

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
March 12, 2020

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

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

The Board reviewed the February 27, 2020 minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the February 27, 2020 Board meeting minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated March 11, 2020. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated March 11, 2020. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the Investment Summary as of March 11, 2020.

The Board reviewed a proposal for engineering services for the repairs to the Burnham Creek/BR 6 Impoundment Structure, RLWD Project No. 43A, from HDR Engineering, Inc., in an amount up to \$25,000. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to authorize Administrator Jesme the authority to sign the engineering services agreement with HDR Engineering for the repairs to Burnham Creek/BR 6 Impoundment Structure, RLWD Project No. 43A. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the MnDNR Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant application for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178, will expire on June 30, 2020. Jesme has requested an extension of either six months or a year. Pat Lynch indicated that he may just extend the agreement for a year to assure we complete the project within the amended grant agreement timeline. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize Administrator Jesme to sign the extension for the MnDNR Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Motion carried.

The District received the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit for the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179. Administrator Jesme stated that all permits have been acquired for the project. The Board reviewed, for acceptance and filing, the Final Advisory Report from the Commissioner of the MnDNR. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to schedule the Final Hearing for the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179, for April 20, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the District office. Motion carried.

Staff member Nick Olson updated the Board on the snow sampling survey he completed as of March 7, 2020.

Staff member Nick Olson stated that he contacted the MnDNR regarding pulling additional boards on the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 35, to lower the water level prior to the spring flood event. Olson was informed that pulling boards now would remove oxygen from the lake. Administrator Jesme received a call from MnDNR Staff member Dave Rave regarding operation of the Little Pine WMA, RLWD Project No. 26A.

The 25th Annual River Watch Forum will be held on March 25, 2020 at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks.

The Board reviewed information regarding the Red River Basin Commission's June Board Tour and meeting that will be held June 3, 2020. The tour will include several of the District's projects.

West Polk SWCD submitted a request for a financial donation for the Area I Envirothon. The Area I Envirothon will be held on May 6, 2020, at Rydell Refuge, Erskine, MN. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Page, to donate \$300 to the Area I Envirothon to promote education and awareness of water quality issues. Motion carried

Staff member Tammy Audette updated the Board on changing Managed IT from Marco to Corporate Technology. Audette stated that that District will need to purchase a new Barracuda, and will have a yearly subscription for updates. The subscription will include the replacement of the Barracuda every four years.

Administrators update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose attended the RRWMB meeting in Moorhead on March 10th.
- Jesme participated in the BWSR sponsored "Building capacity for watershed-based funding in the Red River Basin" that ran in conjunction with the RRWMB meeting.
- Jesme and Managers Ose, Tiedemann, Sorenson, Page, and Dwight and Staff member Corey Hanson attended the RRWMB/FDR Work Group Conference in Moorhead on March 10-11th. The second day featured two very well-done presentations: "Soil is Not a Dirty Word; and Wildlife Benefits from the Burnham Creek Impoundment, a Multi-Purpose Control Project NW MN -Lessons Learned.
- A Thief River 1W1P Policy Committee meeting will be held on March 16, 2020 at the District office. Agenda items include review of bylaws, determining the fiscal agent and coordinator and approval of the 2020/2021 Work Plan.
- District Board room video upgrade will be completed somewhere between March 17-19th.
- The District's Overall Advisory Committee meeting will be held on March 16th at 9:30 a.m.
- There will be a Red River Basin Commission Tour of projects located within the District and the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District on June 3, 2020. The tour will include the Thief River Falls Westside FDR Project.

- Jesme and various Board members will attend the MAWD Legislative Breakfast at the Capital in St. Paul on March 18-19th. Jesme will have a meeting with DNR officials Shannon Lotthammer and Peter Hark to discuss bonding and how it will work under the new regime. This meeting was organized by Lisa Frenette and Rob Sip.

The BWSR Northern Region Committee approved the Thief River 1W1P submittal to the full BWSR Board.

Bid opening for the Thief River Falls Westside FDR Project, RLWD Project No. 178, will be held at 10:00 a.m. on March 20, 2020. Discussion was held on the levy to the Watershed Management District.

Manager Ose stated that the RRWMB will be reviewing the RRWMB Governing Documents on April 2, 2020 at the District office.

Discussion was held on applications received for the Engineering Technician position.

The District Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 16, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the District office. Managers Tiedemann, Page, Sorenson, and Ose plan to attend.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to adjourn the meeting to the District's Advisory Committee meeting to be held at the District office at 9:30 a.m. on March 16, 2020. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary