

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
December 8, 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 Lee Coe, Gene Tiedemann, Dale M. Nelson, Allan Page, Terry Sorenson and LeRoy Ose. Absent: Manager Les Torgerson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the November 21, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated December 7, 2016. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated December 7, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

Manager Coe stated that Staff member Arlene Novak received quotes for the purchase of a Certificate of Deposit that will mature on December 9, 2016. Coe recommended the purchase of a 12 month, \$200,000 Certificate of Deposit from First National Bank of Bemidji. Motion by Coe, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the purchase of a Certificate of Deposit with First National Bank of Bemidji. Motion carried. Coe indicated that an additional Certificate of Deposit is set to mature December 28, 2016. Novak stated that staff from Unity Bank-Red Lake Falls Branch are willing to attend the December 22, 2016 Board meeting to discuss the CDAR's Program. It was the consensus of the Board to have Unity Bank at the December 22, 2016 Board meeting to learn more information on the CDAR's program.

The Board reviewed a letter to Beltrami County, from Manager Coe, stating his decision to not request another term on the District Board representing Beltrami County. Marshall County confirmed the reappointment of Manager Ose to another 3-year term on the Board.

Staff member Nick Olson reviewed the buffer strip establishment requirements as it relates to the District's legal drainage system. The District has 33 drainage systems of which eight systems are not in compliance. Olson requested direction from the Board on how they wish to proceed with buffer strip establishment. Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to authorize District staff to determine the required right-of-way area that is needed for establishment of buffer strips on all non-compliant drainage systems under the jurisdiction of the District and report back to the Board. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the document, Model Watershed District Rule to Implement the Buffer Law Minnesota Statutes 103F.48 that was prepared by Louis N. Smith, Smith Partners PLLP on behalf of BWSR and the RRWMB. This document was drafted as guidance for drainage

authorities as they move forward with the enforcement of vegetated buffer requirements. Administrator Jesme stated that this is a draft document and once approved by BWSR, will be used as part of BWSR's enforcement guidelines.

Staff member Ashley Hitt appeared before the Board to discuss discrepancies found in the Main Judicial Ditch 2, RLWD Project No. 51 Viewers Report and Findings of Fact and Order. After discussion by the Board, it was the consensus of the Board to have Legal Counsel Sparby review the documents and report back at the December 22, 2016 Board meeting.

Administrator Jesme stated that a landowner, who owns property in the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 60F, recently received their Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) payment. As part of the recorded agreement with the District, landowners that participated in RIM sign-up, had the option of maintaining the RIM acreage themselves and retain the RIM establishment payment up to \$300 per acre or turn over the establishment payment received from the State of Minnesota to the District, and the District would be responsible for maintaining the RIM acreage. The landowner is requesting to the Board that he would like to delay turning over the establishment and maintenance funding of the RIM payment for one year to see what maintenance of the RIM acres entails, with the understanding that within that time frame the landowner would assume any maintenance needs. After the one year expires they would then determine if they wish to maintain the RIM acreage therefore retaining all funds received for the establishment and maintenance of the RIM acres. It was the consensus of the Board that the landowners will be required to turn over the establishment and maintenance payment received from RIM now, or assume the maintenance responsibility as per the agreement with the landowners. Administrator Jesme stated that there are various landowners who we have not heard from, so we are not aware if they have received their payment and wish to maintain their own RIM or just have not received their payment as of yet. Discussion was held on contacting the local Farm Service Agency office, to obtain a copy of letters sent out to the landowners regarding RIM payments.

Administrator Jesme stated that three of Paul Hoff's CRP contracts are set to expire on 104 acres of land located within the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 121. Jesme stated, that if the Board approves the CRP contract renewal, the District would enter into a contract with Mr. Hoff for land rental. Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the renewal of the CRP Contract and enter into a new Rental Agreement with Paul Hoff for land within the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 121. Motion carried.

Brad Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc. stated that their office did not complete a drone survey of the potential Black River Impoundment Project, RLWD Project No. 176 prior to the recent snowfall. Preliminary design of the project will be used using Lidar data. Johnson stated that the wetland delineation is complete, with a meeting scheduled for December 16, 2016, with staff from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to discuss potential permit requirements for wetland jurisdiction. Johnson stated that with moving the dike farther east, at the request of one of the landowners, the potential storage amount is 2680 ac.ft. This project would have an approximate drainage area of 15 ½ sq.mi., and could handle a 3.1" to 3.2" run off event. There is the potential to raise the pool elevation but that would back water up further upstream along the inlet channel

of the project. The proposed top of dike is elevation 1020, with the emergency spillway elevation at 1018. Discussion was held amongst the Board about moving the dike west, back to the original proposal, to allow for additional storage. The Board directed Administrator Jesme to speak to the landowners about potentially moving the dike west to add additional storage. The Board reviewed the Project Work Team membership listing. Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, approve the project work team as presented, pending the landowner participation, and to appoint Managers Nelson and Page, to represent the District on the Project Work Team for the Black River Impoundment Project, RLWD Project No. 176. Motion carried.

Jake Huwe, HDR Engineering, Inc. stated that construction at the Erskine Memorial Park, RLWD Project No. 164 is approximately 90% complete. An additional 100 cu.yds. of clay/common borrow was required. The contractor will complete construction next spring. Huwe will prepare a pay estimate with a 10% retainer for review and consideration at the December 22, 2016 Board meeting.

The Board reviewed a meeting notice from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning for Lake of the Woods and Koochiching Counties, to be held December 12, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Birchdale Community Center.

The Board reviewed a proposal for the license renewal of Autocad in the amount of \$975.03. Motion by Coe, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the license renewal of Autocad in the amount of \$975.03. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a renewal quote for ArcGIS for a single and secondary maintenance in the amount of \$1,334.38 and ArcGIS Spatial Analyst for a single desktop in the amount of \$2,201.63 for a total of \$3,536.01. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the ArcGIS quote for maintenance and Spatial Analyst for a total of \$3,536.01. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed an agreement from the Middle Snake Tamarac River Watershed District (MSTRWD) pertaining to a MSTRWD permit application on the boundary of the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) and the MSTRWD. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the agreement for a MSTRWD permit on the boundary between the RLWD and the MSTRWD. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permit with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16183, Jacob Faugstad, Tynsid Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the direction the Red River Watershed Management Board will take after the retirement of Ron Harnack. Harnack plans to retire next summer.

Administrators update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the December 20, 2016, RRWMB meeting in Fertile.
- Three hearings were held, in each respective county, for the Red Lake River 1W1P on November 22, 2016.

- The Red Lake River 1W1P TAC/CAC meeting will be held on December 21 at 9:30 a.m. at the District office, followed by the Policy Committee meeting at 11:00 a.m. Public comments will be reviewed to the draft plan as well as review and approval of the Memorandum of Agreement.
- Jesme and Managers Coe, Page, Tiedemann and Ose participated in the MAWD Annual Meeting and Trade Show in Alexandria. One item of discussion at the MAWD Board meeting is the strategic plan for the replacement of Ray Bohn as well as hiring an Executive Director, which was approved by the MAWD Board.
- Jesme attended a buffer strip meeting on December 7, 2016 at the Pennington SWCD office.
- Red Lake SWCD will hold a buffer strip meeting on December 14, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the SWCD office in Red Lake Falls.
- Staff member Corey Hanson will attend the Pennington County WRAC meeting which will be held at the District office on December 12, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.
- A retirement party will be held for Randy Huelskamp at the NRCS Crookston Field office on December 21st from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Manager Coe discussed the MAWD Strategic Plan and the hiring of an Executive Director and lobbyist to replace Ray Bohn. Peg Bohn is also retiring the end of this year.

The Board congratulated Administrator Jesme on receiving the Watershed Employee of the Year Award at the MAWD convention.

Discussion was held on landowner concerns regarding water elevations at Goose Lake. Stoplogs have been removed from the structure, with water elevations decreasing.

Manager Page discussed non-permitted work in Red Lake County.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary