

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
August 13, 2015

President Dale M. Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

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

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

Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the July 23, 2015 Board meeting minutes and approve as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated August 12, 2015. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded Torgerson, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated August 12, 2015. Motion carried.

Thief River Falls Regional Airport Manager Joe Hedrick and Pennington County Highway Department Engineer Mike Flaagan appeared before the Board in regard to a large sink hole that was created from a rusted out 48" drop structure/culvert west of the Thief River Falls Airport, near the archery range. Flaagan stated that this structure, which outlets into an oxbow thus out letting into the Red Lake River, have rusted out therefore causing a severe erosion issue. Flaagan stated that he estimated the cost to be approximately \$20,000 for the installation of a 90' culvert with a ripped outlet. Hedrick and Flaagan requested a 50% cost share from the District for erosion control. Flaagan stated that the SWCD has a cost share program, but funding would not be awarded until the end of year, with construction taking place in 2016. Flaagan is concerned about additional erosion and water quality concerns. Motion by Ose, seconded by Knott, to authorize the District to cost share 50% of the construction costs, not to exceed \$10,000 from the District's Water Quality Funds for the installation and repair of the culvert and outlet structure. Motion carried. Flaagan stated that he will work with Staff Member Loren Sanderson for assistance in culvert sizing.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc. updated the Board on the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 60F. Nordby stated that that Joint Powers Board set the Final Payment Hearing for Davidson Construction, Inc. for August 27, 2015 at 9:45 a.m. to be held in conjunction with the District's Board meeting, followed by the Final Payment Hearing for R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. at 10:00 a.m. Nordby reviewed some aerial photos taken by Manager Ose

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed the Grand Marais Creek Cut Channel, RLWD Project No. 60FF. Nordby stated that they noticed the start of some cracking along the north bank of the cut channel that had been sloped at 5 ½ to 1. Nordby stated that after

discussion with Polk County Engineer, Rich Sanders and Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc., it was the consensus of the group to monitor the area for a few months to see if there is any further slumping. Nordby stated that a meeting will be held later this fall with Polk County and the District to view the area.

The Board reviewed the RRWMB 2016 Levy Resolution. The RRWMB will maintain their levy at 75% of the 100%, which is a reduction of what they could levy.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Daniel L. Rust, Legal Counsel for landowner Conrad Zak. Mr. Zak is requesting compensation for the removal of a 90 year old crossing as part of the construction of RLWD Ditch 15, Project No. 175. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that Mr. Zak did not appeal the removal of his crossing during the appeal process. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize Administrator Jesme and Legal Counsel Sparby to gather the requested documents and submit them to Mr. Rust.

Administrator Jesme stated that Staff member Loren Sanderson viewed the Miller Dam, located in Red Lake County and determined that repairs are needed to the structure. Jesme stated that the current structure is not able to draw down the water levels for necessary repairs. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize Administrator Jesme to hire an Engineer to inspect the Miller Dam, and report back to the Board their recommendations. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed an access map to the Pine Lake outlet structure that was submitted by Staff member Loren Sanderson. Administrator Jesme stated that a developer/landowner is requesting that the District secure a new easement with developer/landowner for access to the Pine Lake structure. Jesme stated that with the current access to the structure, traffic cannot be controlled. With the use of the new access road, local landowners would be aware of who is accessing the area. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Knott, to have the landowner/developer draft up a new easement and submit it to the Board for review. Motion carried.

Engineer Nate Dalager and EIT Corey Gieseke, HDR Engineering, Inc. updated the Board on the Pine Lake Area Project. Dalager discussed potential modification of the existing outlet structure to allow for better control of the lake levels and different criteria for possible retention sites upstream of Pine Lake. Gieseke presented an interactive map that displayed several potential retention sites. Administrator Jesme stated that a landowner meeting will be held on Monday, August 17th at 6:00 p.m. at the Gonvick Community Center to review potential sites with the landowners.

At 10:00 a.m. President Nelson called to order the RLWD Permit and Drainage Rules hearing. Administrator Jesme, read for the record, correspondence from BWSR regarding the review of the proposed amendments. After discussion by the Board, questions and comments were taken from those in attendance at the hearing. The hearing was videotaped and is on file at the RLWD office.

Administrator Jesme discussed head cutting at the outlet of Polk County Ditch No. 63 Improvement, RLWD Project No. 134. Jesme stated that when Staff member Nick Olson inspected the ditch system, he noticed that there was head cutting occurring at the outlet of the system. Jesme stated that it is of no benefit to the legal drainage system to repair this as the ditch functions as it is designed, but the area does receive water from the legal drainage system, which outlets into Burnham Creek. Discussion was held on the installation of a drop structure and erosion control practices. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize the staff to move forward with a potential project, with the possibility of securing funding assistance for installation of erosion control practices and report back to the Board at a later date.

There will be a dedication ceremony on August 20, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. for the Al Gustafson Memorial Rain Garden at the Ralph Engelstad Arena.

Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to deny Permit No. 15096, Darwin Boutain, Minnie Township, Beltrami County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permit for approval. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to approve the following permits with conditions as stated on the permit: No. 15079, Vatthauer Farms, Lake Pleasant/Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 15085, Fanny Township, Polk County; No. 15095, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 15097, Thomas Schmitz, Browns Creek Township, Red Lake County; No. 15098, Wayne Sorenson, Fisher Township, Polk County; and No. 15099, Trever Irlbeck, Espelie Township, Marshall County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that Wright Construction, Inc. is waiting for payment for the grade stabilization project on J.D. 72, RLWD Project No. 41 that was an approved 25% cost share using District's Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Clearwater County SWCD staff indicated to Jesme that they may be short of funds to pay the contractor until the reimbursement from the State is executed therefore causing a delay for payment to the contractor. They asked if the District could pay the contractor partial payment and the SWCD would reimburse the District when State funding arrives. It was the consensus of the Board to add this item to the August 27, 2015 agenda to allow the Board to take action on payment to the contractor with future reimbursement to the District from Clean Water funding through the Clearwater SWCD.

Discussion was held on the Permit Rules and Regulations Hearing. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the Board could adopt the desired changes as recommended by the Board of Water and Soil Resources comments. It was the consensus of the Board to add this item to the August 27, 2015 Board agenda for action.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott will attend the RRWMB meeting in Fertile on August 18th.
- Jesme and members of the LGU staff, HDR Engineering Inc. staff and Chuck Fritz participated in a 1W1P Planning Meeting to review a set of Draft Priority Statements for each Planning Zone.

- Jesme attended a 1W1P governmental roundtable meeting in St. Cloud on August 11th. The meeting was intended to update the group about new legislation, review documents for future 1W1P participants and to review the financial information which will be used as guidance for future BWSR funding for the 1W1P.
- Included in the packet was a press release written by Wayne Goeken concerning a kayak trip the Win-E-Mac High School River Watch students participated in on the Sand Hill River.
- Included in the packet was the MAWD Legislative Update dated July 20, 2015.
- Following the July 23rd Board meeting, the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board toured the Grand Marais Creek Project and set the final payment for the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project and Phase II Diversion Structure for August 27, 2015 at 9:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. respectively.
- Included in the packets were Water Quality Reports from March – June 2015.

Staff member Arlene Novak stated that she toured the St. Hilaire Community Center to view the acoustic panels they had installed to help with sound echoing. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize Novak to work with Manager Torgerson and research the possibility of the installation of acoustic panels in the Board room and report back to the Board at a later date.

President Nelson presented the Proposed 2016 General Fund Budget. Nelson stated that the Budget/Salary committee members Nelson, Coe, and Tiedemann had met previously to review the 2016 Budget and Salary recommendations. Nelson stated that the 2016 Budget is similar to 2015. Motion by Knott, seconded by Ose, and passed unanimously to approve 2016 staff salaries to read as follows. Increase salaries for Engineer Aide/Technician III, Sanderson 7%, Natural Resource Technician, Hitt and Ditch Inspector/Technician II Olson 6%, Administrator Jesme, Accounting Officer Novak, Office Manager Audette 5%, and Water Quality Program Coordinator Hanson 4% and set the 2016 General Fund Budget hearing for 9:30 a.m. Thursday, September 10, 2015 at the RLWD office.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary