

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
October 25, 2001

President Dale M. Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office at 102 North Main Avenue, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Dale M. Nelson; Vernon Johnson; Leonard Moe; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; Orville Knott; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/ Receptionist; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby. Roger Love was absent.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the agenda.

The minutes of October 11, 2001 were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Moe, that the board approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated October 24, 2001.

The board was provided a general fund balance sheet for period ending September 30, 2001.

In regard to the item of Project Team responses, President Nelson informed the board that he had a conference call with Jody Horntvedt and several agency people regarding the Thief River Storage and Diversion mediation process. As a result the meeting for October was cancelled so the sub-committees could meet before the November 28 Project Team meeting. The Flood Damage Reduction work group adopted the mediation guidelines at their meeting of October 3, 2001. Quentin Fairbanks, Beltrami County Commissioner, spoke in support of Lowell Smeby remaining on the project work team as their Beltrami County representative. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the board that the Project Team for the Thief River Storage and Diversion should continue with the same members that have put in 2 ½ years on this process

Manager Johnson suggested that the RLWD should invite Don Buckout, MN DNR, to the next meeting of the RLWD board to have him explain the mediation process and also to answer any questions of the board.

The board discussed the ring dike funding for 2002. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve signing of the Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Agreement for farmstead ring dikes for 2002.

The RLWD received a notice from the RRWMB regarding projects that should be closed out because of inactivity for several years. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, records indicate there has been no activity regarding RLWD Project No. 83, Bee Lake;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers voted unanimously to close out Project No. 83, Bee Lake.

The board discussed the Glacial Ridge/Nature Conservancy Water Quality Project. Since this has not been assigned a project number, a motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the RLWD has agreed to assist in the water quality portion of the Glacial Ridge/Nature Conservancy Project, and

WHEREAS, for accounting purposes, this portion of the project needs a separate project number;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the RLWD assign this project number 152 and name it "Glacial Ridge/Nature Conservancy Water Quality Project".

The board discussed the 2001 MAWD annual meeting being held in Alexandria the end of November. Manager Nikolayson will be attending this meeting.

Board meetings for November were discussed. Several managers stated they would not be able to attend the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and the second meeting of the month would fall on Thanksgiving Day. Several options were discussed, which resulted in a motion by Smeby, second by Knott, to combine the two meetings and schedule one meeting for November 19. Motion carried unanimously.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby gave his update to the board, stating he would be attending the oral argument in the Court of Appeals in St. Paul on November 15 regarding the State Ditch 83 Alternative Writ appeal.

Legal Counsel Sparby also mentioned he has received inquiries regarding Mike Gasper's request to purchase land near Parnell Impoundment from the RLWD. The RLWD staff will review this contract and report back at the next meeting with the content of the contract.

President Nelson informed the board that Loren Sanderson has been working on a flood storage pilot project with monies from BWSR. This will be for temporary storage with

emphasis on potential sites in western Polk County.

President Nelson reported that the Polk/Red Lake County Joint Ditch 60 committee requested assistance from the RLWD for repairs on this system. He stated the RLWD has completed the surveying and drafting. This information was given to Roger Diesen, Polk County Engineer, who will hire the contractor. Following this discussion, a motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve paying half of the cost to repair the JD 60 system.

President Nelson stated that the quote from Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, for the installation of a culvert through the dike on Parnell Impoundment did include the costs for amended permits.

President Nelson stated he attended the Pennington County Commissioner meeting to discuss the Good Lake Project. Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, was also at this meeting to present the hydrological study for the Star/Highland/Hickory Township survey.

Manager Moe asked if there was any information available on the possibility of placing culverts on the Ditch 200 dike. Gary Lane has contacted John Williams at the DNR and will report on this at the November 19 meeting.

The board reviewed a memorandum submitted by Ryan Odenbach, Water Quality Coordinator, regarding the Greenwood 27 Wetland Banking application. Following this review, a motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Johnson, that the board approve options 1 and 3, which read as follows: "use the total cost for preparation of the application (professional services and staff time), divide this number by the total wetland banked acres and multiply this by the number of acres gained by each landowner, at no cost to the landowner". Motion carried unanimously.

President Nelson reminded the board that Zeb Lamp, who was hired as assistant to the Water Quality Coordinator, was still on temporary status and that the board should decide whether or not he remain on a full time basis. The board discussed the hourly wages and years experience of present staff at the RLWD. Following discussion, a motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Moe, and passed by unanimous vote that Zeb Lamp's status be changed from temporary/seasonal to full-time with full benefits, at an hourly rate of \$12.00 per hour, effective November 1, 2001.

The board reviewed permit No. 01133 from Roger Hagen, Grand Forks Township, Polk County. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the board table this permit until the November 19 meeting.

Permits were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No.01132\*

from Roger Hagen, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 01134\* from John Driscoll, Huntsville Township, Polk County; No. 01135 from Polk County Highway Department; Nos. 01136 and 01137 from Marshall County Highway Department; No. 01139\* from Curt Hoppe, Fairfax Township, Polk County; No. 01140\* from Michael Tiedemann, Euclid Township, Polk County; and No. 01141\* from Tom Wagner, Fisher Township, Polk County. \*With conditions stated on permit.

Loren Sanderson stated that impoundments are currently in drawdown for winter and, based on the elevations, they should be down by hunting season.

Manager Smeby stated that, as a result of the meeting with the Beltrami County Engineer and Marshall/Beltrami SWCD, riprap will be placed in the culvert area on the Moose River outlet.

A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Johnson, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed  
Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary