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

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the December 22, 2016 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.


Manager Coe stated that Beltrami County is in the process of selecting a candidate to replace him on the District Board. Coe will represent Beltrami County until his replacement is selected.

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 Ose, nominated Dale M. Nelson. 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 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 Torgerson nominated Gene Tiedemann. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, 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 Coe nominated LeRoy Ose. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Torgerson, 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 Tiedemann nominated Terry Sorenson. 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 Terry Sorenson for treasurer of the Board. Motion carried.

President Nelson reviewed the Advisory Board members. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, 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 third year of a 3-year term, with the first year held by Manager Knott and the second year by Manager Ose. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to appoint Manager Ose as Delegate to carry out the third year of the three term, and Manager Torgerson as Alternate to the RRWMB. Motion carried.

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

The Board discussed representatives on the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Managers Nelson, Sorenson and Tiedemann to serve on 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 Ose, seconded by Page, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Torgerson to the JD 2 and JD 72 Joint Ditch Boards. Motion carried.

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 the Beltrami County Board member to be appointed 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 Coe, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Torgerson as Delegates and the Beltrami County Board member to be appointed as Alternate to the Four Legged Lake Project Work Team. Motion carried.
Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Black River Impoundment Project Work Team. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Coe, to appoint Managers Nelson and Page as Delegates and Manager Tiedemann as Alternate to the Black River Impoundment 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 Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, 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.

Discussion was held on the appointment to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Thief River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Manager Ose as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Managers Nelson and Manager to be appointed from Beltrami County to the Advisory Committee for the Thief River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Blackduck Lake Structure Joint Powers Board. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to appoint the Manager to be appointed from Beltrami County and Manager Torgerson to the Blackduck Lake Structure Joint Powers Board. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Torgerson, and passed by unanimous vote that the regularly scheduled Board meetings be held at 9:00 A.M. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month for 2017.

A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Ose, 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, First National Bank of Bemidji, Ultima Bank, Edward Jones, Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service (CDARS) through Promontory Interfinancial Network, LLC with the following signatures on the signature cards at the financial institutions: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Terry Sorenson, Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak. Motion carried.

The Conflict of Interest policy was reviewed by the Board. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Torgerson, 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.

Discussion was held on the JD 2 and JD 72 systems benefitted area. Administrator Jesme stated that all the while he has been employed by the District, the committee for JD 2 has not met and it has been several years since JD 72 has met. Manager Torgerson concurred that it has been at
least three years since the JD 72 committee had met. It was suggested that further discussion with the other involved County may be had in the future as to the possibility of turning this system over to the Watershed District.

There will be a Kick-Off meeting on January 27, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the District office for the Black River Impoundment Project Work Team.

Administrator Jesme stated that registered letters were sent to eleven landowners in regard to the establishment and maintenance of Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) on the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60F. To date, the District has received responses from landowners Luke Millette, Carol Thompson and Roger Mathisen.

The Board reviewed the Red Lake River 1W1P Memorandum of Agreement that was approved by the Red Lake River 1W1P Policy Committee. Administrator Jesme stated that the Policy Committee has yet to determine the Fiscal Agent and the Coordinator. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the Red Lake River 1W1P Memorandum of Agreement, authorizing Manager Nelson, Administrator Jesme and Legal Counsel Sparby to sign said document. Motion carried.

The 2017 MN Viewers Association dues request was submitted to the Board. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously that the RLWD submit annual dues in the amount of $150 to the MN Viewers Association.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permit with conditions stated on the permit: No. 16189, BNSF Railway Company, Crookston Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

The Drainage and Wetland Conference Seminar hosted by Rinke Noonan will be held February 13, 2017 at the St. Cloud River’s Edge Convention Center.

Administrator Jesme presented the Pay Equity Implementation Report that the District is required to complete every three years, per State Statute. Jesme stated that after completing the report it appears the District shows no inequity of pay. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Pay Equity Implementation Report and submit it to the State of Minnesota. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the RRWMB meeting on January 17, 2017 held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead. They will then proceed to the 34th Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conference scheduled for January 17-19, 2017 at the Ramada Plaza & Suites, Fargo, ND. Included in the packet was a write-up featuring the retirement of Dan Thul, MnDNR Hydrologist.
- Additional funds for the Red Lake River 1W1P will be available from BWSR to use towards existing grants. The additional funds will assist in completing the PTMapp at select locations throughout the watershed.
• Marshall County SWCD has scheduled landowner meetings to discuss the buffer strip legislation. Meetings will be held on January 23 at the following locations and times: Grygla, 9:00 a.m.; Newfolden, 12:30 p.m.; and Argyle, 4:00 p.m.
• East and West Polk County SWCD has scheduled a meeting with county and watershed district officials to discuss the buffer strip legislation on January 30, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
• Jesme attended a meeting with officials from Pennington County and the City of Thief River Falls to discuss future highway improvement projects on the west side of Thief River Falls specifically including the Minnesota Highway #59 and Highway #1 intersection. This area has a history of drainage problems.
• Houston Engineering, Inc. and the Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration Project will receive an Honor Award at the American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota banquet to be held January 27, 2017.

Discussion was held on a potential ditch petition project on the west side of Thief River Falls, with potential cooperative effort with the City of Thief River Falls and Pennington County.

Discussion was held on enhancing the Black River Impoundment Project, RLWD Project No. 176 dike area.

Manager Torgerson stated that he will not be in attendance at the District Board meetings until the April 27, 2017 meeting.

Manager Torgerson discussed correspondence from the Clearwater Lake Association regarding reinforcement of the shoreline of Clearwater Lake. Torgerson discussed the history of the lake and water quality concerns.

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

LeRoy Ose, Secretary