

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Managers Minutes
April 10, 2025

President, Gene Tiedemann, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Managers Present: Gene Tiedemann, Tom Anderson, Brian Dwight, LeRoy Ose. Terry Sorenson, and Al Page. Managers Absent: Grant Nelson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Tony Olson, Corey Hanson, Lindsey Deselich, Will Johnson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the March 27, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve the March 27, 2025, Board meeting minutes, with corrections as noted. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated April 9, 2025. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated April 9, 2025. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 2 for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S, in the amount of \$41,077.64, to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve Pay Estimate No. 2 for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S, to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette gave an update relating to the proposed redetermination of benefits with Polk County.

At 9:30 a.m., President Tiedemann stated that the bid opening for the Huot Streambank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149, would be conducted. Legal Counsel Sparby noted the time and that no further bid proposals would be accepted after the 9:30 a.m. bid submittal deadline. Bids were opened and bid amounts were publicly announced and are on file at the District office. The following bids were received:

Olson Construction TRF Inc., Thief River Falls, MN, \$248,198.66;
Gladden Construction Inc, Laporte, MN, \$372,932.10;
Minnesota Native Landscapes, Otsego, MN, \$429,988.00; and
Anderson Excavating, Newfolden, MN, \$463,920.05;

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the apparent low bid from Olson Construction TRF Inc., \$248,198.66 for the Huot Streambank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149, contingent upon the audit by staff and review of the bids and approval by Legal Counsel Sparby, District staff, and Project Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc.

Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, presented information on the Turtle Connection Cross Project. It was the consensus of the Board to setup a meeting with landowner David Olson and staff from the East Polk SWCD, along with Engineer Dalager, Managers Sorenson and Anderson and Administrator Audette.

Administrator Audette reviewed the March 2025 updates to the RRWMB Bylaws.

Administrator Audette along with Manager Dwight discussed the revisions to the U/L Red Lake 1W1P Bylaws, RLWD Project No. 149C. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to authorize Administrator Audette to sign the Upper/Lower Red Lake 1W1P Bylaws, RLWD Project No. 149C, as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 25015 in Smiley Township, Section 33, Pennington County. The recommendation was to approve the permit. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the RLWD Permit No. 25015. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the following permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 24232, Faculty Road MN GP, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 25009, Jon Praska, North Township, Pennington County; No. 25010, Jeremy Grove, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 25016, Joshua Iverson, Sanders Township, Pennington County, and No. 25019, Parjim Farmland Holdings GP, Mayfield Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed the MN Watersheds Request for Resolutions. Members are encouraged to submit their policy recommendations through the Resolutions process.

The 2025 Minnesota Watersheds Summer Tour will be hosted by Roseau River Watershed District (RRWD) June 24-26. The Roseau River Watershed District is planning a tour that features local projects and addresses a wide range of water quality, agricultural drainage, flood protection, habitat improvement, and stormwater management issues. Please let staff member Bushy know if you are planning to attend.

RLWD staff are requesting summer hours from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, which would entail working Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (9-hour days) and Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (4-hour day), therefore closing the office at noon on Friday's. Consideration would be given for construction activities and the water sampling schedule as per approval by the Administrator. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Page, to approve the request of District Staff for summer hours as referenced between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend. Motion carried.

Administrator's Update:

- **RRWMB Update:** Included in the packet is the RRWMB legislative weekly update.
- **Mud River:** Jim Graham, USFWS and Engineer Nate Dalager met with Administrator Audette on April 4th to work on the LSOHC grant application. The deadline for the grant is May 23, 2025. Later that same day, Audette participated in a meeting with staff from

HDR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for further discussion on permit requirements.

- **Ditch 11, RLWD Project No. 166:** District staff are reviewing quantities for the removal of sediment within Ditch 11. Engineer, Jerry Pribula, reviewed the survey and recommended cleaning. Further review is being done at the outlet as there may be the need for rock riffles to prevent head cutting.
- **Moose River/JD 21:** Marshall County is working on the final plans for the installation of three rock riffles on the Moose River/JD 21 system. The District will be responsible for acquiring quotes and inspection of the projects. Hopefully, the side water inlets can be completed at the same time, by the same contractor.
- **Thief River 1W1P:** BWSR has completed their financial reconciliation checklist review of the FY 2022 Thief River WBIF. The final payment of \$264,946.00 should be received shortly.
- **Streambank Stabilization Projects:** Matt Fischer, BWSR, suggested that we develop an agreement for landowners to sign where the District installs a streambank stabilization project. A copy of the sample from the Warroad Watershed District is in the packet. Administrator Audette forwarded the document to Legal Counsel Sparby for review.
- **Water Quality:** District staff have begun their first round of water quality sampling this week.
- **Summer Intern:** Will Johnson started on April 7th as our Summer Intern.

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

LeRoy Ose, Secretary