

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
December 12, 2019

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

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

The Board reviewed the November 26, 2019 minutes. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Page, to approve the November 26, 2019 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated December 11, 2019. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report dated December 11, 2019, as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the 2019 League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust Property/Casualty Dividend Report, noting that the \$278 dividend the District received is listed in the Financial Report and goes into the General Fund Miscellaneous Revenue Account.

The Board reviewed the Investment Summary as of December 11, 2019. Staff member Arlene Novak stated a Certificate of Deposit will mature on December 27, 2019 with Edward Jones. Novak recommended investing the maturing Certificate of Deposit into a 6-month Certificate of Deposit. Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to reinvest the maturing Certificate of Deposit with Edward Jones for 6-months. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the General Fund Budget as of December 11, 2019.

Darren Carlson, Marshall County SWCD, stated that in 2018 the SWCD installed side water inlet (SWI) culverts within the District's boundary which were in part, funded with the assistance from the District's Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Carlson requested additional funding from the 2019 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164, in the amount of \$12,500 to assist in the design of the structures and installation of SWI culverts located within the District's boundary. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve cost share in the amount of \$12,500 to assist in the design and installation of side water inlet culverts for the Marshall County SWCD from the 2019 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD 164. Motion carried.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., discussed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) permit for the Thief River Falls Westside FDR Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Dalager noted that the Corps is not regulating the outlet as a wetland, rather they are regulating it as a

stream since they state it is a tributary to the Red Lake River. There was discussion concerning the channel in reference as an outlet to Pennington County Ditch #1 and would it have other regulatory rules if the Corps recognized the channel as a legal drainage system? Dalager indicated that the Corp is also regulating the portion of Pennington County Ditch #1 west of TH #32 as a stream so he doubted that would matter. Dalager discussed the Corps' concern with stabilization of the bank of the outlet. Dalager and Administrator Jesme will work with staff from the Corps to ensure that all information is provided in hopes of a timely and positive determination for receipt of the permit.

Administrator Jesme stated that the Policy Committee for the Thief River 1W1P approved the revisions to the draft plan after the 60-day comment period. Legal Counsel Sparby discussed his recommended revisions to the Memorandum of Agreement. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize the signature of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Thief River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that there will be a conference call on December 15, 2019, with members of the Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) for discussion on the mitigation of wetlands in the diversion ditches and lateral affect to adjacent wetlands for the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Once all permits are received, a Step 3 submittal will be presented to the RRWMB.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 19210, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County, and No. 19211, Shawn Hyde, Badger Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Proposal for Continued Work for temporary part-time employee Marissa Newton. Administrator Jesme stated that Newton has completed the culvert inventory in the Clearwater subwatershed. District staff is requesting additional assistance with entering tile permit data into GIS, data entry for water quality projects and M-filing District project files. Jesme stated that this would be 30 to 40 days of temporary employment which will last throughout the winter to accomplish the goals set forth. Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Proposal for Continued Work for temporary part-time employee Marissa Newton. Motion carried.

Administrators Report:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the RRWMB Board meeting on December 17, 2019 in Ada. The RRWMB meeting will also include participation from legislators throughout the Red River Valley (RRV). A presentation will be given to share FDR funding concerns along with other items of interest to the RRV.
- Jesme and Managers Tiedemann, Ose, Page, Dwight and Sorenson attended the MAWD Annual meeting in Alexandria. Watershed District Administrators' meeting was also held in conjunction with the MAWD Annual meeting. Additional training sessions were held for staff and managers. Jesme attended a meeting with Rob Sip, Lisa Frenette, and

Administrators from the RRWMB to discuss resolutions and other items that Frenette may need information on for when the legislative session begins. The Red Lake Watershed District was recognized for 50 Years of Service, with the Buffalo Red River Watershed District awarded the Project of the Year.

- Staff from Marco completed the District's quarterly review on December 3rd. This service is an all-day review that is covered under our maintenance agreements. Marco does recommend upgrading Windows 7 operating system to Windows 10 on one of the District computers.
- The Upper/Lower Red Lake WRAPS public meeting will be held on December 12th, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the North Beltrami County Community Center in Kelliher, MN.
- Staff member Hanson participated in a Public Open House for Bartlett Lake on December 5th in the Northhome City Hall. The next meeting will be held on January 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Northhome City Hall. Notes from the meeting were included in the packet.

Manager Dwight commented on a discussion he had with MnDNR Staff regarding alternatives for the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26.

Manager Dwight discussed the Manager Seminar he attended at the MAWD Annual meeting, and the discussion on holding a Truth and Taxation meeting. Legal Counsel Sparby will report back to the Board on this topic.

The District received word of the passing of former Board Member, Vernon Johnson. Mr. Johnson served on the District Board for 21 years. He also served on the RRWMB Board.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to adjourn the meeting to December 17, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., to allow the Board to attend the Open House and Board meeting of the Red River Watershed Management Board in Ada, MN. Motion carried.



Terry Sorenson, Secretary