

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 9, 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 and Les Torgerson. Absent: 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 Torgerson, seconded by Sorenson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Page, to dispense reading of the May 26, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated June 8, 2016. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated June 8, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

Manager Sorenson and Staff member Loren Sanderson gave an update on the City of Erskine Memorial Park. Sorenson stated that he conveyed to the City of Erskine the different alternatives that had been discussed at the May 26, 2016 District Board meeting. The City of Erskine will be work on seeking funding toward repair of the project. Sanderson stated that he had presented the alternatives to Lisa Newton, East Polk SWCD as well. Newton will submit a grant application by the June 17th deadline date, with notification expected this fall.

Staff members Loren Sanderson and Nick Olson appeared before the Board to discuss the purchase of Trimble Survey Equipment and software upgrade. Sanderson stated that the data collector is out dated and can't be upgraded. Motion by Coe, seconded by Page, to approve the purchase of a Trimble Survey Equipment Data Collector and Software upgrade in the amount of \$8,674 from Frontier Precision, Inc. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District has Trimble Total Station Survey Equipment that is no longer of use to District staff. Jesme stated that in his opinion the equipment has some value to it and recommended seeking bids for sale. Motion by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, to declare the Trimble Total Station survey equipment as surplus equipment, no longer of any use to the Watershed District, and authorize Administrator Jesme to pursue the highest bidder for sale of the equipment. Motion carried.

Staff member Corey Hanson stated that the Thief River Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAP) Open House event will take place on June 14, 2016 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the District office. Hanson stated that the Thief River WRAP Project began in 2011 to study the Thief River Watershed to determine the condition of this water resource and to create plans that will guide future management and work to improve water quality.

Administrator Jesme updated the Board on a meeting he attended in Fargo, along with Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., with staff from the NRCS and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in regard to the RCPP application process for the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26 and the Four Legged Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 102A. Project Work Team meetings will be held on June 17, 2016, followed by a public engagement meeting on July 12, 2016 in Gonvick.

A Goose Lake Marsh Management meeting will be held in the District office on June 14, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. MnDNR staff will present a summary of the hydrologic evaluation that was completed for the marsh and seek input from landowners to help revise the old Huot Group Agreement.

Administrator Jesme stated that the structure at the outlet of the Blackduck Lake which is owned by Hines Township is failing. The MnDNR is working on a cost estimate to apply for a grant for repairs and is looking for partners in the project. Hines Township will present further information to the Board at a later date.

Discussion was held in regard to the repairs of the Odney Flaot Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 50A. Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that the Contract has a June 30, 2016 completion date. The Contractor has begun dewatering the site, but no other construction has been started. The Board directed Administrator Jesme to contact the Contractor in regards to the construction timeline.

Administrator Jesme reviewed an email he received regarding the progress of the MnDNR for the Buffer Mapping. Jesme indicated that while presenting the 2015 Annual Report to the Polk County Commissioners, he will have a discussion with them in regard to buffer strips on Judicial Ditch 72, RLWD Project. No. 41.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Page, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16036, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County; No. 16037, Chad Knutson, Kertsonville Township, Polk County; No. 16038, Gregory D. LeBlanc, Gentilly Township, Polk County; No. 16039, City of Thief River Falls, Rocksbury Township, Pennington; No. 16040, Marshall County Highway Department, Holt Township, Marshall County; and No. 16041, David Bachand, Lambert Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the June 21, 2016, RRWMB meeting held at the District office. The meeting will also include a recognition luncheon for Dan Thul, MnDNR who will be retiring after 30 years of service.
- Jesme attended the fourth meeting of the Local Governmental Water Roundtable Funding Work Group on May 27th in St. Paul. The meeting was intended to review the draft 2016 Funding Workgroup Policy Paper. The paper is intended to make recommendations to the Clean Water Council which could lead to prioritization of funds being distributed for projects throughout the State.

- LGU staff will hold a telephone conference with BWSR to see if any additional funding is available to cover administrative costs as we continue to develop the Red Lake River 1W1P.
- Jesme will participate in a Louisville Parnell Wetland Banking site tour on June 15th with staff from the Corps, Red Lake County SWCD and HDR to assure that the Corps certify this bank so the wetland acres can be used as mitigation for wetlands on future project's needing permits from the Corps.
- Staff member Tammy Audette has scheduled the following county meetings to present the 2015 Annual Report: Clearwater County-June 14th at 5:00 p.m.; Polk County-June 28th at 9:20 a.m.; Red Lake County-June 28th at 10:45; and Pennington County-June 28th at 5:00 p.m. Marshall County and Beltrami County will be scheduled in the near future.

It was the consensus of the Board that the Budget and Salary Committee will meet with Administrator Jesme, following the June 27, 2016 Board meeting, to begin the 2017 Budget information.

Manager Page discussed the Paddle Event he attended in Crookston, and also that he had been contacted by the Red Lake SWCD in regard to the BWSR August tour visiting the Huot Park.

Manager Torgerson commented that the District should look at the consequences of tile drainage and how it affects local drainage. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. discussed a report prepared by the Red River Basin/RRWMB in regard to the downstream impacts of tile drainage.

Administrator Jesme stated that he is working on a partnership for the Thief River 1W1P to submit a funding application to BWSR.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary