

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 23, 2022

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

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

The Board reviewed the June 9, 2022, minutes. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the June 9, 2022, Board meeting minutes with correction. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated June 22, 2022. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report dated June 22, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Change Order No. 6 in the amount of \$78,442 for the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that this change order covers the four failed culverts from the spring rain runoff, to include additional material that will be needed to rebuild the crossings. Nordby stated that clay will be hauled in from an offsite location to armor the eroded banks. Discussion was held on obtaining hourly equipment rates in the change orders and that it was needed to offset the increase of fuel prices since the project was bid in 2020. It was also mentioned that wave action damage within the impoundment will also be repaired at the revised hourly rate. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve Change Order No. 6, in the amount of \$78,442, for repairs to the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176, for repairs during the spring rain runoff event. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on haying of the embankment and outer areas of the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. It was a consensus of the Board, to send out quote forms to local landowners that might be interested in haying.

Administrator Jesme stated that spoil is needed to repair the eroded areas from the 2022 spring rain events on Ditch 10, RLWD Project No. 161. Jesme stated that when repairs were originally completed on the outlet, there was a high spot of spoil that the landowner, Mike Knott, would like to have lowered. Jesme recommended that the District strip the topsoil, remove the clay to use in repairing the eroded areas. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Dwight, to authorize the payment of \$1,000 to Mike and Kathy Knott for removal of spoil for the repairs to Ditch 10, RLWD Project No. 161. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Joint Powers Agreement from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) as well as a revised Operation and Management of the Little Pine Lake WMA, RLWD Project No. 26A. Administrator Jesme stated that the current Operation and Management Plan has expired, the new Operation and Management Plan includes a longer term of 50 years, and also gives the District the authority to operate the structure with the approval of the MnDNR. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize Administrator Jesme the authority to sign the Little Pine Lake WMA, RLWD Project No. 26A Joint Powers Agreement and Operations and Management Plan. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the installation of an access gate at Pine Lake, RLWD Project No. 26. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the installation of an access gate at the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26 by Davidson Construction, Inc. at a cost of \$5,000. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on access to the outlet structure during operation of the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Administrator Jesme stated rather than the installation of a catwalk, access will be gained by constructing a road within the easement along the north side of the outlet ditch, on property owned by Sorvig, LLP.

Administrator Jesme stated that water had receded off the weirs on the outlet structures of the Moose River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 13, but after receiving additional rain, water has raised and is presently running over the weir.. The north pool is releasing 100 cfs as Thief Lake WMA has stated they can manage additional water and the south pool is also releasing 100 cfs with Agassiz NWR indicating they can handle flows as well.

Motion by Dwight, seconded by Anderson, to table RLWD Permit No. 22094, Andrew Quam, for further review. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to deny RLWD Permit No. 22099, Lessor Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to deny RLWD Permit No. 22102, Lessor Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to deny RLWD Permit No. 22108, Lessor Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 22079, Earl Pederson, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 22091, Josh Bernier, North Township, Pennington County; No. 22092 and 22093, Rollis Township, Marshall County; No. 22098, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 22100, 22101, 22103, 22104, 22105, 22106, and 22107, Lessor Township, Polk County; and No. 22110, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Manager Ose attended the June 21st RRWMB meeting, with Jesme participating via Teams. Jesme participated in the RRWMB Finance Committee meeting held on June 22nd.
- Jesme, Manager Ose, and Staff member Hanson participated in the BWSR staff tour on June 15th, visiting various projects of the District.
- Jesme and Staff member Hanson will be attending a coordination meeting for the Chief Coulee project on June 24th.
- Jesme attended the Drainage Workgroup meeting on June 16th virtually. It appears language is being gathered for a BWSR drainage portal for public drainage systems.
- Jesme spoke at the Golden Pioneers meeting on June 21st at the Heritage Center in TRF.

Discussion was held on the Budget and Salary Committee completing a 6-month employee evaluation with Staff member Joppru.

Manager Dwight discussed a resolution for the “Keep It Clean” campaign that was approved by Area 8 SWCD. They are now asking MASWCD to support a resolution statewide for the campaign. Dwight mentioned if this was something that our Board would want to present to MAWD as a resolution? Dwight and Jesme will discuss and bring something back to the Board at a future meeting.

Manager Ose stated that MAWD would like a presentation from the Upper Red Lake Area Association.

Effective July 1, 2022, the new IRS mileage rate will increase to 62.5 cents per mile.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary