

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
September 22, 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 Allan Page, Terry Sorenson, Lee Coe, Les Torgerson, Dale M. Nelson and Gene Tiedemann. Absent: LeRoy Ose. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

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

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the September 8, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as corrected. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated September 21, 2016. Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report dated September 21, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the League of Minnesota Cities Annual Membership Dues in the amount of \$1,842.00. Motion by Coe, seconded by Torgerson, to approve the League of Minnesota Cities Membership Dues in the amount of \$1,842.00. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 3-Final in the amount of \$8,101.05 for the Miller Dam Outlet Repair, RLWD Project No. 50C to Higher Ground/Paul Zavoral, Inc. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve Pay Estimate No. 3-Final for \$8,101.05 to Higher Ground/Paul Zavoral, Inc. for repairs to the Miller Dam Outlet Repair, RLWD Project No. 50C. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 3 in the amount of \$23,742.90 for the Latendresse Dam Outlet Repair, RLWD Project No. 50B to Brummund Excavating, LLC. Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve Pay Estimate No. 3 for \$23,742.90 to Brummund Excavating, LLC, for repairs to the Latendresse Dam Outlet Repair, RLWD Project No. 50B. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a press release and two page project update for the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26 and the Four Legged Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 102A prepared by HDR Engineering, Inc. Manager Sorenson discussed issuing a press release more specific to the Pine Lake WMA, and the cooperation of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) in changing the management of the structure of the Pine Lake WMA. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. discussed working with a public relations individual within the MnDNR-Bemidji office. Dalager discussed distributing the two page project updates to the Project Work Team, local landowners and District website.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District received a fully executed Joint Powers Agreement with the MnDNR for operation of the Little Pine Lake WMA Project to help with efforts of the District for the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26.

Quote documents for the City of Erskine Memorial Park, RLWD Project No. 164, were sent to twelve local contractors. Quotes are due in the District office on September 28, 2016. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, to authorize Administrator Jesme and Manager Sorenson to proceed with opening of the quotes for the City of Erskine Memorial Park, RWLD Project No. 164, and after review and audit by District staff, Engineer and Legal Counsel the authority to award the project to the lowest responsible bidder. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed correspondence to the City of Erskine regarding erosion on the Hornbuckle property along Lake Cameron within the City of Erskine. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the District would need to have a statutory basis for assisting in erosion on private property, or would have to show that the erosion affects water quality. It was the consensus of the Board, that the landowner and City of Erskine should work with the East Polk SWCD for potential funding sources to help repair the bank erosion.

Brad Johnson, Houston Engineering, Inc., discussed his concerns with repairs to the outlet chute on RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161. Johnson has contacted a local contractor to review erosion at the outlet chute; given the time line, he recommends repairing the rock chute this fall to handle next spring's runoff, and then do the complete repairs next spring. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize Houston Engineering, Inc. to move forward with temporary repairs to the outlet chute.

Staff member Corey Hanson appeared before the Board to discuss the Thief River TMDL/WRAP Draft Report, RLWD Project No. 157B. Discussion was held on the results of various parameters throughout the Thief River watershed.

Manager Nelson discussed the spraying of cattails, vegetation and if there was any water quality monitoring near Goose Lake. Staff member Corey Hanson stated that he has completed some baseline monitoring on Little Black River but not on Goose Lake. Corey mentioned that the lack of base flow is a problem and indicated that strategically placed retention may help.

Republican candidate Mark Johnson, who is running for a seat on the Minnesota Senate appeared before the Board, stating that he was interested in learning more about what Watershed District's do as well as how they are funded. Johnson stated that he grew up in the Maple Lake area, and that he is currently residing in East Grand Forks.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed RLWD Permit No. 16101, William Langlois, located in Section 17, Louisville Township, Red Lake County. Langlois and downstream landowner Andy Moran were in attendance for discussion regarding the permit. Sanderson stated that he has not finished his review of the permit application, but that the proposed work had already commenced prior to the application being submitted to the District. Sanderson explained that the outlet of the tile system is a lateral to Judicial Ditch 60, therefore Red Lake County is completing

a survey of the system. Water from the pump system pays into the correct benefitted area, but is entering at a different location. Moran stated that water from the tile system is backing-up into his property, causing damage to his crop. Langlois stated that he has offered to reimburse Moran for any crop loss this year, asking if the installation of a berm and culvert along Moran's property would alleviate the concern of water backing-up onto his property. Sanderson stated that until he receives the survey from Red Lake County and completes his review, action on the permit application will not be complete until the October 13, 2016 Board meeting. Langlois stated that the tile system is not completed as they are waiting for water levels to drop to complete the project. He questioned if he would be able to proceed as the tile company is prepared to finish the work. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that since this is an after the fact permit, if the applicant takes further action, without approval from the District, he would do so at his own risk and be held responsible for making any recommended changes to his tiling system if changes are required.

Motion by Page, seconded by Torgerson, to table Permit No. 16096, Douglas Peterson, Sullivan Township, Polk County for further review and evaluation. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to deny Permit No. 16111, Marta Sivitz, Tilden Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16100, Lowell Township, Polk County; No. 16112, City of East Grand Forks, Grand Forks Township, Polk County; No. 16113, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Grand Forks Township, Polk County; No. 16114, Red Lake falls Community Hybrid, LLC, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County; No. 16115, Kevin Krueger, Huntsville Township, Polk County; and No. 16118, Grove Park Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Torgerson attended the RRWMB meeting in Moorhead on September 20, 2016, followed by a meeting with the NRCS to discuss the RCPP contracts.
- Jesme attended a buffer strip meeting at the Marshall SWCD office on September 21, 2016, along with staff from the MSTRWD, Marshall County Ditch Authority and BWSR.
- Jesme was asked to host a tour of the Grand Marais Channel Restoration Project and Brandt Channel downstream of the Brandt Impoundment with Professor Phil Gerla, UND, along with students from UND's Environmental GeoScience/Geological Engineering students.
- Jesme along with Tanya Hanson, Red Lake SWCD will give a presentation on the collaboration between SWCD's and Watershed Districts at the BWSR Academy held October 24-26, 2016.
- Included in the packet was the Polk County Township meeting information being held October 27, 2017. Staff member Loren Sanderson was asked to be a speaker to discuss permitting rules.

Manager Torgerson gave an update of activities from the September 20, 2016 RRWMB meeting. The RRWMB will be hiring an Executive Director as Ron Harnack is retiring.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that a letter will be submitted today to landowners Robert and Alisha Anderson, regarding the completion of work for RLWD Permit No. 15106. Manager Coe inquired on the status of the grant application for repairs to the outlet structure of Blackduck Lake, RLWD Project No. 50E. Administrator Jesme stated that we should hear by the end of the month if the grant was awarded.

Manager Sorenson discussed lake elevations on Pine Lake, RLWD Project No. 35, and commended Staff member Sanderson for achieving consistent lake levels.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary