

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
February 26, 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 Lee Coe, Orville Knott, LeRoy Ose, and Dale M. Nelson. Absent: Les Torgerson, Albert Mandt, and Gene Tiedemann. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette, Arlene Novak, and Gary Lane and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to dispense reading of the February 12, 2015 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated February 24, 2015. Motion by Knott, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated February 24, 2015. Motion carried. Arlene Novak presented the Investment Summary as of February 25, 2015. Discussion was had as to whether the Board would consider renewing one of the Certificate of Deposits (CD) held with Citizen State Bank for two years at a rate of 1.10% or renew for a one year rate at .65 and whether or not to renew another CD with American State Bank for one year at a rate of .7%. Motion by Coe, seconded by Knott, to re-invest the maturing Certificate of Deposit with Citizens State Bank at a rate of 1.10% for two years and the Certificate of Deposit with American State Bank at a rate of .7% for one year. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the Four Legged Lake Project Work Team, Project No. 102, and the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team, Project No. 26 were both awarded Project Acceleration Grants in the amount of \$12,598.87 from the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group. Jesme stated that he will be meeting with staff from the MnDNR on March 6th in Bemidji to review permitting requirements for the Four Legged Lake Project Work Team. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he will be making some revisions to the Petition for Ditch Abandonment for Judicial Ditch 5 (Four Legged Lake Area), Project No. 102.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he will be in contact with Jerry Seim, Sjobergs Cable TV to work on an easement for the installation of utilities along the corridor of RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171 between Greenwood Street and Pennington County Road #62.

Staff member Gary Lane stated that he met with the Red Lake County Auditor to review the ditch levies for Ditch 1, Project No. 5. Ditch 1 was constructed in 1975, located east of Oklee and consists of Laterals A, B, and C. In 1995, landowners wished to add a lateral to Lateral C, but were required to petition for the establishment of a new legal drainage system, now known as Equality/RLWD Ditch 1, Lateral C, Project No. 115. Lane stated that when Project No. 115 was initiated, properties were assessed for the new system as well as the old system that was replaced. Lane stated that in his opinion, Lateral C should have been abandoned at the same time the new legal public drainage system was established. Administrator Jesme stated that in

September 2012, the District levied \$1,412.40, payable in 2013 for Project No. 5. At that time, Red Lake County requested the levy be postponed for payment in 2013 as they realized that they did not have the proper benefitted area set up for payment on Project No. 5. To date, the District does not have record of any payment payable on the 2013 levy. An additional levy in the amount of \$3,531 was issued in September 2014, payable in 2015. Discussion was held on rescinding the motions for levies collectable in 2013 and 2015, therefore allowing Red Lake County time to remedy the situation, and allow time for Legal Counsel Sparby to research the issue to see if a ditch abandonment is required since both systems overlay each other. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, to rescind previous motions made for levies payable in 2013 and 2015 for RLWD Ditch 1, Project No. 5 to allow time for Red Lake County to remedy the situation. Motion unanimously carried.

The Board reviewed comments received from BWSR on the revised permit rules of the District. It was the consensus of the Board to have Administrator Jesme and Legal Counsel Sparby review the comments and report back to the Board.

Administrator Jesme stated that the compressor for the heat pump in District's office needs to be replaced. Jesme received a quote in the amount of \$3,785 from Brodin's for replacement of the compressor. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to approve the replacement of the compressor for the District office. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that as part of the Red Lake River 1W1P Bylaws, each local unit of government is allowed three representatives on the 1W1P Advisory Committee. Jesme stated that Dan Schmitz who is on the RLWD Advisory Committee has volunteered to participate.

The Board reviewed a newspaper article that was in the Star Tribune regarding buffer strips. Manager Coe discussed a recent meeting he attended regarding buffer strips. Legal Counsel Sparby commented that a perfect example to promote buffer strips establishments would be the Ruffy Brook Project that the District recently contributed funding towards with the Clearwater SWCD.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Knott, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 15001, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Beltrami, Polk and Clearwater County's and No. 15002, Bryan Enright, Fanny Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme indicated that the March 12, 2015 Board meeting date conflicts with the MAWD Legislative Reception held on March 11-12, 2015, and the March 26, 2015 Board meeting conflicts with the 17th Annual Joint Conference held on March 25-26, 2015. Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to change the March 12, 2015 Board meeting to March 13, 2015 and the March 26, 2015 Board meeting date to March 27, 2015. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott attended the RRWMB meeting on February 17th and the Red River Flood Damage Reduction Work Group meeting on March 18th both at the District office.

- A kick-off meeting for the Red Lake River 1W1P will be held on March 18th at the District office. Notices and Public Survey Information will be sent out along with newspaper advertisements.
- There will be a Grand Marais WRAP technical meeting on March 9th at the “Tech” room at the East Grand Forks Public Library. The public meeting is intended to introduce the Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan for the Grand Marais and give the public an idea as to what this study is trying to accomplish.
- The Parnell Impoundment Advisory Committee meeting was held on February 19th with Advisory Committee members and County Commissioners representing both Judicial Ditch #60 and Polk County Ditch 126.
- Jesme attended a Red River Valley Administrators meeting in Fertile on February 23rd.
- Included in the packet was the November and December 2014 Water Quality Report.

Discussion was held in regard to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee holding a meeting to discuss potential retention sites. It was the consensus of the Board that we should continue to focus on getting the Four Legged Lake and Pine Lake Project Work Teams moving forward before we add another PWT.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he will working on the easement for Ditch 14, RLWD Project No. 171 with Sjobergs and the City of Thief River Falls and also the ditch abandonment petition for JD No. 5/Four Legged Lake, Project No. 120.

Manager Ose discussed the 32nd Annual Red River Basin Land & Water International Summit Conference he attended in Winnipeg.

Manager Knott discussed the RRWMB meeting he attended on February 17, 2015.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary