

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
July 9, 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, Lee Coe, LeRoy Ose, and Les Torgerson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. Administrator Jesme wished to add, for discussion, to the agenda the RLWD Ditch No. 15 bond following the MNDNR Dam Inspection of Moose River agenda item. A motion was made Ose, seconded by Coe, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of RLWD Ditch No. 15 bond. Motion carried.

Motion by Knott, seconded by Torgerson, to dispense reading of the June 23, 2015 Board meeting minutes and approve as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated July 9, 2015. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated July 9, 2015. Motion carried.

The Investment Summary dated July 8, 2015 and a Certificate of Deposit from the Citizens State Bank of Roseau were discussed. The CD is scheduled to mature prior to next Board meeting and a renewal rate of .70% was quoted. It was the consensus of the Board to renew the CD at Citizens State Bank of Roseau at the rate of .70% for 12 months.

Engineer Derek Kayser, Houston Engineering, Inc., discussed construction progress on both Phases of the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60F, and presented slides of the project. Final estimates from Davidson Construction, Inc. and R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. should be complete and ready to be presented at the July 23, 2015 Board meeting. Due to the absence of Engineer Jeff Langan at the meeting today, the tour of the project that was scheduled following today's meeting may be rescheduled for the July 23, 2015 Board meeting.

Judicial Ditch No. 5, Four Legged Lake, RLWD Proj. 102, hearing on the abandonment scheduled for the July 23, 2015 Board meeting was discussed. A Project Work Team for this project is scheduled for July 17, 2015.

Discussion was held on the Technical Evaluation Panel Pine Lake Tour that was held June 29, 2015.

The Board reviewed the MNDNR Dam Inspection Report for the Moose River Project. It was given a satisfactory rating which is the highest rating on the Inspection Report.

Administrator Jesme presented information on the bond for RLWD Ditch No. 15, RLWD Proj. 175. In talking to Polk County Administrator Chuck Whiting, he was informed by the bonding agent representing Dorsey & Whitney that the timeline for Polk County to apply for a tax-exempt status for the bond to pay the project costs has expired. The cost of purchasing a taxable bond is relatively the same however the additional interest that will accumulate over the next 20 years may add an additional \$150,000 to the bond. Polk County had inquired if the Red Lake Watershed District may be interested in funding the project for the next 20 years with the county making annual payments to the RLWD to include interest. After considerable discussion, consensus of the Board was to add it as an item to the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Engineer Nate Dalager was notified that Davidson Construction, Inc. is complete with RLWD Ditch No. 15 construction. A Pay Estimate may be presented at July 23, 2015 Board meeting.

The MN Department of Revenue's, sent from Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, Taxes Payable 2015 Taxable Market Values for Watershed Districts in Minnesota was reviewed by the Board. This table shows the recently released total real and personal taxable market values for the year 2015.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Knott, seconded by Torgerson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 15068, John Dyrdal, Bray Township, Pennington County; No. 15071, Maynard Solberg, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 15073, Lee Schmitz, Emarville Township, Red Lake County; No. 15074, Nickolas Vettleson, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 15075, Gerald Michaelsen/Henry Elbinger, Crookston Township, Polk County; No. 15076, Pennington County, Cloverleaf Township; No. 15077, John Frahm/Frahm Farms, Goodridge Township, Pennington County; John Frahm/Frahm Farms, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 15080 Pennington County Highway Department, Smiley Township; No. 15081, Pennington County Highway Department, Sanders Township; No. 15082 Pennington County Highway Department, Highland Township; No. 15083, Marshall County Highway Department, Excel Township; and No. 15084, Steve Harder, Silvertown Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

#### Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott will attend the RRWMB meeting scheduled for July 21, 2015 at the Wild Rice Watershed District office in Ada.
- Jesme was informed by the Joint Powers Engineers that Wright Construction, Inc. is nearing completion on the JD #72 Erosion Control Project. There were some minor adjustments to the quantities that will be added to the contract. The Project appears to be completed in a timely manner and workmanship was excellent. Photos of the final construction will be shown as well as set final payment hearing at the next Board meeting. A partial payment to Wright Construction may be presented. All signatures have also been completed for the buffer easement along 1.5 miles of the legal drainage system and should be receiving a copy of them from the SWCD.
- On July 15 there will be two committee meetings for the One Watershed One Plan Pilot Project. The Technical Advisory committee will meet from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon and the Citizens Advisory Committee will be meeting from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Policy

committee members will be in attendance as well to gather information as well as to pay outstanding bills that will be submitted.

Managers Torgerson, Ose, Tiedemann, and Coe reported on their county meetings they had attended with Administrator Jesme to present the 2014 Annual Report to their respective County Boards.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated he was completing items he and Administrator Jesme had met on previously which include the drafting of a waiver of liability agreement concerning not installing bridge railings on the double flatcars. Sparby also indicated the he will review the sample easement Administrator Jesme sent to him which will satisfy the recording of easement right of way for buffer strips on all legal drainage systems. Jesme indicated that due to the new buffer strip legislation recently passed by the State of Minnesota, it would be wise to get this completed sooner than later.

Manager Ose inquired about the maintenance on State Ditch #83 along north border of Agassiz Refuge. Jesme will contact Agassiz to determine if they were going to remove the minor blockage or if the District should hire a contractor to take care of it.

Manager Knott stated he had met with the Red Lake County Engineer regarding the drainage concern on the Red Lake/Polk County line along CSAH 49. A letter will be sent to the landowner from Red Lake County requesting the violation be corrected within a timeline.

Administrator Jesme stated he had spoken with staff in Polk County regarding an East Polk County appointment to the Board vacated by the death of Manager Albert Mandt. Since former Manager Mandt's appointment was due to expire January 10, 2016, the Polk County Board will determine if they should fill the position now to complete the term or to fill the position for the January 10<sup>th</sup> effective date.

Manager Coe discussed a potential partnering with Hines Township with the repair of the outlet structure located at the outlet of Blackduck Lake. The outlet structure along with the fish passage has deteriorated and is no longer functioning and the township does not have the funds to repair. Manager Coe will report back at a future board meeting regarding his discussions with potential partners.

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



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LeRoy Ose, Secretary