

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 14, 2016

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, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Allan Page, Terry Sorenson and Lee Coe. Absent: Les Torgerson Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Motion by Coe, seconded by Sorenson, to dispense reading of the March 25, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated April 13, 2016. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated April 13, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that 2015 was the final year of the quote received from Brady Martz and Associates to complete the RLWD yearly audit. Brady Martz agreed to complete the 2016 Audit at the same rate of \$9,000 as the 2015 Audit. Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to approve the continuation of the yearly audit at a rate of \$9,000 with Brady Martz and Associates. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Superintendent Jim Muckenhirn, South Koochiching Rainy River School District in regard to options for enhancement of a wetland complex on the Northome School Property. Mr. Muckenhirn indicated that he would like to see an educational path around the wetlands for public use and as an education tool. Manager Tiedemann recommended contacting Chad Severts with MnBWSR for assistance. It was the consensus of the Board to have administrator Jesme contact the local SWCD office and MnBWSR office and report back to the Board at a later date.

Staff member Nick Olson discussed installation of side water inlet (SWI) pipes on RLWD Ditch 7, Project No. 20. Olson stated that the ditch was constructed in 1982 and currently has a fund balance of \$9,300. Twenty five SWI pipes were installed in cooperation with the Red Lake SWCD and East Polk SWCD in 2012. At the time of installation of the SWI pipes, flap gates and riprap were not installed. Olson stated that landowner Steve Linder requested installation of 4-18" flap gates on SWI pipes on his property. The cost of each flap gate is \$335. Olson requested direction from the Board if staff should seek funding for installation of flap gates and riprap or proceed on request of the landowners on an as-needed basis as deemed necessary by District staff and Board. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the installation of

flap gates on four SWI pipes as requested by landowner Steve Linder, using ditch funds from the RLWD Ditch 7, Project No. 20 account. Motion carried.

Staff member Nick Olson reviewed an Agreement between the District and the Northwest Sentencing to Serve to perform duties in connection with needed tree and brush removal on the outlet end of RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171, in the amount of \$2400.00. Olson stated that the area is approximately 900' long and only the low lying areas will be cleaned. Contact will be made with the landowners prior to completion of work to determine if any trees will be removed. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Agreement with the Northwest Sentencing to Serve for work at the outlet end of RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District was informed that the Gate Tender on the Brandt Impoundment, Project No. 60D and Euclid East Impoundment, Project No. 60C, will be moving from the area. Jesme recommended hiring Anthony Salentine, who currently operates the gates on the Parnell Impoundment, Project No. 81. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the hiring of Anthony Salentine as Gate Tender for the Brandt Impoundment, Project No. 60D and Euclid East Impoundment, Project No. 60C. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed information on the Minnesota Buffer Program Implementation-Buffer Enforcement and Compliance from the MnBWSR.

The Board reviewed Wellhead Protection Plan information from the Cities of Erskine, McIntosh and Crookston.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Page, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16008, Brian Tinkham, Fisher Township, Polk County; Kyle Mehrkens, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 16012, City of East Grand Forks, Grand Forks Township, Polk County; No. 16013, Trent and Marilyn Stanley, Moylan Township, Marshall County; No. 16014, Earl Marquis, Espelie Township, Marshall County; and No. 16015, Michael LaCoursiere, Louisville Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the RRWMB meeting on April 19, 2016 in Fertile.
- Jesme and Engineer Nate Dalager met with eight landowners in the Pine Lake Watershed on April 12th. Future meetings will be held with additional landowners. A meeting in the near future will be held with staff from the MnDNR regarding a Wildlife Management Area in the Pine Lake Watershed.
- A Four Legged Lake Project work team meeting will be held on April 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at the District office. This meeting is intended to give a review of the project and goals as we move forward.
- Jesme attended a MAWD Strategic Planning and Legislative Briefing committee meeting on March 29th. This committee will assist MAWD in the development of a

Strategic Plan to serve as the basis for several identified activities, such as a Transition/Succession Plan for the Executive Administrator position and activities, review and revision (if necessary) of the By-Laws and the possible creation of a Policy and Procedures Manual to support the By-Laws by reducing critical content that might better be processed as a policy evaluation and change. The strategic guide will also guide MAWD as it looks to the future and identifies new and emerging issues, new programs to address organizational needs, and establish itself as the leader and watershed authority in Minnesota.

- Included in the packet was information on the City of Blackduck for an upcoming municipal water and wastewater system project.
- Included in the packet was information on tour sponsored by the USDA Celebrating 1000 Easements.
- Included in the packet was the March 2016 River Rendezvous newsletter which features the "River Recreation Theme of the 21st Annual River Watch Forum".

Manager Nelson asked the status of the land transaction documents for Pennington County's wetland mitigation project. Administrator Jesme and Legal Counsel Sparby indicated that all documents have been recorded and that Pennington County is working on getting the property into the wetland bank.

Manager Ose reported on the Marshall County Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) meeting he attended. Marshall County WRAC voted on proceeding with the Thief River 1W1P in the near future. Administrator Jesme stated that the Red Lake River 1W1P will be complete this fall and then the District can proceed with a 1W1P in the Thief River or Clearwater River watershed.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to adjourn the meeting.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary