

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
May 24, 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 Dale M. Nelson, Terry Sorenson, Brian Dwight, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Allan Page and Les Torgerson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Sparby.

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.

The Board reviewed the May 10, 2018 minutes. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Torgerson, to approve the May 10, 2018 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated May 23, 2018. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated May 23, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176 received a Project Acceleration Grant in the amount of \$8,000 from the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (FDRWG). The project had previously received a \$5,000 grant from the FDRWG. Members of the Technical Advisory Panel completed a field verification of the wetlands. Findings of the field review will be submitted to the District. Nordby stated that he received an email from the archeologist, that the site appears to be clear of any major issues. An official report will be submitted to the District. The final plans for the project are completed. Nordby is waiting for documentation to be able to submit the permit applications. Once the permits are in hand, Nordby will present a Step 3 submittal to the RRWMB. Administrator Jesme discussed a meeting held with Nordby, Legal Counsel Sparby and officials from Pennington County on how to proceed with the county ditch systems within the project area.

Administrator Jesme stated that he was informed that the Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178, moved up on the list for funding through the Department of Natural Resources Flood Damage Reduction program, pending the signature of the Governor for the bonding bill. Jesme was informed that the District needs to pass a resolution authorizing Jesme the authority to apply for funding, guaranteeing the financial capability of the District to provide any required matching funds. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve a resolution to be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for signature by President Nelson and Secretary Ose, authorizing Administrator Myron Jesme the authority to apply for funding on behalf of the District for the Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Motion carried. A Step 1 submittal will be presented to the RRWMB in June which will then, in accordance to their Governing Documents, be voted on at their July meeting. Jesme stated that

Representative Dan Fabian recommended submitting a Letter of Support to Governor Dayton in support of passing of the bonding bill. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Sorenson, to authorize the submittal of a Letter of Support to Governor Dayton urging him to sign the bonding bill, as it relates to the Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Motion carried.

Executive Director Rob Sip, RRWMB appeared before the Board, to update the Board on various topics concerning the RRWMB. Sip stated that he is encouraging the RRWMB to form a committee structure within the organization, discussing the 10 broad goals and the Strategic Plan of the RRWMB. Phase 1 of the Strategic Plan was the organization of the RRWMB with the hiring of an Executive Director and Executive Assistant and formation of an office. Phase 2 is more of an outreach program, which Sip is in the process of kicking-off. Sip discussed the transparency of the RRWMB, request for investment services that was mailed to area banks and Flood Hazard Mitigation funding.

The Board reviewed Permit No. 18028, Wayne Vettleson, Equality Township, Red Lake County for the installation of tile drainage. Staff member Loren Sanderson stated that the applicant violated the District's permit application process by installing tile drainage and a centerline culvert through a county road prior to applying for a District permit application. Sanderson stated that after reviewing the permit application, it was determined that the applicant does not pay benefits for a portion of the land included in the tiling project. Discussion was held on why the tile contractor, Field Drainage, Inc., Brooks, MN, did not inform the applicant of the need for a tile permit application. It was mentioned that the owner of Field Drainage, Inc. assisted the District in drafting of the language for District's tile drainage rules, therefore they are fully aware of the need to have a permit prior to completing their tile projects. It was the consensus of the Board, to have Legal Counsel Sparby draft a letter to Field Drainage, Inc., regarding the requirements of the District's permit application process. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Page, to table RLWD Permit No. 18028, Wayne Vettleson, Equality Township, Red Lake County, for future consideration. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Petition for Use of Red Lake Watershed District Ditch No. 7, RLWD Project 20 from Wayne and Debra Vettleson to use the established drainage system as an outlet for lands that do not currently pay into the said public drainage system. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Dwight, to accept the Petition for Use of Red Lake Watershed District Ditch No. 7, RLWD Project No. 20 from Wayne and Debra Vettleson, and set a hearing date for July 26, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office, to hear public comment about the inclusion of lands into the benefitted area of said ditch. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the drainage complaint on the Darrell Dolalie property located in Section 29, Pine Lake Township, Clearwater County. Pine Lake Township has contacted a contractor to complete the work. The landowner has since blocked the entrance to his property.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 18023, Julie Efta, Krakta Township, Pennington County; No. 18024, Kenneth Skaaren, River Falls Township,

Pennington County; No. 18026, Terry Lubitz, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 18027, Don Berry, Chester Township, Polk County; No. 18029, Wayne Vettleson, Equality Township, Red Lake County; and No. 18030 and 18031, Wayne Vettleson, Equality Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed two quotes received for the purchase of aluminum trailer from Huberts Outdoor Power and Galaxie Auto and Trailer Sales. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the purchase of a 2018 Aluminum Trailer from Galaxie Auto and Trailer Sales in the amount of \$2,455.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Torgerson, to declare the Floe Pro 100 Plus, snowmobile trailer, as surplus property. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that staff member Christina Slowinski has requested if she could set up and monitor educational booths for display at the Polk and Clearwater County Fairs to help promote and educate area landowners on the District's purpose. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to authorize the District staff to participate in the Polk and Clearwater County Fairs. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed amendments made to the 2017 Annual Report. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the 2017 Annual Report. Motion carried. Meetings will be scheduled soon with the County Commissioners to present the Annual report.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Managers Ose and Sorenson attended the May 25, 2018 RRWMB meeting held in Fertile.
- The Euclid East and Brandt Impoundments are completely drained down. The Parnell Impoundment is still being drawn down. Staff will start releasing water from the Moose River Impoundment late this week.
- Jesme and Jeff Langan and Erica Beito from Houston Engineering, Inc. along with Brad Dokken, Outdoor Writer for the Grand Forks Herald toured the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration on May 21st. An article will appear in the Grand Forks Herald in mid to late June.
- Jesme and staff member Hanson met with various BWSR Clean Water Specialists to discuss the grant process through BWSR, 1W1P process and projects funded by the Clean Water Council.
- Included in the packet was a newspaper article from the Grygla Eagle featuring staff member Hitt and the Grygla 4th and 5th graders as part of the River of Dreams Educational event.
- Included in the packet was a legislative update from RRWMB lobbyist Lisa Frenette.
- Included in the packet with a brochure featuring the 2018 Summer Water Tours sponsored by the North Dakota Water Education Foundation.
- Jesme met with Craig Mowery and Jordan Young, Agassiz NWR regarding the Conservation Partnership Legacy Grant to discuss logistics of the grant and roles of each partner. It appears that all contractual quotes will run through the District office and

Agassiz staff will inspect the construction of the various components of the grant. Included in the packet was the work flow for the projects listed in the grant.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he has not been able to speak with the Attorney General's office representative regarding the appointment of a member of the Red Lake Tribal Council on the District Board.

Manager Ose discussed the presentation that Craig Mowery, Agassiz NWR gave at the Thief River 1W1P meeting regarding the history of Agassiz NWR.

Hearing notices have been sent out to landowners for the abandonment of Judicial Ditch 5, RLWD Project No. 102. Manager Torgerson stated that the gauge on County Road 2 was at 1427.3 this morning. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that he will review his Engineer's Findings and Recommendations Memo for the abandonment hearing with Administrator Jesme and Legal Counsel Sparby prior to the hearing.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary