

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
August 23, 2018

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 Terry Sorenson, Gene Tiedemann, Dale M. Nelson, Allan Page, Les Torgerson, LeRoy Ose and Brian Dwight. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette. Staff absent: Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. President Nelson stated that Employee Resignation and Employee Posting Ditch Inspector/Technician II will be removed as an agenda item. A motion was made by Torgerson, seconded by Dwight, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda, with the removal of Employee Resignation and Employee Posting Ditch Inspection/Technician II. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the August 9, 2018 minutes. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the August 9, 2018 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the August 21, 2018 minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the August 21, 2018 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated August 22, 2018. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Financial Report August 22, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the Investment Summary as of August 22, 2018. Novak reviewed the quotes received for investment of the Certificate of Deposit set to mature on September 3, 2018. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to invest the maturing Certificate of Deposit with Unity Bank North-Red Lake Falls, in a 12-month Certificate of Deposit. Motion carried.

Manager Sorenson recommended transferring \$200,000 from the checking account at Northern State Bank into the American Federal Bank money market account which has an accelerated interest rate. Staff member Arlene Novak stated that funds in the money market account at American Federal Bank are accessible at any time. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to authorize the transfer of \$200,000 of funds from the Northern State Bank checking account into the American Federal Bank money market account. Motion carried.

The 2019 Proposed Special Revenue Project levies were presented by Staff member Arlene Novak and discussed by the Board. Questions in regard to different ditch systems were fielded. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following Special Revenue Assessments for 2019: State Ditch No. 83, RLWD Project No. 14, \$50,000; RLWD Ditch No. 7, RLWD Project No. 20, \$6,000; Pine Lake Maintenance, RLWD Project No. 35, \$4,000; RLWD Ditch

No. 8, RLWD Project No. 36, \$1,000; RLWD Ditch No. 9, RLWD Project No. 39, \$1,000; J.D. No. 72, RLWD Project No. 41, \$9,000; J.D. 2, Branch A & B, RLWD Project No. 48, \$1,000; J.D. 2B & C, RLWD Project No. 49, \$1,500; Main J.D. 2-Eck Petition, RLWD Project No. 51, \$1,500; Krostue Petition, RLWD Project No. 53, \$2,500; J.D. 5 (Four-Legged Lake), RLWD Project No. 102, \$2,200; RLWD Ditch 1, Lateral C, RLWD Project No. 115, \$1,500; Kenneth Johnson Petition, RLWD Project No. 117, \$2,000; Polk County Ditch Improvement, RLWD Project No. 119, \$5,000; Challenger Ditch, RLWD Project No. 122, \$500; Scott Baatz Petition, RLWD Project No. 123, \$1,000; Polk County Ditch 63, RLWD Project No. 134, \$5,000; Polk County Ditch 33, RLWD Project No. 135, \$5,000; RLWD Ditch No. 10, RLWD Project No. 161, \$5,000; RLWD Ditch No. 12, RLWD Project No. 169, \$7,500; RLWD Ditch No. 14, RLWD Project No. 171, \$5,000; Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Resolution to Extend the Red Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan. Administrator Jesme stated that the District's 10-Year Plan expired in 2018. The District is required to revise their Watershed Management Plan at least once every ten years. Jesme stated, that with the District currently working on the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) process for an individual subwatershed, the District can extend the current 10-Year Plan until 2025. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve a Resolution to Extend the Red Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan until December 31, 2025. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Deficiency Resolution for the establishment of the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. The Deficiency Resolution would assure the District complies with statutory requirements in the event the District has to bond for this project. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to authorize President Nelson and Secretary Ose, to sign the Deficiency Resolution for the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Reimbursement Resolution for the establishment of the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. The Reimbursement Resolution insures that if the District forwards funds to assist in paying for the project, the District would be assured they will be reimbursed for all costs incurred to the project. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to authorize President Nelson and Secretary Ose, to sign the Reimbursement Resolution for the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Motion carried.

Dillon Nelson, HDR Engineering, Inc. reviewed three soil boring bids received for the Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Soil borings will be needed to complete the final design of the project. It was noted that the apparent low bid was from Northern Technologies. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Torgerson, to approve the low bid in the amount of \$7,150, from Northern Technologies. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that Larson Helicopter completed aerial spraying of 2,374 acres of cattails for the Agassiz NWR-Wetland Habitat Quality and Management Enhancement Grant, RLWD Project No. 180A. The Board reviewed the Scope of Work for repairs to the Thief Bay Water Control Structure. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the Scope of

Work for repairs to the Thief Bay Water Control Structure, Agassiz NWR Wetland Habitat Quality and Management Enhance Grant, RLWD Project No. 180A. Motion carried.

