

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
January 26, 2017

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 Lee Coe, Gene Tiedemann, Dale M. Nelson, Allan Page, Terry Sorenson, and LeRoy Ose. Absent: Les Torgerson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette.

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

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to dispense reading of the January 12, 2017 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 25, 2017. Staff member Arlene Novak stated that a Certificate of Deposit will mature on February 5, 2017 with Border State Bank. Novak indicated that Border State Bank would renew the maturing Certificate of Deposit of .80%. Discussion was held on investing the maturing Certificate of Deposit into the CDARS Program with Unity Bank North at a rate of .95%. Motion by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated January 25, 2017 as presented and invest the Certificate of Deposit that will mature on February 5, 2017 into the CDARS Program through Unity Bank North. Motion carried.

Staff member Ashley Hitt appeared before the Board to discuss the use of GIS data and PTMApp process as it relates to the development of mapping for projects. Hitt explained that both the GIS program and data, along with the PTMApp, require an extensive amount of space for storage on a computer or server, along with the speed of a computer required to use such data. Hitt stated that she is currently using her office computer along with multiple external hard drives to store information as a central point for other staff members to access the data. Hitt stated that other staff that use the data, are not allowed to save the data back to her computer, therefore data is not in a central location. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize the District staff to look into the costs of adding an additional server, or the purchase of a new server for storage of all District information.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District has been contacted by 5 of the 13 landowners concerning the District's agreement with potential maintenance of their property enrolled into the RIM program for the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 60F. Of the remaining 11 letters that were sent registered mail with a return receipt requested, it appears that all letters were signed for at each residence. The Board reviewed a letter received from Roger and Robbin Mathsen stating that no RIM maintenance on their property will be required as the 16.5 acres that they have enrolled into RIM is covered by trees.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the Beltrami County SWCD for potential partnership with the District, in regard to an Enbridge Energy Ecofootprint Grant Application to restore and

protect shoreline areas of Clearwater Lake from further erosion. Proposed project partners would include the Beltrami SWCD, Clearwater SWCD, Clearwater Area Lake Association and the District. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to support the Enbridge Energy Ecofootprint Grant Application for a potential project on Clearwater Lake. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District was contacted in regard to a request by a local Sportsman Club to use the dike on the Moose River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 13, as a designated ATV trail. Jesme stated that in 2004, the Board passed a Motion of Support in favor of the establishment of a State ATV trail, with the understanding that all rules of the operation of the Moose River Impoundment are complied with. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to reaffirm the Board's action to support a designated ATV trail on the Moose River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 13, with the understanding that all rules of the operation of the Moose River Impoundment are complied with. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that an interagency meeting will be held at the District office on February 7, 2017 at 9:30 a.m., with staff from Thief Lake WMA and Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge to discuss operation of dams, which include Thief Lake, Agassiz and the Moose River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 13.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Coe, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 17001, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Kelliher Township, Beltrami County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a request from the RRWMB, asking Watershed Districts to submit information to the RRWMB any suggestions about additional services the RRWMB could provide to each member district. It was the consensus of the Board to have Administrator Jesme and Manager Ose gather information and bring back to the next District Board meeting for submittal to the RRWMB.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Joint Annual Conference with the RRWMB and the Red River Basin FDR will be held March 22-23, 2017 at the Courtyard by Marriot, Moorhead, MN.

The MAWD Legislative Reception, Breakfast, and Day at the Capitol will be held March 29-30, 2017 in St. Paul.

#### Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose attended the RRWMB meeting held in Moorhead on January 17, 2017. Jesme and Managers Ose, Torgerson, Page, Tiedemann and Sorenson attended the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Red River Basin Land & Water International Summit Conference in Fargo, January 17-19, 2017.
- Signatures are being obtained from the LGU Boards from Pennington, Polk and Red Lake Counties for submittal of the Red Lake River 1W1P to BWSR.
- Jesme and Manager Ose attended a Marshall SWCD buffer strip meeting in Grygla on January 23. Jesme will participate in a Polk County buffer strip meeting with staff from the SWCD's, County Drainage Authority and County Engineer on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

- Jesme will attend an informational meeting on the use of drones at the NCTC Aerospace Center on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The Thief River 1W1P kick off meeting will be held on February 2, 2017 at the District office from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The agenda for the meeting was included in the packet.
- Included in the packet was a letter from the NRCS regarding the retirement of Keith Weston, NRCS Red River Basin Coordinator. In the interim, Dave Jones, NRCS Area Engineer will replace Weston.
- Included in the packet was a letter from Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. informing the District of line maintenance to take place this winter near the Parnell Impoundment.
- Jesme and staff member Corey Hanson have been asked to participate in drafting comments on behalf of the RRWMB for the MPCA Tiered Aquatic Life Uses (TALU) framework document which are due February 2, 2017. Adoption of the TALU framework into the state WQS will provide more refined uses in the aquatic life use class. The revision of TALU will only impact the WQS that apply to rivers and streams and not the WQS that apply to lakes, reservoirs or wetlands.

Bruce Anspach, Beltrami County Environmental Services/Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Lake Technician presented information to the Board regarding the Beltrami Count AIS program and results obtained from funding the District provided to the Beltrami County SWCD in 2016 for the AIS program. Anspach stated that the District provided \$35,000 in funding to the SWCD to help educate water craft users of best management practices and decontamination equipment to help prevent the spread of AIS. Anspach stated that funding from the District was used to help pay for mileage and an hourly wage for inspectors to various sites located within the District area. A balance of \$7,201.46 remains, with plans to use the money towards decontamination equipment and other AIS related projects.

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



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LeRoy Ose, Secretary