

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 27, 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, Allan Page, Terry Sorenson, Lee Coe, Les Torgerson, Gene Tiedemann and LeRoy Ose. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Motion by Ose, seconded by Torgerson, to dispense reading of the June 9, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated June 24, 2016. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated June 24, 2016 as presented. Motion carried. Manager Coe noted that a Certificate of Deposit is set to expire in July. It was the consensus of the Board to seek quotes in the amount of \$400,000 to see if a better rate could be obtained.

Discussion was held if a Change Order was needed for completion of the repairs on the Odney Flaot Wildlife Dam Outlet Repair, RLWD Project No. 50A. Brad Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc. stated that the Final Completion date was set for June 30, 2016, and that the Contractor is substantially complete with minor clean-up work and seeding to be finished. It was the consensus of the Board that a Change Order for extension of days will not be required at this time.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. stated that everything is in order for the July 12, 2016 Informational Meeting in Gonvick, MN. The Four Legged Lake FDR, RLWD Project No. 102A meeting will be held from 4:00-6:00; with the Pine Lake Area FDR, RLWD Project No. 26 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Administrator Jesme discussed an article in the Leader Record as a result of attending the Clearwater County Commissioners meeting on June 14, 2016. Further discussion was held on the Project Work Team meetings held on June 17, 2016.

Administrator Jesme stated that the Thief River 1WIP Grant Application was submitted for the Thief River subwatershed. Jesme noted that the Local Governmental Units will consist of the District and Marshall, Pennington and Beltrami Counties as well as their respective Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Jesme was informed that Roseau County and Roseau Soil and Water Conservation District will not participate as they only have a 3 sq.mi. area located within the Thief River subwatershed.

The Board reviewed a request from the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians to attend the July 12, 2016 Tribal Council meeting to discuss the term of a possible renewal of the Special Land Permit for the Good Lake Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 67. Managers Tiedemann, Nelson and Coe will attend along with Staff members Myron Jesme and Loren Sanderson.

The Board reviewed an Invitation to Attend the BWSR Conservation Projects Tour to be held on August 24, 2016 beginning in East Grand Forks, MN. The tour will consist of viewing the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project, Brandt Impoundment and RLWD Ditch No. 15 as well as other features to be identified by BWSR staff.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16042, Garnes Township, Red Lake County; No. 16043, Lessor Township, Polk County; 16044, Agder Township, Marshall County; and No. 16045, Stenberg Brothers, Inc., Garnes, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Tony Standera, MnDNR-Fisheries and Milo Barclay and Bill Rabe from Hines Township appeared before the Board to discuss the Blackduck Lake outlet structure which is currently owned and maintained by Hines Township. Mr. Standera is working on a grant application through the Clean Water Legacy Fund to restore fish passage and replace the failing structure. Built in 1939, the water control structure maintained 2,800 acres of water on Blackduck Lake. The land around the structure is privately owned and on private property, but it is on a public water. In 2002, construction was completed to allow fish to come up from Lower Red Lake during spawning. Standera stated that they would like to remove the bridge deck, which was from an old abandoned county road, to allow for better access to the site. The grant application would require a 10% match, with the District and Hines Township named as the applicants. Mr. Barclay and Rabe indicated that Hines Township would like to relinquish ownership of the dam and the bridge. Legal Counsel Sparby discussed various options that could be considered for the District to take over control of the structure or to enter into a partnership with the township. Submittal of the grant application would require an engineered plan and cost estimate. The grant application can be submitted from August 1-September 9 for Fiscal Year 2017, with grants awarded on a monthly basis. It was the consensus of the Board, to obtain prior history in regard to ownership of the structure and report back to the Board.

Administrators Update:

- Manager Ose attended the RRWMB meeting held at the District office on June 21st. Jesme was unable to attend due to a dental procedure.
- Jesme traveled to Winona, MN on June 21st to participate in the MAWD Summer Tour and also the District Administrators meeting.
- Jesme participated in a Red Lake 1W1P teleconference on June 20th with BWSR to request additional funding to cover administrative costs for development of the Red Lake River 1W1P. The District is not requesting the funding, but the SWCD offices are having a difficult time with their budget and the costs associated with the plan development.
- Jesme, staff member Nick Olson and Engineer Nate Dalager participated in a tour of the Louisville/Parnell Impoundment wetland banking site with staff from the Corps and the

Red Lake SWCD. This meeting was intended as a step needed for the Corps to determine if they could certify the bank site so the wetland acres can be used as mitigation for wetlands on future projects needing permits from the Corps. The West Polk SWCD was unable to participate in the tour.

- Jesme and Manger Torgerson presented the 2015 Annual Report to the Clearwater County Commissioners on June 14th, with the Polk County and Red Lake County meetings on June 28th.
- Jesme will be on vacation the week of July 4th.
- Jesme reviewed two newspaper articles that were recently in the Northern Watch and TRF Times.

Manager Torgerson stated that he has not received any comments on the Pine Lake Area FDR Project or the Four Legged Lake FDR Project. Torgerson questioned what agency monitors local aquifer levels.

Manager Torgerson inquired about the establishment of adding buffer strips to J.D. 72, RLWD Project No. 41. Administrator Jesme stated that he plans to have this discussion with the Polk County Commissioners when he presents the 2015 Annual Report.

Discussion was held on the District's Administrative General Fund levy and the status of the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) discussion in regard to a possible reduction in their ad valorem mil levy. Administrator Jesme stated that the RRWMB has discussed in the past various options that may allow District's to reduce their portion of the RRWMB levee but nothing has been decided.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Coe, to adjourn to the July 12, 2016 Informational Meeting for the Four Legged Lake FDR Project and the Pine Lake Area FDR Project to be held at the Gonvick Community Center, 170 Main Street, Gonvick, MN at 4:00 p.m. to allow the Board to participate in the Informational Meeting. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary