

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
October 12, 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 Dale M. Nelson, Les Torgerson, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, Brian Dwight, Gene Tiedemann and LeRoy Ose. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Sparby.

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

Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Page, to dispense reading of the September 28, 2017 Board meeting minutes and approve them as printed. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated October 11, 2017. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report dated October 11, 2017 as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the General Fund Budget dated September 30, 2017.

Staff member Arlene Novak stated that the Certificate of Deposit will mature October 19, 2017 CDRS-Unity Bank. Novak recommended reinvesting all three Certificate of Deposits with CDAR-Unity Bank at a rate of 1.15%. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to authorize staff to renew the three Certificate of Deposit with CDARS-Unity Bank at rate of 1.15%. Motion carried.

Staff member Loren Sanderson presented a District Impoundment update to the Board. The Moose River Impoundment area has received recent rain events, therefore pool levels are rising. The local gate tender will monitor the pool levels, with drawdown to begin October 15th. Drawdown of the Moose River Impoundment is coordinated with the staff from Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge and Thief Lake WMA. With a relatively dry fall, outlet structures on District impoundments in western Polk County are set for winter elevations. District staff and Manager Page test operated the hydraulic gates on the Schirrick Dam. Discussion was held amongst the Board, regarding the purchase of a generator for future use. Water levels at Pine Lake have increased. On October 5, 2017, District staff pulled one stop log from each bay. The Good Lake Impoundment is currently at winter elevation.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc. and Administrator Jesme met with members of the Black River Church Council to discuss the Black River Impoundment Project, RLWD Project No. 176. Discussion was held regarding the possible impact to the trees surrounding the church and various options with the neighboring landowner. Council members indicated that they would like to see the pine trees along the north edge of the property remain but there was some discussion among the council members as to whether the church actually owned the land. A Step 2 funding submittal will be presented to the RRWMB on October 17, 2017. Nordby stated that we are requesting a slightly higher percentage of funding than the Star Value represents. Nordby indicated that if the request is not approved by the RRWMB Technical

Advisory Committee the RRWMB can counter the request. Jesme indicated that in accordance the RRWMB Governing Documents, the Step 2 submittal has to also be forwarded to DNR and BWSR for their comments.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) in regard to lowering the culvert at the outlet of Judicial Ditch 5, RLWD Project No. 102, to allow for the District to perform repair/maintenance to the system. The notice indicated that under the Nation Wide Permit, the District would be allowed to lower the outlet pipe to the elevation of 1423.8, slope the township road, clean minor silt upstream and downstream of the culvert for distance of no more than 200'. If additional cleaning was completed downstream of County Road 23 and the railroad grade, separate action would be required by the USACOE, which would require an additional permit. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to proceed with the lowering of the outlet culvert to an elevation of 1423.8 in compliance of the Nation Wide permit allowed by the USACOE and to proceed with additional maintenance upon receipt of the permit from the USACOE. Motion carried with Manager Dwight opposed. Manager Dwight stated that he would like to see the Project Work Team process proceed with a Flood Damage Reduction Project. Letters will be sent to the landowners advising of the lowering of the culvert and upstream and downstream cleaning of the channel.

Administrator Jesme discussed the cost of lowering the outlet culvert and cleaning of the channel on Judicial Ditch 5, RLWD Project No. 102. It was the consensus of the Board that costs of the repairs should be covered under the Four Legged Lake Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 102A, due to the fact that if the FDR project proceeds forward, costs of outlet would be covered under the project. If the FDR Project does not proceed, costs of lowering the culvert and cleaning the channel would be transferred to the Judicial Ditch 5, RLWD Project No. 102 account. Jesme shared with the Board an email from landowner, Ed Isaacson.

Administrator Jesme stated that the District received signed petitions from the City of Thief River Falls and Pennington County for the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that letters should be sent to the landowners, informing them that field surveys will take place in the near future. Discussion was held on the potential development of a Water Management District and a Project Work Team. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to authorize Administrator Jesme the authority to contact attorney's from Rinke Noon, for guidance and discussion on the legal course the Board may want to take, as well as potential funding sources and project alternatives for the development of a the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Plans and Specifications for the Outlet to Polk County Ditch 63, RLWD Project No. 134 Grade Stabilization Project to be repaired from the District's Erosion and Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Administrator Jesme stated the Engineer's Estimate is \$97,658.00, therefore the District can solicit quotes. Jesme further stated that the District has signed a construction easement with the landowner, as the project site is outside the current right-of-way of the public drainage system. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Plans and Specifications for the Outlet to Polk County Ditch 63, RLWD Project No. 134 Grade Stabilization Project, with quotes due to the District office by 4:30 p.m. on October 25, 2017. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Manager Tiedemann discussed his concern with the open inlet on RLWD Permit No. 17141, Kevin Lien. Tiedemann recommended the installation of a Hickam pipe or other erosion control measures along with a grass strip, to help with erosion control.

Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 17139, Donovan Dyrdal, Norden Township, Pennington County; No. 17140, Folsom Farms Corp., Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 17142, John Rouland, Smiley Township, Pennington County, No. 17143 and 17144, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County; No. 17145 and 17146, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; 17147, Dale Kolseth, Mayfield Township, Pennington; and No.17141, Kevin Lien, Andover Township, Polk County with the requirement that erosion control practices be installed at the inlet pipe. Motion carried.

The 2017 MAWD Annual Meeting and Trade Show will be held November 30-December 2, 2017 in Alexandria, MN.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Torgerson will attend the RRWMB monthly meeting at the District office on October 17, 2017.
- An agreement was not reached with the final candidate for the MAWD Executive Director position. Discussion is taking place with the second finalist.
- Jesme and staff member Hanson participated in a phone conference for the Thief River 1W1P to finalize the agenda for Policy Committee meeting held October 11, 2017 at the District office.
- Jesme and staff member Hanson will attend a Red Lake River 1W1P planning Committee meeting this afternoon at the District office to finalize project ideas for the Policy Committee meeting to be held October 18, 2017 at the District office.
- There will be a Pine Lake Project Work Team meeting at the District office on October 20, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.
- There will be a Four Legged Lake Project Work Team meeting at the District office on October 20, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.
- Included in the packet was the June 2017 Water Quality Report.

Manager Torgerson discussed local concerns regarding irrigation and wells in the Erskine/Mentor areas. The Board reviewed correspondence from the DNR regarding aquifer testing that will be completed by the DNR along the Polk/Red Lake County lines.

The Board discussed concerns with the maintenance of ditches downstream of tile pumps.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary