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.


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

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Torgerson, to dispense reading of the July 28, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to dispense reading of the August 3, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.


Staff member Loren Sanderson presented a District impoundment operation update due to the recent rain events. Sanderson stated that the gates on Euclid East Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60C, which outlets into County Ditch 66-Branch C, were operated this past week. Sanderson indicated that this particular drainage system was not designed to handle this rainfall event so the staff felt it was at the best interest of downstream landowners operate the gates to assure water from recent rains were able to run-off the field in a timely manner. Sanderson mentioned there was unauthorized work completed on the stem which restricted the ability to close the gate completely. Repairs were made on the stem by our local gate tender so now the gate can be closed as designed.

Administrator Jesme stated that he had received an email from Dan Zwilling, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) stating that the MnDNR had inspected the Brandt Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60D, outlet structure and it received a satisfactory grade.

Brad Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc., appeared before the Board to discuss repairs to the outlet/rock chute on RLWD Ditch 10, Project No. 161. Johnson stated that his office completed a hydraulic model/design of the area and has recommended three options for repair:

- Option 1-attempt to salvage as much of the existing structure by filling existing voids and installation of curtain wall to curtail seepage-at an approximate cost of $110,000 - $140,000;
- Option 2-replace existing structure with concrete pipe chute, break down the concrete riprap to fill voids under the chute and install a curtain grout to minimize seepage through
the bedding material, with the outlet structure modified to accommodate the pipe outlet at an approximate cost of $80,000 - $110,000;

- Option 3: add a concrete pipe to the existing structure, existing inlet would be modified and raised and used as an emergency outflow with the outlet structure remaining the same and the grouted riprap in the chute would be broken up to fill the voids under the chute with new riprap added at an approximate cost of $150,000 - $200,000.

Johnson stated that Houston Engineering, Inc. recommends Options 3. Motion by Coe, seconded by Page, to direct Houston Engineering, Inc., to proceed with the Plans and Specifications for Option 3, with funding to be used from the District’s Erosion Control Project funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion carried.

Staff member Loren Sanderson and Brad Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed a recent 4” rain event at the Miller Dam Repair Project, RLWD Project No. 50C. Johnson stated that the heavy rain eroded the project area and filled the plunge pool with sediment. The Board reviewed an estimate for additional work for storm damage repair in the amount of $35,508, along with Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of $18,336.55, for work completed prior to the rain event. After considerable discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to have Johnson instruct the contractor to proceed with completion of the project and that any additional costs to the project will be addressed at a later date. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of $18,336.55, to Higher Ground/Paul Zavoral, Inc. for construction of the Miller Dam Outlet Repair, RLWD Project No. 50C. Motion carried.

Manager Lee Coe stated that he had met with Hines Township to review a Joint Powers Agreement with the township for coordination of efforts for planning, implementing and maintaining the outlet structure on Blackduck Lake Dam. On behalf of Hines Township, Coe distributed the signed Joint Powers Agreement for review. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to approve the Joint Powers Agreement with Hines Township and to designate it as Blackduck Lake Dam, RLWD Project 50E and authorize President Nelson and Secretary Ose to sign said document. Motion carried. Discussion was held on appointment of two Board Members to represent the District on the Blackduck Lake Joint Powers Board. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Coe and Torgerson, to represent the District on the Blackduck Lake Dam Joint Powers Board, RLWD Project No. 50E Joints Powers Board. Motion carried. Manager Coe stated that Hines Township will be represented by Milo Barclay on the Blackduck Lake Dam Joint Powers Board. Administrator Jesme stated that staff from Houston Engineering, Inc. will be meeting with staff from the MnDNR on Friday to move forward with the grant application for the repairs to the dam.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that he has submitted Review Point No. 1, which follows the NRCS funding process for the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26 and the Four Legged Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 102A. Project team meetings will be held for both projects on August 19th.
Administrator Jesme stated that the East Polk SWCD completed construction on the already approved Mattson Sedimentation Pond, which the District contributed cost share in the amount of $5,086.94 from the District’s Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16065, Eugene Mattson, Esther Township, Polk County; No. 16066, Pete Carlson, Rocksby Township, Pennington County; No. 16067, Norden Township, Pennington County; No. 16068, Leslie Wilde, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 16069, Kevin Wilde, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 16070 and 16071, Steve Linder, Garnes Township, Red Lake County; No. 16072, Randy Weiss, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County; and, No. 16073 and 16074, Earl Pederson, Pederson Brothers, Emardville Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed the purchase of a portable speaker/microphone system that would be used for tours and presentations. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to authorize the District staff to purchase a portable speaker/microphone system. Motion carried.

Administrator’s Update:

- Jesme and Manager Torgerson will attend the August 16, 2016, RRWMB meeting in Ada. The agenda for the meeting includes consideration for the RRWMB to pay a portion of the 30% RCPP local cost share. Included in the packet is a spreadsheet showing the recommended funding requests being submitted.
- Jesme met with BWSR staff on July 14th and July 26th to coordinate efforts of the BWSR tour to be held on August 24th. Governor Dayton will be in attendance at the tour.
- Jesme participated in a buffer strip listening/discussion session with BWSR leadership on August 2nd.
- Several Board and staff members participated in the Buffer Strip Roundtable Workshop on August 3rd. The workshop updated the wishes of BWSR as we move forward with the establishment of buffers. Representatives from BWSR, MnDNR and MAWD were present to answer questions.

Discussion was held on the establishment of buffer strips, redetermination of benefits and alternative measurers/practices.

Manager Torgerson stated that he would be absent from the August 25, 2016 meeting.

Manager Sorenson reported on the Ground Water meeting he attended on August 4, 2016.

Manager Sorenson stated that the City of Erskine pledged $25,000 towards the repairs of the Erskine Memorial Park. Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that his office is working on costs estimates, and should be prepared to present them at the August 25, 2016 Board meeting.

Staff member Loren Sanderson and Stephanie Klamm, MnDNR, discussed a bank failure site on the Cameron Lake that is dangerously close to two homes. Manager Sorenson, Sanderson and
Lisa Newton, East Polk SWCD reviewed the site. Klamm stated that she has had discussion with representatives from the City of Erskine.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to adjourn to the August 24, 2016, MnBWSR Conservation Projects Tour, to begin at 7:30 a.m. at the Fairfield Inn, 514 Gateway Drive NE, East Grand Forks, MN, to allow the Board to participate in the tour of District Projects. Motion carried.

LeRoy Ose, Secretary