

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
August 10, 2023

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: Managers: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedeman, Terry Sorenson, LeRoy Ose, Brian Dwight, and Allan Page. Absent: Tom Anderson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Ann Joppru, Melissa Bushy, Tony Olson, Lindsey Kallis, Corey Hanson, Nate Koland, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby. Guests: Nate Dalager, Tony Nordby, Dillon Nelson, and Darrell Rodahl.

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

The Board reviewed the July 27, 2023, minutes. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the July 27, 2023, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated August 9, 2023. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the Financial Report dated August 9, 2023. Motion carried.

Engineer Dillion Nelson, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that the Plans and Specifications for the Pine Lake – Phase 2, RLWD Project No. 26B are completed and ready to be advertised for bids. Nelson indicated that the project is located directly downstream of Pine Lake. The project will consist of replacing the existing concrete arch culvert through the roadway with a reinforced box culvert and changing the vertical curve of the gravel roadway at that location. Nelson stated that due to the timeline of receiving the concrete arch culvert, the completion date for the project is October 2024. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to set the bid opening for September 28, 2023 at 9:30 am. at the District office. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette and Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that three sites, one site on the Ryan and Charity Barth property, and two sites on the Connie Stock property, have been identified for bank stabilization projects through the Thief River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149A. The preliminary opinion of probable cost is estimated to be \$209,595.00. Nordby indicated that the Barth and Stock properties will be quoted as separate projects. A motion was made by Ose, and seconded by Dwight, to authorize District staff to receive quotes for two bank stabilization projects for the Thief River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149A, until 9:30 a.m. on August 24, 2023. Motion carried.

Staff member Corey Hanson and Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., discussed a potential bank stabilization project along the Clearwater River for the Clearwater River 1W1P Project No. 149B. Hanson stated that due to the size of the project, it may need to be completed in phases. Additional surveying will need to be completed, with the MnDNR stating that they are willing to do some of the surveying on this project.

The International Water Institute (IWI) and Houston Engineering partnered to work with the RRWMB and the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group to look at methods for mapping 10-year floodplains in support of the goals of the 1998 Mediation Agreement. At this time, they are looking to identify potential pilot sites for the work. An ideal pilot would be either an area that has not been mapped or an area that has some existing hydraulic modeling in place that can be used to validate some of the methods we have been asked to consider. A couple locations will be selected throughout the Red River Basin. It was the consensus of the Board, to authorize staff to work with staff from Houston Engineering, Inc., and IWI to determine some sites within the District that may be used.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 2 to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating for construction of the Fladeland Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AX in the amount of \$88,503.43. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve Pay Estimate No. 2 to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating in the amount of \$28,739.02 for work on the Fladeland Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AX. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the maintenance inspection report on Burnham Creek-BR6 Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 43A that was inspected on July 13, 2023.

Administrator Audette and Staff member Tony Olson discussed a meeting they participated in with staff from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). MnDOT reviewed their 10 Year Capital Highway Investment Plan located within the District. Discussion was also held on MnDOT maintenance permit requirements for District permit review and issuance. It was the consensus of the Board, that if MnDOT replaces a culvert at a different size or elevation, a District permit would be required. If the replacement of culverts is the same size and elevation, the District would request notification of the location and size of culverts that were replaced on a yearly basis.

The Board reviewed RLWD Permit No. 23049, Jim Hagge, Poplar River Township, Red Lake County. A motion was made by Page, and seconded by Tiedemann, to approve RLWD Permit No. 23049, Jim Hagge. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions as stated on the permit: No. 23-119, Paul Engelstad, Russia Township, Polk County; No. 23-124, Michael Hanson, Fairfax Township, Polk; No. 23-130, Bill Moser, Wylie Township, Red Lake County; No. 23-131, David Dahlen, Star Township, Pennington County; No. 23-133, David & Kelly Dahlen, Star Township, Pennington County; No. 23-134, Charles Carlson, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 23-135, Randy Konickson, River Falls Township, Red Lake County; No. 23-136, Elizabeth Berge, Russia Township, Polk County; No. 23-137, Elizabeth Berge, Russia Township, Polk County; and No. 23-138, Ross Hegge, Garnes Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette requested the purchase of six portable board room training tables. Two quotes for six portable board room training tables were reviewed. The first quote from Office Supplies Plus in Ada came back at \$1,781.76. The second quote from Webrestaurant Online Store was \$1,379.88. Manager Sorenson made a motion, seconded by Page, to approve the

purchase of six training tables from Webrestaurant Online Store in the amount of \$1,379.88. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed quotes from Thibert Chevrolet, Northern Motors and Thief River Ford for the purchase of a 2024 Ford or Chevrolet pickup to replace the 2015 Chevy Silverado. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to purchase a 2023 Silverado from Northern Motors at a price of \$56,240, plus tax and fees, less trade-in of the 2015 Chevy Silverado in the amount of \$14,500. . Motion carried.

President Nelson stated that retired staff member Myron Jesme is willing to assist the District office for approximately 24 hours per month, or as needed, at an hourly rate of \$75.00 per hour. Nelson indicated that the RRWMB and Minnesota Watersheds is interested in hiring Jesme through the District to continue his efforts with the Drainage Work Group. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to approve the hiring of Myron Jesme as a temporary part-time employee at a rate of \$75 per hour for approximately 24 hours per month. Motion carried.

Administrators Update

- **Red River Watershed Management Board:** Audette plans to attend the RRWMB meeting held in Ada, MN, on August 15, 2023.
- **Mud River Project:** The Mud River Project Work Team is scheduled to meet on Monday, August 14 at 9:00 a.m. This meeting was originally scheduled to be held on July 27th, but due to harvest it was postponed to August 14th. With the small grain harvest, I am concerned about the lack of local landowners that participate on the project team being able to attend. In addition, Audette has heard from one project team member and an observer about downstream impacts and lack of additional downstream landowners being on the project team membership. The agenda for the meeting is included in the packet.
- **Upper Lower Red Lake 1W1P:** Staff member Corey Hanson will participate in the Public Kick Off meeting in Kelliher, MN, on August 15th.
- **Pine Lake:** The beaver dam on the Lost River, upstream of Pine Lake was removed by a local contractor. Three beavers were removed from that dam. With recent local rainfall events, the lake is currently at summer elevation.
- **Judicial Ditch 21 (Moose River):** Staff members, Nate Koland and Erick Huseth, attended a JD 21 meeting on August 9th. Marshall County Commissioner Gary Kiesow requested a representative from the District to attend the meeting to give an update on the operation of the Moose River Impoundment. Timing was good, as both staff members were completing a field survey on JD 21 for the Thief River 1W1P project.
- **Polk County Ditch 99 (Red Lake River 1W1P):** Staff member Corey Hanson attended the Polk County Ditch 99 pre-construction meeting at the project site on August 3rd. Hanson followed up the meeting by meeting with landowners on the Crescent Avenue project.
- **Ditch 16, RLWD Project No. 177:** Paul Zavoral/Higher Ground will be wrapping up FEMA repairs on RLWD Ditch 16.
- **Thief River 1W1P:** Staff members Audette, Hanson and Joppru participated in the August 7th Thief River 1W1P Steering Committee meeting.

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Legal Counsel Delray Sparby shared an update on State of Minnesota in Supreme Court A22-1163. The Supreme Court granted review of the Court of Appeals decision.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LeRoy Ose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the text.

LeRoy Ose, Secretary