

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 24, 2014

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

The Board reviewed the agenda. President Nelson requested to add the District's Commercial General Liability insurance from Western National Insurance Company to the agenda. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of the District's Commercial General Liability insurance from Western National Insurance Company. Motion carried.

Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the April 10, 2014 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated April 23, 2014. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated April 23, 2014. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the premium for the District's Commercial, General Liability and Workman's Compensation through Western National Insurance Company is \$10,748. We are still waiting for a quote from the League of Minnesota Cities. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann to approve the District's Commercial, General Liability and Workman's Compensation through Western National Insurance Company in the amount of \$10,748. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that individual letters were sent to Pennington County landowners that are in the floodplain stating that the 100 year floodplain on their property either increased or decreased. Notices are being published in the local paper. After the second publication, the 90 day appeal process will begin. During the appeal period, a landowner may request for reconsideration of the changes based on technical data. The Districts website is currently hosting the map revision as well as the summary explaining the process.

Administrator Jesme stated that the land rental agreement with Craig Stroot on the Parnell Impoundment expires December 31, 2014. The current land rental agreement is for 96 acres at \$25.00 per acre. Discussion was held on increasing the rental rate per acre. Motion by Knott, seconded by Torgerson, to approve a three year contract extension with Craig Stroot for 96 acres and increase the rate to \$30.00 per acre. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the cattail management presentation given by Dan Svedarsky at the April 10, 2014 Board meeting. Administrator Jesme stated Mr. Svedarsky has applied for a LCCMR Grant. If the grant is received they will harvest 20 – 30 acres of cattails in the Parnell Impoundment, Project No. 81.

The Board reviewed a letter sent to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources requesting payment of the State's settlement portion for work completed on State Ditch #83. Jesme stated that there was an oversight on behalf of the State payment for 2012. Jesme requested funding for both 2012 and 2013.

Administrator Jesme stated that the U.S.G.S. applied for and received an additional \$168,000 LCCMR Grant for the Glacial Ridge Project, RLWD Project No. 152B. Jesme stated that he will find out if there will be another contract for this grant or if we are just amending the previous grant.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Mandt, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 14009, North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC, Fairfax Township, Polk County; No. 14010, Kraig Kainz, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 14012, Les Cota, River Falls Township, Pennington County; No. 14013, Dan Helle, Black River Township, Pennington County; No. 14015, Jon Meyer, Russia Township, Polk County; No. 14016, Excel Township, Marshall County and, No. 14017, Pennington County Highway Department, Sanders Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme reminded the Board that the Thief River Falls Community Expo will be held today from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Ralph Engelstad Arena, Thief River Falls. Staff members Nick Olson and Jim Blix will work the booth.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott attended the RRWMB meeting in Fertile on April 15th. Jesme also attended the RRWMB Finance Committee meeting where they discussed future financial issues facing the RRWMB, increased land values in the valley and how that is affecting property taxes as well as future federal funding for FDR.
- Jesme updated the Board on water levels at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge.
- The following impoundments are all presently being drawn down: Euclid East, Brandt, Good Lake and Moose River. As of April 22, the Parnell Impoundment is closed due to County Ditch 126 being blocked. Pine Lake in-flows are subsiding and stop logs will be adjusted accordingly.
- Jesme and staff member Gary Lane attended a Burnham Creek permitting meeting at the West Polk SWCD. Representatives from the USACOE, BWSR, and West Polk SWCD were in attendance. It was determined that we would apply for all phases of the project into a 404 permit which will be submitted to the USACOE and reviewed by TEP.
- Jesme attended a One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) meeting April 14, 2014 at the Pennington SWCD. This meeting was held with Tanya Hanson-Red Lake SWCD, Matt Fisher-BWSR, and Peter Nelson-Pennington SWCD to finalize the Request for Information (RFI) on the 1W1P Pilot Project. The RFI has been completed and submitted to BWSR for review on April 21st.

- Included in the packet was a letter from Koch Pipeline outlining future maintenance described as a routine hydro test of Minnesota Pipe Line Company's line 1 from Clearwater County to Dakota County.
- Included in the packet was the March/April River Rendezvous newsletter.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. discussed the permitting process for RLWD Ditch 15, Project No. 175. Dalager has been working with Craig Jarnot, USACOE in regard to permitting wetlands adjacent to the natural ditch. Dalager stated that the USACOE has determined that there are approximately 3.5 acres of wetlands. The wetlands would need to be mitigated and multiplied by 2 for an approximate cost to the ditch system of \$85,000. Dalager stated on the $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile just west of Hwy. 75, it would be possible to dig the ditch down to the new grade but not pull the slopes back, therefore reducing the wetland mitigation down to 1.7 acres. Jesme stated that the USACOE is not giving us credit for a 20' buffer that we are establishing on both sides of the ditch that will now be a perpetual easement. Dalager and Jesme will attend a pre-construction meeting this afternoon with Davidson Construction, Inc. Dalager stated that the first 10 miles of the project can be constructed without the permit application in place. It was the consensus of the Board that if the contractor is ready to start, that we should proceed with construction as soon as possible.

The Board discussed the Pine Lake/Four Legged Lake Informational meeting to be held May 8, 2014 at the Clearbrook Community Center. Dalager will give a history of how the District reached this point, similar to what he previously presented to the Board. Dalager will also include current photos of District projects in the presentation.

Manager Knott stated that there was a small washout at the Chuck Flage Erosion Control, Project No. 174.

Motion by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, to adjourn the meeting to May 8, 2014 at the Clearbrook Community Center, 200 Elm Street, Clearbrook, MN at 3:00 p.m. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary