

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
January 28, 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, Lee Coe, LeRoy Ose, Les Torgerson, Allan Page and Terry Sorenson. Absent: Gene Tiedemann. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. President Nelson approved the request by Administrator Jesme to add Northland Aerospace Program/Northland Community and Technical College to the agenda. A motion was made by Coe, seconded Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of the Northland Aerospace Program/Northland Community and Technical College. Motion carried.

Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Sorenson, to dispense reading of the January 14, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 27, 2016. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 27, 2016 as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Coe, seconded by Page, to approve the reinvestment of the Certificate of Deposit that will mature on February 5, 2016 with Border State Bank. Motion carried.

Jim Retka and John Beck, representing the Northland Aerospace Program/Northland Community and Technology College, and Rex Hammerback, representing Northland Aerospace Foundation presented information to the Board on the Aerospace Program at the Northland Community and Technical College. Beck stated that the Northland Aerospace Program has been using unmanned aircraft for various agricultural research projects in Roseau County and would like to, with the assistance of the District, determine how this technology could be used in the water resource business, such as inspection of drainage ditches, water quality projects, as well as inspection of various other District projects. The unmanned aircraft is licensed through the FAA to fly under 200 feet and could be equipped to carry a camera which could be used to inspect ditch systems for various items like thistle, buffer strip encroachment, erosion control, etc. Hammerback stated that he has produced a Team Agreement for review by the District's Legal Counsel to work together in securing additional funding sources to help discover and develop protocol for watershed management resource to assist Watersheds. Potential funding by the District could be provided by in-kind work. It was the consensus of the Board, to have Legal Counsel Sparby review the Team Agreement, and report back to the Board.

Darrin Carlson, Marshall County SWCD, stated that in 2015 his office installed approximately 50 side water inlet culverts throughout the Thief River Watershed in Marshall County. Marshall County SWCD received 75% cost share assistance through Clean Water Funds, with landowners paying the remaining 25%. Funding has been exhausted, with a shortfall in funds for the

Engineering design of the structures. Carlson requested funding in the amount of \$10,000 to assist in the design of the structures through the District's 2016 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, to approve cost share in the amount of \$10,000 to assist in the design of the side water inlet culverts for the Marshall County SWCD from the 2016 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD 164. Motion carried.

Bruce Anspach, Beltrami County Environmental Services/Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Lake Technician presented information to the Board regarding the Beltrami County AIS program. Anspach stated that Beltrami County received \$189,000 in funding to assist in the AIS program. From the funding received, the county set aside \$100,000 to aide in the inspection of water craft and to help educate water craft users of best management practices. Their goal is to help educate users to help prevent the spread of AIS in area water bodies. Anspach discussed the use of volunteer inspectors to help expand public awareness. Inspection and education of the Upper Red Lake has begun, with volunteers receiving mileage pay as an incentive to help defray the cost to the volunteer. Car counters have been purchased and installed at access points where they currently don't have volunteers located. Anspach has received mixed emotions from resort owners that have private access to lakes. Discussion was held on the installation and funding of a decontamination unit to be operated in the Waskish area. Anspach is requesting \$31,000 from the District, to assist in mileage reimbursement for the Upper Red Lake access, increase inspection hours, fund inspection at several smaller lakes, installation of additional car counters and to assist in obtaining a decontamination unit. Upon considerable discussion, Manger Coe indicated that he would like to see an additional \$4,000 be earmarked for additional decontamination units to be installed. Motion by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, to authorize a one-time payment in the amount of \$35,000, with the additional amount requested to be used to assist with the installation of a decontamination unit for the Beltrami County Aquatic Invasive Species program, with the understanding that Mr. Anspach will present a progress report this fall. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed a new housing development referred to by the Pennington County Auditor as "River Pointe Addition" located within the Thief River Falls Water Management District, RLWD Project No. 171A and RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171 benefitted area. In discussion with the city of Thief River Falls, it was determined that the housing development designed the storm sewer system to tie into an existing storm sewer which would divert waters to outlet directly into the Thief River versus entering into RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171 system. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the District does not have the legal authority to remove the new addition from the original benefitted area and that the housing development owners would have to petition the District for removal from the system which would then be required to follow the legal process and hearing.

Administrator Jesme reviewed an estimate from RV Sports, Inc. in the amount of \$1,003.63 for repairs to the 2008 Arctic snowmobile. Motion by Page, seconded by Coe, to approve the estimate in the amount of \$1,003.63, for repairs to the 2008 Arctic snowmobile. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme updated the Board on an insurance claim submitted to the League of Minnesota Cities to recover the cost of reconfiguring all computers and hard drive after the District's server failed.

Administrator update:

- Jesme and Managers Ose and Torgerson attended the January 19th RRWMB meeting held in EGF. The meeting adjourned at noon, to allow for attendance at the 33rd Annual Red River Basin Summit Conference. The February 16th RRWMB meeting will be held at the District Office, followed by the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Workgroup meeting that afternoon.
- Jesme and Managers Tiedemann, Ose, Torgerson, Page and Sorenson attended all or part of the 33rd Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conference held in Grand Forks.
- A buffer strip webinar was held by the MnDNR on January 20th. Jesme was unable to participate, but did review the information provided at the webinar on the MnDNR website.
- Jesme, Staff Member Sanderson, and Manager Ose will attend the annual Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge Impoundment meeting on February 3rd.
- At the request of the Pennington County Auditor, Jesme assisted in determining a land split on property purchased by River Pointe LLLP of Walker, MN for a new housing development project located within the benefitted area of the RLWD Ditch 14, Project No. 171 and Thief River Falls Water Management District, Project No. 171A.
- Brodin Sheet Metal, Inc. installed the dehumidifier in the District's utility room that was approved by the Board last fall.
- The Rinke-Noonan Drainage Conference will be held on February 11th in St. Cloud. Jesme will leave the office at approximately 3:00 p.m. if any Board members wish to car pool.

Manager Ose reported on the RRWMB meeting he attended on January 19, 2016.

Manager Coe discussed the MAWD organizational meeting he attended as well as a governmental round table meeting he attended with other members from LGU's. Coe discussed buffer strip legislation and jurisdiction of enforcement. Administrator Jesme stated that the buffer strip legislation could trigger the recording of a document for legal drainage systems for requirements of buffer strips.

Manager Coe stated that he will be attending a meeting with the Department of Agriculture regarding the issue of pollinators relating to bees and butterflies.

Discussion was held on the lack of executed agreements with the NRCS for the Four Legged Lake Project No. 102A and Pine Lake Area, Project No. 26.

Administrator Jesme stated that Engineer Nate Dalager is researching information for potential 20% Flood Reduction Sites.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LeRoy Ose". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

LeRoy Ose, Secretary