

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
February 11, 2021

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

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

The Board reviewed the January 28, 2021 minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the January 28, 2021 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated February 10, 2021. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report dated February 10, 2021. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the 2020 General Fund Budget as of December 31, 2020.

Staff member Arlene Novak stated that the District's 2020 audit was completed February 5, 2021. Brady Martz and Associates plan to present the final audit report to the Board at the March 11, 2021 meeting.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that they will be meeting with staff from R.J. Zavoral & Sons to prepare for a project utility meeting, to be held on February 23, 2021, for the Black River Impoundment Project, RLWD Project No. 176.

Engineer Blake Carlson, Widseth, participating via Zoom, presented Plans and Specifications for construction of the Athena Threat Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AS located south of Crookston, MN. Carlson stated that due to the location of the property, being near a floodplain, there is no borrow on site. Due to the limited area, a retaining wall will be erected and tied into an earthen dike. The existing septic system will also need to be replaced due to the location of the system. Carlson indicated that quotes were received for a concrete floodwall, however, they were extremely expensive. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote, to approve the Plans and Specifications for the Athena Threat Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AS, as presented. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, to set the bid opening for the Athena Threat Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AS, for 9:30 a.m., March 11, 2021 at the District office. Motion carried.

Staff member Nick Olson stated that aeration at Pine Lake has not begun. MnDNR staff completed oxygen testing last week and the Gonvick Sportsman's Club will complete additional testing next week. Criteria has been met for notice publication in the local paper. Olson stated

that the District is the MnDNR permit holder for the aeration, and the Gonvick Sportsman Club pays the cost to install and run the aeration system.

Administrator Jesme stated that he and Staff member Corey Hanson have been working with Chester Powell, Clearwater SWCD and other partners, on the Work Plan for Clearwater River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149B. Once a draft is completed, it will be presented to the Policy Committee for review and approval. Hanson is working on completing the editing on the PTMApp model before handing it off to Houston Engineering, Inc. Discussion was held on staff time spent on development of the PTMApp model. The Policy Committee meeting will be held on February 24, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. Notices for the meeting will come from Powell.

The annual Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 81, Advisory Committee meeting will be held on February 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the District office.

The annual Moose River, RLWD Project No. 13, Interagency Meeting will be held on March 3, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has a vacancy on its Board for a watershed representative.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the RRWMB meeting on February 16, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. Discussion will be held on the future of water quality funding. Included in the packet was the Red River Basin 2021 Spring Flood outlook and the recommitment of the 1998 Red River Basin Mediation Agreement signature page. The RRFDWG asked all original signatories of the 1998 agreement to recommit to the agreement.
- Jesme and staff member Hanson have been working with the Clearwater SWCD on the Clearwater River 1W1P.
- Jesme was asked by the MPCA to participate in their “Water Permitting Transparency Focus Group Meeting” held on February 5th. The meeting consisted of gathering various LGU employees who typically use the MPCA General MS4 Individual Permits.
- Jesme will participate in a virtual meeting for the Red Lake River 1W1P regarding the RCPP/BWSR funding agreement, and if it is a funding option for a 1W1P.
- Jesme will participate in a MN Association of Watershed District Administrators meeting following today’s meeting.
- The District office will be closed on February 15, 2021 in observance of Presidents Day.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he had Secretary Ose sign the Certification of Record for the information to be submitted to the courts for the appeal on the Polk County Ditch 39 Improvement, RWLD Project No. 179.

Manager Ose asked about the future funding of ring dikes, as the District does have additional requests for ring dike construction. Rob Sip, RRWMB, who participated in the meeting via

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Zoom, stated that the RRWMB is committed, along with the District, to complete the remaining projects.

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