

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
January 22, 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, Gene Tiedemann, Les Torgerson, Albert Mandt and Dale M. Nelson. Absent: 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 Mandt, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the January 8, 2015 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 21, 2015. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Mandt, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 21, 2015. Motion carried. Administrator Jesme stated that Staff member Arlene Novak brought to his attention that Border State Bank was offering a 19 month Certificate of Deposit at a rate of 1.05%. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to purchase a \$200,000 Certificate of Deposit at a rate of 1.05% for 19 months from funds in the Investor Savings account at Border State Bank. Motion carried.

Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed the meeting held with Davidson Construction, Inc. in regard to winter suspension for construction of the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project No. 60F. Langan stated that they reviewed the punch list items with the Contractor, with everyone being in concurrence with the items listed. Langan stated that Project Inspector, Engineer Sam Umlauf has resigned from Houston Engineering, Inc., indicating that either Engineer Tony Nordby or recently hired Derek Kayser will complete the construction inspection. Langan stated that the major construction items are complete, with the flat cars requiring additional reflector tape and additional clean-up work will be required in the spring prior to seeding. Minor work will be needed on the aggregate surface on County Road 64 and the Esther Township road to the gun club. Langan indicated that any sediment deposited in the Spring from back water will be cleaned out by the Contractor.

Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. stated that K& K Trucking is in the process of stockpiling quarried rock riprap from Williams at the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration-Diversion Channel, Project No. 60F. Langan stated that the Contractor hauled approximately 25% of the riprap, with the Engineer not accepting what they have currently hauled in. Langan stated that the quarried rock riprap does not meet specifications, therefore it will be rejected. K&K Trucking will attempt to hammer the riprap to break them down to smaller pieces. Langan stated that the larger pieces could be used for the bottom areas only. Administrator Jesme stated that he has a verbal agreement with landowner Travis Vanyo to stock pile the quarry rock on his property with the agreement that any damages will be repaired in the Spring and any excess rock will need to be removed by the Contractor.

Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. stated that he will work with Polk County to fix some additional bank stabilization on the north side of the Grand Marais Creek Cut Channel, Project No. 60FF. Administrator Jesme stated that he recently completed an update of the Accomplishment Plan for the Lessard Sam Outdoor Heritage Counsel. This update had to be completed by February 1, 2015.

The Board reviewed a proposal for engineering services from HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Pine Lake Subwatershed Flood Damage Reduction, Project No. 26. Engineer Nate Dalager stated that the proposal is being submitted pursuant to a request from the Board at the January 8, 2015 Board meeting. Dalager stated that the following tasks are included in the engineering services proposal: Project Team and Concept Development to include Project Management and Project Team Coordination/Meetings, Preparation of Technical Information and Site Investigations. The estimated costs for the work described is \$56,000, which would be performed on a time and materials not-to-exceed basis. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, to approve the proposal for engineering services from HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Pine Lake Project No. 26 in the amount of \$56,000. Motion carried. Administrator Jesme stated that he is in the process of a completing a Project Acceleration Grant from the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group for the Pine Lake Project No. 26 and Four Legged Lake Project No. 102.

The Board reviewed the proposed revised Permit Rules and Regulations as a direct result from changes made at the January 8, 2015 meeting. Administrator Jesme stated that he has submitted the proposed revised Permit Rules and Regulations to BWSR, and has been informed from BWSR staff that their comments are almost complete.

The Board reviewed a letter from landowner Conrad Zak, who owns property adjacent to RLWD Ditch 15, Project No. 175. Mr. Zak is asking for damages for the removal of a bridge on his property. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that Mr. Zak's claim is untimely, as the appeals period for the project and as defined in Minnesota Statutes has expired. Randy Knott, HDR Engineering, Inc. stated that Mr. Zak has improved access to his property located approximately one quarter of a mile east of his driveway. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize Legal Counsel Sparby and Administrator Jesme to submit a letter to Mr. Zak informing him of the Board's position

The Board reviewed the 2014/2015 Regional Conservation Partnership Program Slate by Funding Pool that indicates where federal funding was earmarked by each State thru the Farm Programs.

The Board reviewed an additional funding request from the Clearwater SWCD for installation of two lakeshore protection projects on Pine Lake from the District's Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Administrator Jesme stated that that in 2013 the Board funded two lakeshore protection projects with the Clearwater SWCD. Construction has been completed, with a shortfall of funding in the amount of \$711.28. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, to contribute an additional \$711.28 from the 2013 Erosion Control Funds to the Clearwater SWCD for completion of two lakeshore protection projects on Pine Lake. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed an update on MAWD activities submitted by Ray Bohn.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott attended the RRWMB meeting on January 13, 2015 in Moorhead. Included in the packet was the year end 2014 Treasurer's Report.
- The 1W1P Policy Committee is in the process of organizing the advisory panel for the 1W1P which will include some members from the District's Overall Advisory Committee. Jesme participated in a telephone conference on January 12<sup>th</sup> with LGU staff to discuss amending the budget and work plan. A Policy Committee meeting was held on January 21<sup>st</sup>.
- A Pembina WMA/Goose Lake meeting with landowners, MnDNR staff and RLWD staff and Board Managers Knott and Nelson will be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting will include an update from the MnDNR as to the improvement proposed on the outlet structure as well as discussion concerning the outlet channel of the WMA.
- Included in the packet was a September 2014 Water Quality Report. Page #2 of the report displays erosion along TH #89 that has deposited into the Mud River (JD #11 Main Branch). Also included in the packet was the January 2015 River Rendezvous which is submitted by the International Water Institute. Page 7 of the report includes a write-up about Jim Blix and Ashley Hitt.

Administrator Jesme stated that he had been contacted by the Administrator of the Heron Lake Watershed District regarding an improvement on a ditch system. The Jackson County Board does not want the watershed to have jurisdiction of the ditch system. It was the consensus of the Board to allow Legal Counsel Sparby to have a discussion with the Heron Lake Watershed District Administrator to help give them legal guidance on how to handle the situation. Sparby indicated he would like an email or letter that would provide background information on the situation. The Board also recommended that they contact Ray Bohn, MAWD and BWSR to review the issue.

Manager Torgerson stated there is discussion going on with the MnDNR and the Governor which would require a 50' buffer strip on any property along a natural waterway.

Manager Coe stated that he attended the Aquatic Invaders Summit in St. Cloud that was organized to bring together Minnesota local governments and their partners to work together to limit and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Coe stated that he is going to help Beltrami County set up boat inspections and monitoring sites within the county. Discussion was held amongst the Board on the concern of aquatic invasive species and the detriment it is to our lakes. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Mandt, to pay Manager Coe's per diem and expenses associated with his work with the aquatic invasive species program in Beltrami County. Motion carried.

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



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LeRoy Ose, Secretary