

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
February 22, 2018

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

Present were: Managers Dale M. Nelson, Terry Sorenson, Brian Dwight, Allan Page and LeRoy Ose. Absent: Les Torgerson and Gene Tiedemann. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. Manager Dwight requested the addition of the Thief River 1W1P. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of the Thief River 1W1P and declaring 2005 Suburban as excess property. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the February 8, 2018 minutes. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Page, to approve the February 8, 2018 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated February 21, 2018. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated February 21, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Investment Summary as of February 21, 2018. Manager Sorenson recommended depositing the three Certificate of Deposits that will mature on March 4, 2018 and March 15, 2018. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to deposit the following Certificate of Deposits into the Northern State Bank checking account: American State Bank, Grygla, maturity date of March 4, 2018; two with CDARS-Unity Bank, both with the maturity date of March 15, 2018. Motion carried.

Motion by Page, seconded by Sorenson, to declare the 2005 Chevrolet Suburban as excess or surplus property. Motion carried.

Bids were opened for the sale of the 2005 Chevrolet Suburban, that was determined as excess or surplus property. The following bids were received: Pamela Knott \$7,102.62 and Daniel Mapes \$7,550.00. Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to approve the sale of the 2005 Chevrolet Suburban that was declared as excess property to Daniel Mapes for \$7,550.00, he being the highest bidder. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme and Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that details are being planned for an Open House/Landowner meeting for the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Various funding options are also being pursued.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that he is working on setting up meetings with landowners along the diversion ditches to discuss right-of-way requirements.

EQIP funding is available for the installation of side water inlets pipes, but funding needs to be spent in 2018. Landowners can sign a waiver for EQIP funding. Nordby stated that the permit process will begin in the next month.

There will be Judicial Ditch 72, RLWD Project No. 41/Polk County Ditches 61, 87, 88, 89 and 136 landowner meeting on February 27, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Gully Community Center. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the potential consolidation of ditches and redetermination of benefits, as well as to update the landowners on the buffer strip law and compliance timeline.

Staff member, Ashley Hitt, presented information on the River Watch Forum that was held at the Alerus Center on February 20, 2018. The theme for the Forum was *River Watch in Action*. River Watch teams were encouraged to partner with another entity to complete a Water Stewardship Project. The Board viewed a video prepared by the Red Lake County Central River Watch students. Staff member, Christina Slowinski, also participated in the River Watch Forum, assisting with an informational booth about the District.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to table the following permits until conditions allow for a determination: No. 18001-Todd and Debra Stanley; 18002-Todd Stanley; 18003-Greater Minnesota Transmission; 18004-Jamie Wayne Hegland; 18005-Hanson Construction, Marc Hanson; and 18006-Allan Merrill, Rogen and Rye Farms. Motion carried. District staff will submit letters to the applicants, notifying them that the permits are tabled. Manager Dwight discussed the provisions to tile permit outlets for subsurface drainage pumps. Dwight requested that District staff review the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District rules and report back to the Board.

MAWD dues for 2018 were presented to the Board. Motion by Page, seconded by Dwight, and passed unanimously to approve paying \$7,500 for the 2018 MAWD dues. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on rescheduling the March 2018 District Board meeting dates. Motion by Page, seconded by Ose, to hold one meeting in March, to be scheduled for March 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the District office. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme shared a listing of staff computers, highlighting all computers ranging in dates from 5 to 8 years old. Jesme mentioned that two staff computers have been showing signs of hard drive failure but are still working. After considerable discussion, motion by Page, seconded by Dwight, to authorize the District staff to update at least three computers per year until all computers are updated. Motion carried.

#### Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose attended the RRWMB meeting in Ada, on February 20, 2018.
- Jesme and staff members, Audette and Hanson, participated in the Thief River 1W1P Policy and Advisory Committee meetings on February 14 at the District office. Included in the packet was the agenda for the meeting.
- The Red Lake River 1W1P Policy Committee met on February 21 in the District office to reviewed potential projects and budget projected for BWSR funding.

- Jesme, staff members, Sanderson and Stanley, and Manager Ose attended the interagency meeting with the MnDNR and Agassiz NWR to discuss the operation of impoundments for 2018.
- Staff member Hitt will be attending an Aquatic Invaders Summit III, February 28<sup>th</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup> in Minneapolis. Hitt currently participates in the Polk County AIS workgroup.
- Staff members Hitt and Slowinski attended the Red River Basin Water Quality Monitoring Training held February 22<sup>nd</sup> in Crookston.
- Staff members Sanderson, Stanley and Hitt and Manager Page attended the Drainage & Water Conference, sponsored by Rinke Noonan in St. Cloud on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Included in the packet was the September-October 2017 Water Quality Report.
- Jesme will attend a meeting this afternoon with the West Polk SWCD and Engineer Jerry Pribula to discuss side water inlet culverts and funding through Clean Water funds.

It was the consensus of the Board to have the Budget and Salary Committee meet in regard to updating the Fox Lawson Report.

Discussion was held on concerns of Policy and Advisory Committee Members on the Thief River 1W1P.

The Board reviewed an email from David Manuel regarding attending a District Board meeting. It was the consensus of the Board to extend an invitation to Mr. Manuel to attend the next District Board meeting.

Legal Counsel Sparby discussed his phone conversation with Attorney John Kolb, Rinke Noonan, regarding Judicial Ditch 5, RLWD Project No. 102 and Four-Legged Lake Project No. 102A. Sparby stated that now that we have initiated a project for the development of the Four-Legged Lake, RLWD Project No. 102, the two projects are separate, but still intertwined. He presented options to the Board as follows: the Board could leave the abandonment of Judicial Ditch 5 on the table; remove it from the table and reconvene the hearing; remove it from the table, reconvene the hearing and possibly abandon the ditch system as is or vote to do a partial abandonment which would result in an adjustment to the elevation that would be different than the 1920 elevation. In any abandonment proceeding, the Board would have to consider if the system serves any useful function and this could include concerns of the county road safety and protection of the traveling public when viewed from a sound water management standpoint. Discussion was held on maintenance on the current ditch system. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that a Preliminary Engineers Report for the Four-Legged Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 102, could be ready within the next few months. He further stated that a Feasibility Report has been completed, which is approximately 75% of the Preliminary Engineers Report. Dalager stated that an Environmental Assessment Worksheet is not required for the Preliminary Engineers Report but will be required for the permitting process. No action was taken by the Board to remove the prior action from the table.

Manager Dwight stated that he will be participating in a meeting for Bartlett Lake in Northhome to review the findings of a study that was performed.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, 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 positioned above a horizontal line.

---

LeRoy Ose, Secretary