project, RLWD Project No. 43D. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme and Lane both stated that additional ditch maintenance will be completed within the Burnham Creek, RLWD Project No. 43B that will be paid for through ditch system funds.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., presented the Detailed Survey Report for filing for Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #15, RLWD Project No. 175. Administrator Jesme stated that the bond for the project was increased to \$100,000 and that the Viewers are in the process of completing the Viewers Report. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, to accept the filing of the Detailed Survey Report for Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #15, RLWD Project No. 175. Motion carried.

Further discussion was held on the Notice of Deferred Water Management District Charges for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A. Administrator Jesme stated that the Notice of Deferred Water Management District Charges would be recorded with property within the Water Management District, therefore any new land purchase would be aware of the fees up front. Any land use changes would also be subject to these fees. Administrator Jesme stated that staff has had discussion with the City of Thief River Falls in regard to any permit notifications for land use changes within the city limits. Engineer Nate Dalager will work on a listing of empty lots within the area. Discussion was held on whether the Board would add an interest charge to the fees. It was the consensus of the Board to have Administrator Jesme and Legal Counsel Sparby consult with Attorney John Kolb, Rinke Noonan in regard to the contents and process of recording the document.

The Board reviewed a summary of construction from Engineer, William K. Westerberg, North Central Minnesota Joint Powers Board for construction of the Clearbrook Stormwater Treatment Pond, RLWD Project No. 160.

Administrator Jesme stated that the MPCA wishes to complete a Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAP) plan for the Grand Marais Creek subwatershed. Any administrative costs by the District would be paid for under the project costs. Jesme stated the MPCA will collect pre and post construction data in the Grand Marais Creek subwatershed. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Torgerson, to name the project Grand Marais Creek WRAP, RLWD Project No. 157D. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme reviewed an amended FEMA D-Firm Grant, RLWD Project No. 172. Jesme stated that there has been some delay in the tasks that Wenck/Baker has been performing due to a model that was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Cities of Crookston and East Grand Forks. Jesme stated that the City of Thief River Falls will proceed with the mapping panels, whereas the City of Red Lake Falls has decided not to as there is not enough lands in the flood plains that warrant the completion of the panels. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the amended FEMA D-Firm Grant, RLWD Project No. 172. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Sales Tax Base Broadening proposal being recommended by Governor Dayton. Administrator Jesme stated that if the proposal would proceed, applying to known 2012 data, there would have been a \$44,152.34 potential sales tax implication in 2012 for the District.

The Board reviewed the City of Oklee Amended Wellhead Protection Plan.

The 2013 MAWD Legislative Reception and Day at the Capitol will be held March 13-14, 2013 in St. Paul.

The Board discussed changing the regularly scheduled Board meeting on March 14, 2013 to allow Board members and Administrator Jesme to attend the 2013 MAWD Legislative Reception and Day at the Capitol. Motion by Ose, seconded by Mandt, to change the March 14, 2013 meeting to Monday, March 11, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the District office. Motion carried.

The 15th Annual Joint RRWMB/Red River Basin FDR Conference will be held March 26-27, 2013 in Moorhead, MN.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 13004, MnDOT, Hines and Langor Township, Beltrami County, and No. 13005, MnDOT, Lowell Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Manager Knott and Jesme will attend the RRWMB meeting in Ada on February 19, 2013. Included in the packet is the RRWMB 2012 Treasurer's Report and approved minutes from December 18, 2012.
- Staff member Corey Hanson and Jesme attended a planning meeting with the Pennington SWCD staff and Board to give an overview on partnered projects both past and present.
- Jesme has been asked to assist students from an Agro Class at the University of Minnesota Crookston to study how changes in agricultural land use affects the ecological landscape of the sub-watershed. The students will interview governmental entities as well as landowners along various parts of Project 60 to get their feelings of various projects.
- Jesme attended a landowner meeting in Newfolden hosted by the Marshall County NRCS, Marshall County Highway Department, Middle Snake Tamarac Watershed District, and RLWD. This meeting was intended to assist landowners in identifying who or what governmental entity they should contact for permitting prior to performing various land management projects on their property
- Representatives from BWSR will be in the office today to review financial documents and final plans for the Grand Marais Creek Cut Chanel Project No. 60FF and the CD 20/SD 83 Channel Stabilization Project No. 14D. This is in conjunction with us closing out the grant for both projects and to answer any questions BWSR may have.
- A Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration, Project No. 60F Joint Board meeting and Project Team meeting will be held on February 21, 2013 at the District office. Included in the packet are the Thief River Watershed Restoration and Assessment Project Stakeholders Update.

President Nelson stated that the Committee had met to discuss the 20% Flood Retention goal within the Red River Valley and have identified 6 potential sites. Discussion was held on the next step in determining where to begin. It was the consensus of the Board to bring the matter up to the Overall Advisory Committee meeting to be held in March.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary