

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
April 28, 2005

Vice 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: Managers Vernon Johnson, Allan Carlson, Arnold Stanley, Dale M. Nelson, Lee Coe, and Gene Tiedemann. Absent: Orville Knott. Staff present were Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak, and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

Gilbert Weber, Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) Advisory member, requested to appear before the Board to address the Mission Statement of the RLWD.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of April 14, 2005. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, that the Board approve the minutes of April 14, 2005 with a correction that Manager Coe was present. Motion carried.

President Knott joined the meeting during the reading of the minutes. Vice President Nelson turned the meeting over to President Knott upon approval of the minutes.

The board reviewed the Financial Report. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report dated April 27, 2005.

Administrator Jesme presented the Project Plan, also known as the Preliminary Engineer's Report, for RLWD Project No. 60B. Following the Power Point presentation, considerable discussion was held on the Step II submittal that will be presented to the RRWMB meeting on May 17, 2005. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann, to seek 85% funding from the RRWMB with the remaining 15% cost share from the RLWD. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme distributed to the Board a Memorandum compiled by Legal Counsel Sparby for RLWD Project No. 60B. Legal Counsel Sparby reviewed the timeline of the project. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Coe, to approve the Project Plan for RLWD Proj. No. 60B. Motion carried.

After discussion of a hearing date on the Project Plan for RLWD Proj. 60B, motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, to set the Project Plan hearing for June 23, 2005, for 10:00 a.m. at the Youngquist Auditorium, University of Minnesota-Crookston campus, Crookston, MN. Motion carried.

Nate Dalager, Engineer, HDR Inc. stated the estimated engineering fees to complete various tasks for RLWD Project No. 60B would be approximately \$5,000 per site, Euclid

and Brandt. Motion by Coe, seconded by Johnson, and passed by unanimous vote, that the Board appropriate a maximum of \$5,000 to each project site to complete the required tasks.

Manager Tiedemann stated that he had served the RLWD Proj. 60B Project Work Team as citizen and would now be a representative of the Project Work Team as a board member, therefore a replacement would be needed for the citizen role. Gary Pulkrabek had been contacted and had accepted the position contingent upon Board approval. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Carlson, and passed unanimously to appoint Gary Pulkrabek to the RLWD Proj. No. 60B Project Work Team.

Ron Salentine also expressed interest in serving on the Project Work Team. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously to appoint Ron Salentine as a RLWD Proj. No. 60B Project Work Team member.

The next meeting of the Project work team is scheduled for May 19, 2005 at the RLWD office starting at 9:30 a.m.

Administrator Jesme presented a cost sharing request with the Thief River Golf Course from the Pennington County SWCD for erosion on the Thief River. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed unanimously to approve a 50% cost share of the erosion control.

At their April 19, 2005 meeting, the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) passed a resolution for the support in increasing CRP allotments in the Red River Basin as most counties have already used up all their acres and more are needed for the CREP program and wished each individual watershed district to adopt a similar resolution. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Coe, to adopt the resolution to read: The Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers support an increase in the CRP acreage allotment in all counties in the Red River Basin, including those counties without a crop history, where the acreage limit for CRP has been reached for purposes of establishing riparian buffer strips under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Motion carried.

A request was received from two schools to incorporate the River Watch program in their curriculum. Bagley and Fosston Schools would be new to the program with Fisher School having signed a previous agreement but have not exercised the funding for the program. Motion by Carlson, seconded by Johnson to approve signing an agreement adding Fosston and Bagley schools into the program and reactivating the agreement with the Fisher School. Coe inquired about the Blackduck School District participating in the River Watch program. Coe will meet with the Blackduck School regarding the River Watch program and report back at a future board meeting. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No.

05016 from Virgil Thompson, Lee Township, Beltrami County; No. 05019 from Joyce Fairman, Grove Park/Tilden Townships, Polk County; No. 05020 from Brad Lunke, Adger Township, Marshall County; No. 05021 from Elroy Kleven, Solheim Farms Inc., Russia Township, Polk County; No. 05023 from St. Lawrence Church, Grove Park Township, Polk County; No. 05024 from Polk County Highway Department, Gully Township, Polk County; No. 05025 from Bill Hanson, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 05026 from Polk County Ditch 126, Parnell Township, Polk County; and No. 05027 from Gary Anderson, Eckvoll Township, Marshall County. Motion carried.

A hearing hosted by the Polk County Board of Commissioners will be held on May 4, 2005 at 10:00 a.m., Youngquist Auditorium, Ag Research Center on the University of Minnesota, Crookston campus regarding the abandonment of a portion of Polk County Ditch No. 140 and Polk County Ditch No. 129. A RLWD Permit #05008 issued to The Nature Conservancy was approved by the Board on March 24, 2005 for a wetland reclamation site, which would require the abandonment of these systems.

Manager Johnson left the meeting.

The Highlanding Sportsmen's Club has requested using an existing trail on the south bank of the Red Lake River from Highlanding to the Neptune Bridge as an ATV trail. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Coe, that Administrator Jesme write a letter stating the RLWD has no objection with the Highlanding Sportsmen's Club using the trail on the south bank of the Red Lake River from Highlanding to the Neptune Bridge, as long as it does not interfere with drainage purposes and they obtain individual landowner permission.

The MAWD Annual Tour will be hosted by Thirty Lakes Watershed District on June 23-24, 2005 in the Brainerd, MN area.

Administrator Jesme had received a request by phone for purchasing .1 acres of Type 7 wetlands from the RLWD Wetland banking credits. It continues to be the Board wishes to maintain wetland banking credits for mitigation on RLWD projects and Administrator Jesme is to contact this person and convey that.

Manager Knott stated that a landowner appeared before the Red Lake County Commissioners requesting a spoil bank on his property be leveled. He claimed the RLWD was to have not leveled the spoil during maintenance on a ditch system. Engineering Technician Gary Lane stated that RLWD Ditch No. 1 was maintained last summer and he would check into the claim.

Gilbert Weber, Advisory Committee member, appeared before the Board to address the April 7 Advisory Committee's request to present recommendations to the wording of the Mission Statement of the watershed district to the Board at this meeting. The Board stated the Mission Statement wording had been addressed at the previous meeting.

Administrator Jesme read his written report. The LWM Challenge grant application for RLWD Proj. 60B in the amount of \$50,000 through the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will be reviewed at their May 27, 2005 meeting. If the grant is received, the funds will be used to help offset costs for construction and water monitoring requirements of the project; Jerry Pribula, Pribula Engineering indicated the Preliminary Engineer's Report for RLWD Ditch No. 11, RLWD Proj. No. 166, may be completed by late May or early June; Quote solicitation forms were mailed to 4 contractors for the Ken Grundhaus ring dike with date to receive quotes by 4:00 p.m. on May 4. Ed Fick, MNDNR, has indicated that additional funding in the amount of \$10,000 is forthcoming for the ring dike program and will be added to the grant that expires on June 30, 2006; The TAC/CAC committees of the Ten Year Overall Plan met on April 21, 2005 to review the draft plan. Another committee meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., May 19, 2005 to complete the review of the draft plan.

A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Tiedemann that the meeting adjourn.
Motion carried.


Vernon Johnson, Secretary