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 and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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.

The Board reviewed the September 13, 2018 minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the September 13, 2018 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated September 26, 2018. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report September 26, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the Investment Summary as of September 26, 2018, stating that a Certificate of Deposit will mature on October 2, 2018. Manager Sorenson stated that several Certificate of Deposits will mature in October, recommending that the Board authorize District Staff to receive quotes, purchase the Certificate(s) of Deposit, and report back to the Board. President Nelson stated that he would like to see the purchase of Certificate of Deposits be presented to the Board prior to the purchase. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Torgerson, to invest the maturing Certificate of Deposit with Unity Bank North-Red Lake Falls at 2.20% for a 12-month Certificate of Deposit. Motion carried.

Manager Torgerson discussed various aspects of the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26. Torgerson shared his desire to have a meeting to learn and better understand the funding structure of the District. Discussion was held on holding a Pine Lake Project Work Team meeting on October 19, 2018. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., recommended holding a meeting with environmental review and permitting agency staff members to determine what would be permissible. Torgerson recommended contacting the local landowners to inquire of the interest of landowner participation in the project. Administrator Jesme stated that he will be meeting with Keith Weston, Red River Retention Authority, Deb Walchuk, NRCS, Managers Torgerson and Sorenson, and Engineer Nate Dalager following today’s meeting to discuss potential funding.

Lisa Newton and Kelsey Hedlund, East Polk SWCD, presented the Shayne Munter Water and Sediment Basin project located in Section 35, Hill River Township, Polk County, which enters directly into the Hill River. Newton stated that four berms with tile would be installed, which
would allow for subsurface drainage instead of surface runoff, reducing erosion into the Hill River. Project cost is estimated to be $32,979.60. Newton stated that they have 50% of cost share funds, with the landowner contributing 25% of the project costs. Newton requested 25% from the District’s 2018 Erosion Control Funds in the amount of $8,244.90. Manager Dwight questioned the Clean Water Fund Grant application for the Clearwater River Watershed and Cameron Lake that the Board supported at their August 23, 2018 meeting. Newton stated that they did not apply for the Cameron Lake grant at this time. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Sorenson, to contribute 25% of the project costs up to $10,000 for the Shayne Munter Water and Sediment Basin Project, from the District’s 2018 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that he contacted a local contractor to lower the outlet culvert on Judicial Ditch No. 5, RLWD Project No. 102. Jesme stated that Rodney Rhen, Dudley Township, indicated that the township would replace and lower the outlet culvert, with the township covering the costs of the culvert repair. District staff has set stakes and will be on-site when the culvert is lowered and installed. Jesme stated that he received a call from landowner Patty Olson. The Board reviewed correspondence from Ms. Olson, requesting additional maintenance on the system to allow for water to flow properly. Jesme recommended lowering the outlet culvert, allow the system to dewater, and then determine what additional maintenance could be done from that point. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize Jesme to submit a letter to Ms. Olson stating the strategy in place.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc. discussed the coordination of the Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178, with MnDOT, City of Thief River Falls and Pennington County. As part of the Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149, Attorney John Kolb, Rinke-Noonan, drafted an amendment to the Red Lake River 1W1P, which will be submitted for a 60-day review comment period, followed by a hearing for the potential development of a Water Management District. Dalager recommended holding a landowner meeting in October. Administrator Jesme contacted several landowners regarding soil borings which will take place soon. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize staff to schedule a landowner meeting.

The Board reviewed correspondence from BWSR, regarding the approval of the RLWD Watershed Management Plan Extension. The District has until 2025 to complete all Watershed Management Plans.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented a letter he submitted to landowner David Balstad and Field Drainage, Inc., regarding the non-permitted installation of tile drainage in Section 34, Lessor Township, Polk County. The Board reviewed an after-the-fact Permit No. 18112, from landowner David Balstad for installation of the tile. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to table RLWD Permit No. 18112, David Balstad, Lessor Township, Polk County, for further review. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 18105, Michael Gasper,
Northland Township, Polk County; No. 18114, Craig Stroot, Crookston Township, Polk County; No. 18115, Wayne Vettleson, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 18116, Mike LaSalle, Rocksby Township, Pennington County; No. 18117, Anthony Engelstad, Godfrey Township, Polk County; No. 18118, Brian Wellman, Highlanding Township, Pennington County; No. 18119, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Queen Township, Polk County; No. 18120, John Barrett, Northland Township, Polk County; No. 18121, Dave Faldet, Lessor Township, Polk County; No. 18122 and 18123, Shirley Strand, Poplar River Township, Red Lake County; No. 18124, Brent Strand, Lessor Township, Polk County; No. 18126, Pat Wichterman, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; No. 18127, Jason Odberg, North Township, Pennington County; and No. 18128, MnDNR-Forestry, Minnie Township, Beltrami County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a letter to Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership, regarding the Line 3 Replacement Project permit requirements as it relates to crossing the Lost River. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to authorize President Nelson the authority to sign the letter to be submitted to Enbridge Energy, regarding permit requirements. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed proposed MAWD resolutions and changes recommended by Attorney John Kolb, Rinke-Noonan. Administrator Jesme discussed submitting resolutions to the RRWMB requesting their support of the proposed MAWD resolutions. Motion by Ose, seconded by Torgerson, to draft resolutions and submit them to the RRWMB asking for their support in MAWD’s effort to get the resolution’s through the legislative process. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme indicated that the November 22, 2018, Board meeting date falls on Thanksgiving Day. Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to change the November 22, 2018 Board meeting to November 27, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the District office. Motion carried.

Administrator’s Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose attended the September 18, 2018, RRWMB in Ada. One of the discussions at the meeting was the Wild Rice office improvements.
- Jesme attended the NW MN Administrators meeting on September 18, following the RRWMB meeting.
- The MN Association of Watershed District Administrators fall meeting was held on September 25th in St. Cloud. Jesme was unable to attend, but Rob Sib provided meeting notes which were included in the packet.
- The Red Lake River Planning Workgroup met on September 17th with staff from BWSR and MPCA to discuss the potential MPCA 319 Grant application. Prior to the meeting with the MPCA, the Planning Workgroup reviewed and approved the draft Red Lake River 1W1P Plan Amendment, to include Water Management Districts for both the Thief River Falls Westside FDR Project and the Black River Impoundment Project.
- Jesme will participate in a Thief River 1W1P Planning Workgroup meeting after today’s meeting to review the funding table as well as a Section 5 review.
- Staff Members Hanson, Hitt and Slowinski participated in the NW Minnesota Water Festival event in Warren and Fertile.
Manager Dwight and Staff Member Novak presented the 2017 Annual Report to the Beltrami County Commissioners on September 18th. Jesme and Manager Ose will present the report to the Marshall County Commissioners on October 2, 2018.

Manager Dwight reported on the Beltrami County Commissioners meeting he attended on September 18, 2018, to present the 2017 Annual Report, along with Staff Member Arlene Novak. Dwight stated that discussion was held on the participation of the Red Lake Nation on the District Board.

Discussion was held on the Good Lake Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 67, and lack of having secured a current Special Land Permit with the Red Lake Nation for operation and inspection of the project. Manager Dwight stated that he will ask Beltrami County Commissioner, Tim Sumner, if he could be of assistance in the matter.

Manager Torgerson reported on the RRWMB meeting he attended on September 18, 2018 in Ada. Torgerson shared with the Board his travel schedule for the winter months.

Discussion was held on hosting a booth at the MAWD Annual Meeting. Keith Weston stated that the Red River Retention Authority has a booth, and that the District is welcome to have a pamphlet at their booth. Discussion was held about having a River Watch booth.

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