

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
June 9, 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 Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the May 26, 2022, minutes. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, to approve the May 26, 2022, Board meeting minutes with correction. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated June 8, 2022. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated June 8, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

Brian Opsahl, Brady Martz, appeared via Zoom for discussion on Cash Accounting procedures versus Modified Accrual basis, which the District currently applies. Opsahl stated that if the District stops depreciating items, the District will still have a fixed asset listing, and that items would still be tracked for insurance purposes anyway. Staff member Ann Joppru stated that we would continue to update the asset listing. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to eliminate the reporting of depreciation on fixed assets, using Cash Accounting procedures for the financial statements. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme and Engineer, Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, viewed the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176, to review a punch list of items for completion of the impoundment and diversion structures. Nordby stated that some of the repairs are related to the 2022 spring rain event, therefore they should be paid by FEMA, with some additional costs to the project also. R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc., is still under contract, although with the rising costs of fuel prices, they may ask for an adjustment in pricing. Jesme discussed an area along County Road 12, where the diversion ditch was lowered to go over an area tiled by a local landowner. With the recent rain events, the tile was exposed. Discussion was held on various options to either move the tile out of the work area, removal of the crossing, and installation of a rock drop. It was the consensus of the Board to have Nordby, contact Jess Determan with Field Drainage, to assist with potentially moving the tile line.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$123,576 to Gladen Construction, Inc., for construction of the Demarais-Hanson Outlet Project, RLWD Project No. 149. Engineer, Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, stated that the Contractor is on site now, and should wrap up the project today. Motion by Page, seconded by Ose, to approve Pay Estimate No. 1 for \$123,576 to

Gladen Construction, Inc. for the Demarais-Hanson Outlet Project, RLWD Project No. 149. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a proposal from HDR Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$61,107, for the Pine Lake Project-Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B. The proposal includes the preparation of bidding documents and construction services for replacement of a bridge on the Lost River located at 486<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Tiedemann, to authorize Administrator Jesme the authority to sign the proposal from HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Pine Lake Project-Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B. Motion carried.

BWSR North Region Staff will tour District projects on June 15, 2022. Administrator Jesme met with Matt Fischer, BWSR, to review projects on the tour. Jesme and Staff member Corey Hanson will participate in the tour.

Debris has been removed twice from the north structure of the Moose River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 13. It is the hope that FEMA will assist with the cost of removal. Currently 50 cfs are being released from both the north and south pools of the impoundment. The Moose River Impoundment is designed to hold water for 30 days, we are currently at 50 days. District staff is monitoring it very closely. Water has receded somewhat from farmland around Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, but we still have a way to go. Thief Lake is at summer elevation with Agassiz NWR passing through the water.

The Board reviewed RLWD Permit No. 22074, Lammers Township, Beltrami County. Staff member Tony Olson discussed his review of the culvert and ditch. Olson will continue to work with the township to set up a benefitted area. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve RLWD Permit No. 22074, Lammers Township, Beltrami County. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 22016, Ross Hegge, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 22022, Jeremy Nelson, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 22048, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 22049, Andrew Holte, Eckvold Township, Marshall County; No. 22050, David & Elisa Zubrod, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 22051, Darrell Payment, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 22052, Moylan Township, Marshall County; No. 22067, Earl Pederson, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County; No. 22068 and 22069, Earl Pederson, Poplar River Township, Red Lake County; No. 22070, Earl Pederson, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; No. 22071, Randy & Brady Lee, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 22072, Jeremiah Johnson, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; No. 22073, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 22075, 22076, 22077 and 22078, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; No. 22080, Pennington County Highway Department, Smiley Township; No. 22081 and 22082, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 22083, Tom Barth, Kratka Township, Pennington County; No. 22084, Kratka Township, Pennington County; No. 22085 and 22086, Mark Reiersen, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 22087, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 22088, Red Lake County Highway Department, Poplar River Township, Red Lake County; and No. 22089,

Clearwater County Highway Department, Pine Lake Township, Clearwater County. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Manager Ose will attend the RRWMB meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> in Ada. Jesme will participate via Teams. Jesme will participate in the June 22 RRWMB Finance Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the District office.
- Included in the packet were highlights from the Red River Valley Flood Damage Reduction Workgroup meeting held on May 25, 2022.
- The Clearwater River 1W1P Policy Committee met on May 25<sup>th</sup> to review all comments of the plans for the 30 day-internal review. The Policy Committee approved the draft plan for submittal to BWSR which triggers the 60 day- statewide review.
- The Thief River 1W1P Policy Committee met on June 6<sup>th</sup> with discussions being held on flooding within the watershed, project updates and the idea of hiring a consultant to develop a forest management plan. The committee approved going forward with the forest management plan study.
- The Upper/Lower Red Lake 1W1P kickoff meeting was held on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Red Lake DNR office. Discussion was held on the scope of work required for the plan application, budget items for the development of the plan and what an MOA would look like. A decision will need to be made on who will write the plan.
- If available, Jesme will participate in the June 16<sup>th</sup> Drainage Workshop meeting.
- Jesme was asked to give a presentation to the Golden Pioneers at their June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at the Heritage Center in TRF.

Discussion was held on the request by the District for a 1099 form from landowners to pay damages on a legal drainage system. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the District has to request a 1099 form three-times from the landowner, if they do not provide a completed 1099 form the District can then submit a notice with the landowner's name to the IRS stating that they would not provide a tax identification number. There are other withholding avenues as well.

Manager Dwight discussed the current water levels on the Upper Red Lake. Dwight noted that landowners have contacted the lake association regarding erosion on the south bank of the Upper Red Lake. Manager Dwight and Robyn Dwight, President of the Upper Red Lake Association, and Myron Jesme visited with the Beltrami County Emergency Manager, who then came out and viewed the area. Manager Dwight stated that they are looking at the development of guidance for landowners to use for creating their own bank stabilization project. Manager Dwight will check with the MnDNR to see if they have anything available.

A Flood Damage Reduction Work Group Technical Assistance grant was applied for, for the Mud River Restoration Project, RLWD Project No. 180C.

Manager Ose discussed the water levels within Agassiz NWR. Administrator Jesme stated that they are currently transferring water around to lower the water levels.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, 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.

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LeRoy Ose, Secretary