

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 11, 2024

President, Gene M. Tiedemann, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present: Managers: Gene Tiedeman, LeRoy Ose, Tom Anderson, Grant Nelson, Brian Dwight, Terry Sorenson, and Allan Page. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Elaine Rychlock, Melissa Bushy, and Tony Olson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby. Guests: Ryan Beich, Nate Dalager, Tony Nordby, Gary Kiesow, and Darrold Rodahl.

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 as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the March 28, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the March 28, 2024, Board meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated April 10, 2024. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated April 10, 2024. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette presented a damage statement for the purchase of temporary and permanent easements for the Pine Lake Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B. Audette stated that the total cost of the easements required is \$1,335.86, noting that a multiplier of 1.2 of the market value was used for the permanent easement. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Page, to proceed with the temporary and permanent easements in the amount of \$1,335.86, for the Pine Lake Phase II Project, RLWD Project No. 26B. Motion carried.

Quotes for the Cardinal Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129BB were opened at 4:30 p.m., on April 10, 2024, at the District office. Administrator Audette stated that we received 3 quotes for the Cardinal Ring Dike. Engineer's Estimate of probable cost was \$57,712. Quotes submitted for consideration were from Higher Ground in the amount of \$28,216.60, Anderson Excavating in the amount of \$44,617.09 and from Lunke Construction, Inc in the amount of \$52,496.00. Motion made by Dwight, seconded by Nelson to award the apparent low quote to Higher Ground in the amount of \$28,216.60 for construction of the Cardinal Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129BB. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Client/Owner Services Agreement from Houston Engineering for the Huot Streambank Stabilization Proposal, RLWD Project No. 149. A motion was made by Dwight, seconded by Page to authorize Administrator Audette the authority to execute the Client/Owner Services Agreement for the Huot Streambank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149 and to proceed with the project. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Client/Owner Services Agreement from Houston Engineering for the Lost River Pool Structure Replacement, RLWD Project No. 17. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, authorizing Administrator Audette the authority to execute the Client/Owner

Services Agreement for the Lost River Pool Structure Replacement Project. Motion carried. Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., noted that the agreement does not include any costs of soil borings, if needed.

Administrator Audette reviewed the Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Resolution document for the Chief's Coulee, RLWD Project No. 46S. A Resolution from our Board is required. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve the Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Resolution for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S. Motion carried.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, presented to the Board information on the State Ditch 83 flooding concerns landowner meeting. Dalager reviewed slides that contained information related to the project. Dalager indicated that pending board approval, a Project Team should be formed. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Dwight to establish a Project Work Team, and to present the proposed members at the April 25, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed a permit violation on RLWD Permit No. 22203 located in Section 13, Hickory Township, Pennington County. Olson stated that the permit application was an "after the fact" permit, noting that the work was not completed satisfactorily. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Sorenson, authorizing Olson to send a letter to the landowner, stating that the landowner had until April 29, 2024, to complete the work, or the District would hire a contractor to complete the work and bill the landowner. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 23192 in Section 12, Hickory Township, Pennington County. Olson stated that the District was contacted by staff at the Pennington County Highway Department regarding RLWD Permit No. 23192, noting that the work had not been completed. They were also informed of the construction of a dike/berm within the same area, that had not been permitted. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Page, to send a letter to the landowner, stating that the landowner had until April 29, 2024 to remove the dike/berm and put the property back to pre-construction condition or the District would hire a contractor to complete the work and bill the landowner. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 24004 in Louisville Township, Section 30, Red Lake County. The recommendation was to deny the permit. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to deny the RLWD Permit No. 24004. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 24015 in Hill River Township, Section 22, Polk County. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the withdrawal of RLWD Permit No. 24015, Hill River Township, Polk County, as requested. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 23049 in Poplar River Township, Section 13, Red Lake County. The recommendation was to grant the permit extension request. A motion was made by Page, seconded by Nelson, to approve the permit extension for RLWD Permit No. 23049. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 24014, Lawrence Vettleson, Chester

Township, Polk County; No. 24016, Josef Paradis, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; and No. 24018, Greg Hilgeman, Deer Park Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette stated that the 2024 Salary scale dollar amount listed for Accounting Officer was incorrect. The Accounting Officer will have a rate adjustment as of pay period 3/27/2024 through the remainder of 2024 to correct the hourly rate from \$32.98 to \$30.35. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Anderson to make this adjustment. Motion carried.

Administrator's Update:

- **Water Quality Sampling:** District staff are working on the first round of District wide water quality sampling for the 2024 season.
- **Houston Engineering GPS/survey training:** Houston Engineering, Inc. is holding a one-day training that will be held at the District office regarding construction staking/GPS Training. This will be very helpful for District field staff to participate in.
- **Wild Rice Allocation:** With very little runoff, District staff has been busy with the Wild Rice Allocation program. Currently all four growers are pumping; with very little flow the additional stream gaging and monitoring of the river levels has kept the staff busy.
- **Pine Lake levels:** District staff have been fielding various calls regarding the lake level of Pine Lake. Cabin owners are very concerned about the lack of water this early in the season. As of April 5th, the lake level is currently at 1283.1, with a target summer elevation of 1283.5.

Legal Counsel Sparby indicated that he will complete the audit letter requested by the District's auditors, Brady Martz and Associates.

Legal Counsel Sparby indicated that he has been working on easements for the construction of two ring dike projects.

Manager Ose stated that he will be participating in the RRWMB monthly meeting in Ada of April 16, 2024.

Manager Ose discussed an erosion concern by the range line road bridge, questioning if the Thief River 1W1P is working on the issue. Administrator Audette will check into the matter.

Manager Page discussed the Red Lake SWCD in regard to a Forestry Woodland Plan.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary