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 Torgerson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the December 30, 2015 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 13, 2016. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 13, 2016 as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to approve the reinvestment of the Certificate of Deposit that will mature on January 15, 2016 with Unity Bank North. Motion carried.

Pennington County confirmed the reappointment of Manager Nelson, to another 3-year term on the Board. Red Lake County appointed Allan Page and Polk County appointed Terry Sorenson, to represent their respective counties to a 3-year term on the Board.

Election of officers was conducted with President Nelson turning the meeting over to Vice President Gene Tiedemann.

Manager Tiedemann called for nominations for president. Manager Coe, nominated Dale M. Nelson. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, for nominations to cease, and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dale M. Nelson for president of the Board. Motion carried.

Vice President Tiedemann turned the meeting over to President Nelson to conduct elections for the remaining Board positions.

Nominations were opened for vice-president. Manager Ose nominated Gene Tiedemann. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, for nominations to cease, and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Gene Tiedemann for vice-president of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Secretary. Manager Torgerson nominated LeRoy Ose. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Coe,
seconded by Page, for nominations to cease, and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for LeRoy Ose for secretary of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Treasurer. Manager Ose nominated Lee Coe. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, for nominations to cease, and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Lee Coe for treasurer of the Board. Motion carried.

President Nelson reviewed the Advisory Board members. Discussion was held on seeking landowners to fill voids in various sub watersheds. Motion by Ose, seconded by Torgerson, to approve the Advisory Committee members as presented. Motion carried.

The position of Delegate and Alternate to the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) was discussed. The position of Delegate would begin the second year of a 3-year term, as the former Delegate, Manager Knott, had just completed his first year of a 3-year term. Motion by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, to appoint Manager Ose as Delegate, and Manager Torgerson as Alternate to the RRWMB. Motion carried.

Delegates and Alternate to the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts were discussed. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Torgerson, to appoint Manager Coe and Tiedemann as Delegates and Manager Ose as an alternate. Motion carried.

The Budget/Salary Committee was discussed by the Board. A motion was made by Page, seconded by Torgerson, to appoint Managers Nelson, Coe and Tiedemann to serve on the Budget/Salary Committee. Motion carried.

The Board discussed representatives on the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, to appoint Managers Nelson, Tiedemann and Page to the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board, with Manager Sorenson as an alternate. Motion carried.

The committees for the JD 2 and JD 72 Joint Ditch Boards were reviewed. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Torgerson to the JD 2 and JD 72 Joint Ditch Boards. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Board, that there would be no need to continue with the Tile Drainage subcommittee as any matters concerning the Tile Drainage Committee would be handled by the full Board using the permit process.

It was the consensus of the Board, to absolve the Odney Flaat Project Work Team, as construction is slated in 2016.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Torgerson
as Delegates and Manager Coe as Alternate to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Four Legged Lake Project Work Team. Motion by Page, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Torgerson as Delegates and Manager Coe as Alternate to the Four Legged Lake Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to appoint Managers Nelson, Ose and Torgerson to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to appoint Manager Tiedemann as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Managers Nelson and Page to the Advisory Committee for the Red Lake River 1W1P). Motion carried.

A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the regularly scheduled Board meetings be held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month for 2016.

A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Coe, that the following institutions be designated as depositories for the RLWD: Northern State Bank, Border State Bank, Unity Bank North, Citizens State Bank, American State Bank, and First National Bank of Bemidji, Ultima Bank, and Edward Jones with the following signatures on the signature cards at the financial institutions: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Lee Coe, Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak. Motion carried.

The Conflict of Interest policy was reviewed by Staff Member Arlene Novak. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy and have each Board member sign the Conflict of Interest policy and return it to staff member Arlene Novak. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the rates changes for the District’s renewal of the Property/Casualty and Workers’ Compensation Policy through the League of Minnesota Cities.

Administrator Jesme discussed the potential purchase of a wireless conference call phone for the Board room. Jesme stated that a conference call phone would be beneficial for holding webinar meetings where all participants are unavailable to attend the meeting. Discussion was held that use of the conference call phone to participate in the District’s Board meeting would be at the discretion of the Board. Jesme stated that he received a quote in the amount of $1,000 installed through Garden Valley. It was the consensus of the Board to table this matter for future review.

Manager Torgerson and Staff member Arlene Novak discussed the installation of acoustic wall panels in the Board room. Novak contacted Wenger Corporation to inquire if they would be
willing to look at the Board room prior to ordering the panels. Novak was informed that Wenger Corporation did not feel it was necessary to view the project prior to the installation as they had previously been provided the dimensions of the room. A quote was received from the Wenger Corporation in the amount of $10,100 installed. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize the installation of acoustic wall panels in the amount of $10,100 for the District Board room from Wenger Corporation. Motion carried.

The West Polk SWCD was informed that they did not receive the Clean Water Fund Grant they applied for to stabilize the outlet of Polk County Ditch 63, RLWD Project No. 134. Jesme stated that this is a legal drainage system under the jurisdiction of the District. Approximately 3,000 – 4,000 feet of erosion has occurred downstream of the outlet which is not part of the legal drainage system. District staff has surveyed the project which would need some form of structure with side water inlet pipes. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize staff to obtain an estimate of repair.

The MnDNR will host a live webinar on January 20th at 9:30 a.m., to keep local units of government informed on the buffer mapping initiative process.

The Board reviewed a draft letter of support for the Red Lake County SWCD to apply for the Ecofootprint Grant from Enbridge and MARC&D (Minnesota Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils). Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the letter of support for the Red Lake County SWCD for the Ecofootprint Grant Application. Motion carried.

Manager Coe stated that he met with officials from Beltrami County regarding the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) needs assessment in Beltrami County. Coe stated that Bruce Anspach, Beltrami County AIS Lake Technician would be willing to attend a District Board meeting to discuss issue. The Board instructed Administrator Jesme to contact Mr. Anspach in regard to attending a District Board meeting for further discussion.

Administrator Jesme indicated that the February 11, 2016, Board meeting date falls on the same day as the Drainage and Wetland Conference offered by Rinke Noonan in St. Cloud. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, to change the February 11, 2016 Board meeting to February 10, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to approve the following permit with conditions stated on the permit: No. 15184, William Hess, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- The RRWMB Board meeting will be held January 19, 2016 at the East Grand Forks City Hall at 9:30. The location of the meeting is due to the 33rd Annual Red River Basin Land Water International Summit Conference held at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks.
Included the in the packet was the RRWMB December meeting minutes and Treasurers Reports.

- Jesme will participate in Lightning Talk Success Stories and Long Term Flood Solutions panels at the 33rd Annual Red River Basin Land Water International Summit Conference.
- Jesme and Engineer Langan attended the Lessard Sam Outdoor Heritage Council meeting on January 7th to present information on the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project.
- Staff member Corey Hanson is a judge for the Franklin Middle School Science Fair Project in Thief River Falls.
- Included in the packet was the November-December 2015 Water Quality Report.
- The District office will be closed January 18, 2016 for Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

Manager Torgerson asked about the status of the Pine Lake Area Project and Four Legged Lake Project. Administrator Jesme stated that both projects were on hold until the District receives the fully executed NRCS RCPP funding agreement. The Pine Lake Area Project agreement was received, and we are awaiting the executed agreement. The Four Legged Lake Project agreement has not been forwarded to the District as of today. Jesme stated that we expect to have a Project Team meeting in February.

Brad Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc. stated that the Plans and Specifications for the Latundresse Dam have been submitted for MnDNR permitting approval. Once the approval has been granted, the project will be ready to go out for bids.

Manager Tiedemann stated that he will not be in attendance at the January 28, 2016 Board meeting.

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

LeRoy Ose, Secretary