RRWMB Executive Director, Rob Sip and Lobbyist, Lisa Frenette, appeared before the Board to discuss the legislative process and priorities for the RRWMB during the next legislative season. Sip discussed the RRWMB Strategic Plan, funding of FDR Projects and cost share policies. The RRWMB approved the 2019 Budget, which is approximately 9% less from the previous years budget. Sip stated that the RRWMB will continue to focus on reducing costs. Frenette stated that in the future she will do less project focus, and more emphasis on legislative issues. Discussion was held on how the duties of Ron Harnack were split between Sip and Frenette. Sip reaffirmed the levy reduction process, review and approval of the Internal Control document, development of a legislative committee, banking request for proposals and potential timeline for moving into their new office. Discussion was held on the Sand Hill River Watershed District leaving the RRWMB. Manager Dwight stated that he would like to see a legislative report similar to what Ron Harnack prepared. Discussion was held on the structure of the Drainage Work Group with all the new staff in place.

Administrator Jesme stated that due to the dry weather conditions, replacement of the structure at the Little Pine Lake WMA, RLWD Project No. 26A, has been going very well.

Administrator Jesme stated that the Final Engineers Report for RLWD Ditch 16, RLWD Project No. 177 is nearly complete. Viewers are working on the Viewers Report, with anticipated construction planned for next spring.

Administrator Jesme discussed a resolution the District needs to draft as it relates to the enforcement of the Buffer Law Implementation. Jesme reviewed Section 6.3 and 6.4 that pertains to violations, repeat offenders and fines/fees. Jesme asked the Board to review the document included in the Board packet, with further discussion at a future Board meeting.

Administrator Jesme stated that the East Polk SWCD is working on grant applications for the Clearwater River Watershed and Cameron Lake for the installation of sediment basins and potential of shoreline restoration projects. Modeling has been completed that shows the areas that have the highest sediment yields. Several lakes are impaired, others that are nearly impaired, and some that are nearly restored. Cameron Lake is currently impaired. The grant application requires a 25% match, which needs to be identified in the application. The grant application is due August 31, 2018. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the submittal of Clean Water Fund Grant application from the East Polk WCD for the Clearwater River Watershed and that the District will be identified for the 25% match, with funds from the District's Water Quality Project, RLWD Project No. 46. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 18071, Earl Pederson, Badger Township, Polk Count; No. 18084, Wade Hrubby, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 18085, Pennington County Highway Department, Smiley Township, Pennington County; No. 18086, Lee Farms Partnership, LLC, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 18087,

Jarod Peterson, Keystone Township, Polk County; No. 18088, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Grove Park Township, Polk County; No. 18089, Brian Stanley, Lee Township, Beltrami County; No. 18090, Digi-Key Corporation, North Township, Pennington County; and No. 18091, Steven Rosten, Garnes Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that a Flu Shot Clinic will be held at the District on September 27, 2018, prior to the start of the Board meeting.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Managers Ose, Sorenson, and Page attended the August 21, 2018 RRWMB meeting held at the District office. The meeting was followed by tours of a project in the Middle Snake Tamarac Watershed District and two RLWD projects, the Black River Impoundment and the Thief River Falls West Side FDR Project. Included in the packet was the RRWMB Newsletter dated July 25, 2018 and the August 21, 2018 meeting highlights.
- A Red Lake River 1W1P Policy Committee meeting was held on August 15, 2018 to discuss among other things a SWI Cost Share Policy, other Clean Water Fund Grants, NACD Grant/Job Description, 319 Grant, and PTMApp Grant update.
- Included in the packet was an editorial that was published in the Northern Watch regarding the Black River Impoundment. This is the same letter that was referenced at the public hearing held on August 9th.
- Due to the RRWMB meeting and unforeseen circumstances Jesme did not attend the Beltrami County Commissioner's meeting to present the 2017 Annual Report. Meetings will be scheduled with the Beltrami County and Marshall County Commissioners.

Manager Torgerson inquired on the letter sent to Clearwater County and Dudley Township, regarding the lowering of the outlet culvert on Judicial Ditch No. 5, RLWD Project No. 102. Discussion will be held at the September 13, 2018 meeting.

Manager Nelson stated that Pennington County will take enforcement of buffers adjacent to public ditches under their jurisdiction. The SWCD's role is to identify if landowners are or are not in compliance, and possible development of alternative practices. The SWCD offices are supposed to notify the ditch authority if someone is not in compliance and it is up to the ditch authority to ensure there is compliance.

Discussion was held on well interference in groundwater wells in the Crookston/Erskine area.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary