

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
January 12, 2023

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

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

The Board reviewed the December 30, 2022, minutes. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Anderson, to approve the December 30, 2022, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated January 11, 2023. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Financial Report dated January 11, 2023, as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Ann Joppru reviewed the 2022 General Fund as of December 31, 2022. After taking questions by the Board, motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the 2022 General Fund Budget as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Ann Joppru reviewed the Capital Project Fund Transfers as of December 31, 2022. Discussion was held on the balance in the Emergency Fund. Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Capital Project Fund Transfers as of December 31, 2022, to include the balance in the Emergency Fund. Motion carried.

Marshall County and Beltrami County confirmed the reappointment of Managers Ose and Dwight, respectively, for an additional 3-year term on the Board.

Election of officers was conducted with President Nelson turning the meeting over to Vice President, Gene Tiedemann.

Manager Tiedemann called for nominations for President. Manager Page nominated Dale M. Nelson for President. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, for nominations to cease and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dale M. Nelson for President of the Board. Motion carried.

Vice President Tiedemann turned the meeting over to President Nelson to conduct elections for the remaining Board positions.

Nominations were opened for Vice-President. Manager Ose nominated Gene Tiedemann. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Dwight, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Gene Tiedemann for vice-president of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Secretary. Manager Dwight nominated LeRoy Ose. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Tiedemann, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for LeRoy Ose for Secretary of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Treasurer. Manager Tiedemann nominated Terry Sorenson. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Terry Sorenson for Treasurer of the Board. Motion carried.

President Nelson reviewed the Advisory Committee members. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Advisory Committee members as proposed and presented. Motion carried.

The position of Delegate and Alternate to the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) was discussed. Manager Nelson stated that Manager Ose is currently the Delegate and just completed his second year of a 3-year term, with Manager Tiedemann and Manager Nelson as Alternates. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to appoint Manager Ose as the Delegate to the RRWMB, and Managers Tiedemann and Nelson as Alternates. Motion carried.

Delegates and Alternate to the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts were discussed. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Managers Ose and Tiedemann as Delegates and Manager Page as an alternate. Motion carried.

The Budget/Salary Committee was discussed by the Board. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Dwight, Sorenson, and Nelson to serve on the Budget/Salary Committee. Motion carried.

The Board discussed representatives on the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board. A motion was made by Dwight, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Managers Nelson, Tiedemann, and Page to the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board, with Manager Sorenson as an alternate. Motion carried.

The committees for the Joint Ditch 100 and Joint Ditch 101 Joint Ditch Boards were reviewed. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Anderson to the JD 2 and Joint Ditch 100 and 101 Joint Ditch Boards. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Anderson

as Delegates and Manager Dwight as Alternate to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Black River Impoundment Project Work Team. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Nelson and Page as Delegates and Manager Tiedemann as Alternate to the Black River Impoundment Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee. Motion by Page, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Managers Anderson, Ose, and Tiedemann to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Manager Tiedemann as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Managers Nelson and Page to the Advisory Committee for the Red Lake River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Thief River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Dwight, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Manager Ose as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Managers Nelson and Dwight to the Advisory Committee for the Thief River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Blackduck Lake Structure Joint Powers Board. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Dwight and Anderson to the Blackduck Lake Structure Joint Powers Board. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Permit Rules and Regulations Committee. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Managers Dwight, Page and Tiedemann to the Permit Rules and Regulations Committee. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Clearwater River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to appoint Manager Anderson as Delegate and Manager Sorenson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Manager Page to the Advisory Committee for the Clearwater River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Mud River Project Work Team. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to appoint Manager Ose as Delegate and Manager Dwight as Alternate to the Mud River Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Upper/Lower Red Lake One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion

by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to appoint Manager Dwight as Delegate and Manager Anderson as Alternate to the Policy Committee for the Clearwater River 1W1P. Motion carried. A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the regularly scheduled Board meetings be held at 9:00 A.M. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month for 2023.

A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, that the following institutions be designated as depositories for the RLWD: Northern State Bank of Thief River Falls, American Federal Bank, and Edward Jones with the following signatures on the signature cards at the financial institutions: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Terry Sorenson, Myron Jesme and Ann Joppru. Motion carried.

The Conflict-of-Interest policy was reviewed by the Board. Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Conflict-of-Interest Policy and have each Board member sign the Conflict-of-Interest policy and return it to staff member, Ann Joppru. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed information from the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board and its statement of interest requirements for agency's public officials.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed the potential abandonment of Judicial Dich 4, RLWD Project No. 101, with a benefited area in Copley Township, Clearwater County. Olson stated that upon reviewing ditch files for inspection, the ditch system has been inundated by beavers with parts of the system overgrown with trees and brush. Olson recommended scheduling a landowner meeting for discussion on how to manage this public drainage system. It was a consensus of the Board to hold a landowner meeting on February 2, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in the Clearwater County Commissioner Room, Clearwater County Courthouse, Bagley, MN.

Staff member, Tony Olson, stated that a landowner meeting was held on April 1, 2022 for discussion on the potential abandonment of County Ditch No.1, RLWD Project No. 103. Olson stated that it is unclear where the exact location of the ditch system is but have determined a portion of the system is now within wild rice paddies. The legal drainage system currently serves no public use, as land use has changed. It was the consensus of the Board, to have Staff move forward with drafting a petition to be submitted for signature to the landowners for abandonment of the system.

The Board reviewed information regarding a MN Implementers Confluence sharing sessions to be held once every three weeks.

The Board reviewed the Pay Equity Implementation Report dated January 4, 2023. The Budget and Salary Committee will meet regarding the result of the Pay Equity Report. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Dwight, to approve the Pay Equity Implementation Report as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a letter from Legal Counsel Sparby, requesting a hourly rate increase from \$185 to \$200 per hour. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the rate increase for legal services from \$185 to \$200 per hour. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme participated virtually in the January 10, 2023 RRWMB meeting with Manager Ose attending in person.
- Following today's meeting, Jesme will participate in a Drainage Workgroup Meeting. The agenda for the meeting was included in the packet. Jesme stated that there was a soft agreement that by request of the DWG the DNR will not move forward with supporting early coordination legislation this session.
- A Red Lake River 1W1P Planning Workgroup meeting will be held January 23, 2023 at the District office.
- The MN Department of Health has approved the City of St. Hilaire Wellhead Protection Plan.
- District staff continues to work on data input for FEMA for completed projects.
- Jesme will be leaving for vacation January 14, 2023 and return to the office on January 30, 2023.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the Court of Appeals argument for the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179, will be held on Thursday, January 18th. He will provide the ZoomGov link to any managers wanting to observe the arguments.

The Board met in Executive Session.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary