

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
August 22, 2024

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

Managers Present: Gene Tiedemann, Terry Sorenson, Tom Anderson, and Allan Page. Managers Absent: Grant Nelson, LeRoy Ose, and Brian Dwight. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Lindsey Kallis, Erick Huseth, Nate Koland, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the August 8, 2024, board meeting minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the August 8, 2024, board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated August 21, 2024. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report dated August 21, 2024. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette presented an invoice for 2025 Property and Casualty Premium from the League of Minnesota Cities for \$29,505.00. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson to approve the premium adjustment for 2025 and to pay the invoice in the amount of \$29,505.00. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette noted that staff health insurance, both single and family, will have a 5.2% increase for 2025 premiums.

Administrator Audette stated that Staff member Corey Hanson is working on a BWSR Clean Water Grant Application in the amount of \$698,625 for the Clearwater River Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149B. This application will include several bank stabilization sites, along with rock arch rapids to reduce velocities in areas with degradation, and streambank failures. Audette stated that the application is due today and requires a 10% grant match. Additional funding to expand the grant may be obtained from the Clearwater River WBIF, RLWD Project No. 149B. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, to approve the BWSR Clean Water Application for the Clearwater River Stabilization Project in the amount of \$698,625.00, with a 10% grant match. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page. Motion carried.

At 9:15 a.m., President Tiedemann recessed the general meeting and called the 2025 General Fund Budget Hearing to order. President Tiedemann noted that the hearing was properly advertised and will be on videotape and available for viewing at the RLWD office. The Board reviewed the proposed General Fund Budget and opened the hearing for public comment. No public comment was received. Hearing no public comment, the hearing closed at 9:25 a.m. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the following 2025 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$251,573.50, to set the general levy at

\$250,000.00 and to use the General Fund Budget reserve to offset the remaining budget balance of \$1,573.50.

2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Approved 08/22/24

Manager's fees, salaries	\$ 40,000.00
Board of Manager's expense	\$ 24,200.00
Staff salaries	\$ 623,395.00
Payroll taxes	\$ 47,690.00
Employee benefits	\$ 168,481.00
Travel and meetings (inc. mileage & exp.)	\$ 7,500.00
Audit	\$ 10,400.00
Legal	\$ 16,000.00
Office supplies	\$ 20,000.00
Office equipment	\$ 40,000.00
Appraiser/Viewer Expense	\$ 2,000.00
Professional services (inc. Eng. Fees)	\$ 35,000.00
Dues and subscriptions	\$ 10,000.00
Insurance and bonds	\$ 40,000.00
Repairs and maintenance-Building	\$ 15,000.00
Utilities	\$ 12,000.00
Advertising and publications	\$ 4,000.00
Telephone	\$ 11,000.00
Vehicle expense and maintenance	\$ 15,000.00
Engineering supplies	\$ 3,000.00
Engineering equipment	\$ 45,000.00
Interest	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 1,189,666.00
Less: Overhead computed using 1.5 x Salary	\$ 935,092.50
Less: Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 3,000.00
2025 General Fund Budget	\$ 251,573.50

Administrator Audette presented a revised Resolution for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S, noting that as part of the resolution and to satisfy the requirements of the MnDNR, the District must indicate what account the funding is being held in for construction of the project. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the revised Resolution for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S, indicating that the funds are secured in the District's account at American Federal Bank. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Task Order No. 4 for engineering services with HDR Engineering, Inc, in the amount of \$106,485 for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S. Administrator Audette indicated that Task Order No. 4 will get the project through construction and as-built survey and plans. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve Task Order No. 4, in the amount of \$106,485, with HDR Engineering, Inc., for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S. Motion carried.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., updated that Board on the status of the Mud River Project, RLWD Project No. 180C. Discussion with staff from the MnDNR and USFWS are taking place, along with wetland delineation.

Engineering Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., provided an update on Turtle Cross Connection, RLWD Project No. 114. Dalager stated that a hearing date should be scheduled for October.

Administrator Audette reviewed the handout on the RIM Inspection for the Grand Marais Creek Restoration, RLWD Project No. 60F.

Administrator Audette discussed RLWD Permit No. 23149, 23150, and 23151 in Bray Township, Pennington County. The recommendation was to grant the permit extension requests. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the permit extensions for RLWD Permit No. 23149, 23150, and 23151. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 24083, David Dahlen, Star Township, Pennington County; No. 24090, Randy Lee, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 24091, Badger Township, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 24102, Dan Strickler, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 24103, Dana Klos, Eckvoll Township, Marshall County; No. 24104, Dan Caillier, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County; No. 24105, Dan Caillier, Gentilly Township, Polk County; No. 24106, Jeff Genereux, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; 24107, Erwin Wetenkamp, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 24109, Ryan Nelson, Deer Park Township, Pennington County; No. 24111, Wayne Capistran, Gentilly Township, Polk County; No. 24112, Kevin Capistran, Crookston Township, Polk County; No. 24113, Kevin Capistran, Crookston Township, Polk County; No. 24114, Kevin Capistran, Lowell Township, Polk County; No. 24115, Chris Wood, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 24116, Chris Wood, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 24117, Matt Knutson, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 24119, Roger Johnsrud, River Falls Township, Pennington County; No. 24120, Scott Tersteeg, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 24122, Stenberg Inc., Garnes Township, Red Lake County; No. 24123, Lance Reitmeier, Fanny Township, Polk County; No. 24124, Mike Krejci, Huntsville Township, Polk County;

No. 24125, Mike Krejci, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 24126, Mike Krejci, Tabor Township, Polk County; and No. 24135, Jeremiah Johnson, Emardville Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrators Report:

- **RRWMB:** Manager Ose and Audette participated in RRWMB meeting held in Ada on August 20, 2024.
- **River Watch Kick-Off:** The District will host the River Watch Kick-off event on September 25, 2024. This will be an all-day event with various activities planned for the students.
- **Odney-Flaat Dam:** Beaver and beaver dam were removed from the Odney-Flaat Dam located in Onstad Township, Polk County.
- **Thief Riverbank Stabilization Project (Drees-Stock Sites):** River levels are still too high for construction of the three bank stabilization projects on the Thief River.
- **Black River Impoundment:** A local farmer is taking a second cutting of hay from the Black River Impoundment.

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

LeRoy Ose, Secretary