

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 13, 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 Tiedeman, Brian Dwight, Tom Anderson, LeRoy Ose, Grant Nelson and Allan Page. Managers Absent: Terry Sorenson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Tony Olson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby. Guests: Gary Kiesow, Nate Dalager, and Tony Nordby.

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

The Board reviewed the May 23, 2024, minutes. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Nelson, to approve the May 23, 2024, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried. Manager Dwight abstained as he was absent for the May 23, 2024, board meeting.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated June 12, 2024. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated June 12, 2024. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the 2025 Budget and Salary timeline. The Budget and Salary Committee will meet prior to the July 25, 2024, Board meeting to prepare the proposed budget.

The International Water Institute and Houston Engineering, Inc., have been working on a 10-year floodplain mapping project, which consists of mapping of farmed areas inundated by 10-year summer storms. The RRWMB is asking each watershed district if there are specific areas within their districts where carrying out the HEC-RAS 2D mapping/modeling approach would be of interest. If there is interest, the FDRWG and RRWMB would determine whether to proceed with a FEMA grant they had applied for. Engineers, Tony Nordby and Nate Dalager, updated the Board on a meeting they participated in with the RRWMB. It was the consensus of the Board to submit the Burnham Creek area and State Ditch 83 area to the RRWMB.

Administrator Audette reported that due to a short timeframe, Jim Graham was unable to present a funding application for the Mud River Project, RLWD Project No. 180C to the Lessard Sam Outdoor Heritage Counsel. An application will be submitted during the next round of funding.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering gave an update to the board on Pine Lake Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B.

Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, provided an update on RLWD Project No. 50F, Knutson Dam. Taggart Excavating plans to complete the repairs in July.

Administrator Audette presented s a Task Order which provides facilitation services by Houston Engineering, Inc. in support of the District's new project team working in the SD 83

Subwatershed. The District agrees to cover 50% of the cost of these services, up to a maximum District obligation of \$8,864.83. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Anderson to approve the cost of services in the amount of \$8,864.83 for the Thief River Area Subwatershed, RLWD Project No. 181. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 23068 in Section 16, Gervais Township, 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. 23068. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to approve the withdrawal of RLWD Permit No. 24059, Esther Township, Polk County, as requested. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve tabling RLWD Permit No. 24024, Knute Knutson, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County, to allow for further review by District staff. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Page, seconded by Nelson, to approve tabling RLWD Permit No. 24049, Gasper Family Farms, Euclid Township, Polk County, to allow for further review by District staff. Motion carried.

Staff member Tony Olson presented RLWD Permit No. 24061, Ryan Nelson, Deer Park Township, Pennington County. Olson recommended tabling the permit application, as part of the area to be tiled does not pay benefits into the system where the tile would outlet. The applicant has submitted a Petition for Inclusion into the system where it will outlet. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, to table RLWD Permit No. 24061, Ryan Nelson, Deer Park Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Petition for Inclusion into the Red Lake River, RLWD Project No. 2 from landowners Ryan, Tyler, and Quentin Nelson for use of an outlet to drain into the benefitted area of the Red Lake River, RLWD Project No. 2. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ose, to accept the Petition for Inclusion into the Red Lake River, RLWD Project No. 2, from Ryan, Tyler, and Quinten Nelson, and schedule a hearing for 9:30 a.m., July 25, 2024, at the Red Lake Watershed District office, Thief River Falls, MN. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the following permits with conditions as stated on the permit: No. 24017, Kevin Lien, Andover Township, Polk County; No. 24036, Chris Ellison, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 24050, Gasper Family Farms, Crookston Township, Polk County; No. 24056, Dan Seibel, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 24057, MnDOT, Shooks Township, Beltrami County; No. 24058, Jana Johnson, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 24060, Mike Bachand, Lambert Township, Red Lake County; and No. 24062, Gary Mathis, Hangaard Township, Clearwater County; Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- **RRWMB:** RRWMB lobbyists, Ian and Molly will be present at the June 18, 2024, RRWMB meeting.
- Below is a list that Rob Sip informed us about key dates in 2025:
 1. MN Legislature: Convenes on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 12:00 noon.
 2. RRWMB January 2025 Meeting: Since the RRBC annual conference starts on January 14, 2025, in Grand Forks at the Alerus Center, we will likely have our meeting at the East Grand Forks City Hall on January 14, 2025.
 3. Minnesota Watersheds 2025 Legislative Conference: Capitol Ridge St. Paul – same as last year (February 19-20, 2025).
 4. RRWMB/FDRWG Annual Conference: March 18 – 19, 2025 at the Moorhead Marriott.
- **Drainage Work Group:** Included in the packet is the June 13, 2024, Drainage Work Group meeting agenda. The RRWMB and Minnesota Watersheds have requested that Myron Jesme participate in these meetings on behalf of their organizations. The District will submit an invoice to both of the respective organizations for Myron's time.
- **Judicial Ditch 60 Feasibility Study:** District staff will participate in a meeting on June 27th at 2:00 p.m. with staff from the Polk SWCD, Polk County and Red Lake County regarding the feasibility study for the outlet of Judicial Ditch 60 west of Gentilly. The Red Lake River 1W1P received Supplemental Funds which will be used in part to complete a feasibility study for the stabilization of the outlet of JD 60.
- **2024 Red River Retention Authority Partner Summit:** Included in the packet is a Save the Date for 2024 Red River Retention Authority Partner Summit to be held in Grand Forks. Collin Peterson is a guest speaker for the event.
- **Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project:** I was contacted by Mike Flaagan, Engineer, Pennington County Highway Department regarding the potential of financial assistance for the drainage and urbanization of County Road 62 regarding work completed for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A.
- **Judicial Ditch 21- Moose River Ditch Authority:** District staff along with LeRoy Ose, participated in the Joint Ditch Authority meeting held in Grygla for JD 21/Moose River. Discussion was held on the Technical Memorandum written by Houston Engineering on the channel stability of JD 21/Moose River. District staff had previously surveyed the area and will work with the SWCD's and county for installation of SWI's and grade control structures in the channel as part of the Thief River 1W1P.
- **Juneteenth Holiday:** The District office will be closed on June 19th in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday.

Managers Ose and Anderson reported that they toured the Good Lake Impoundment with gate tender Kelly Dahlen.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LeRoy Ose". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light-colored rectangular background.

LeRoy Ose, Secretary