

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
December 14, 2000

President Vernon Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office at 102 North Main Avenue, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Vernon Johnson; Leonard Moe; Roger Love; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; George Dailey; David C. Lanning, Administrator/Engineer; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/ Receptionist; Dale M. Nelson was absent.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Love, seconded by Moe, that the board approve the agenda with the addition of a letter from Joe Philipp. Motion carried unanimously.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of November 22, 2000. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nikolayson, that the board approve the minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed the Financial Report, investment summary, and project fund balances. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the Financial Report dated December 13, 2000.

Administrator Lanning reported on the following: a letter from BWSR to the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians regarding BWSR's assistance in securing a representative for the RLWD Board of Managers; the Step I submittal for the Thief River Watershed Storage and Diversion had been approved by the RRWMB and Administrator Lanning had requested a budget update on this project from JOR and Houston Engineering; a letter from Marshall/Beltrami SWCD stating they support the Thief River FDR Project if the diversion ditches were constructed before the impoundments (if the project was cost effective); and a letter from Joe Philipp regarding the Thief River Storage and Diversion Project.

The board discussed the wetland banking for the Winsor/Hangaard Project. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD purchase wetland acres from the state to replace the required acres on the Winsor/Hangaard Clearwater County Petitions Project, as specified by the state.

Administrator Lanning showed an overhead of Tilden Township, describing what portion had been purchased by the Nature Conservancy. He stated that he met with representatives from the NRCS and also reviewed a letter he sent Kurt Deter informing him what took place at this meeting. He requested that this project be assigned a number for accounting purposes, since there would be such a great number of permits required. A motion was made by Moe to assign this project a number, with the stipulation that expenses be paid by the Nature Conservancy. Motion died due to lack of a second. Following a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the board that Administrator Lanning should acquire additional details on this project and report back at the January 11, 2001 meeting.

Administrator Lanning reviewed a letter from the Polk County Highway Department regarding construction on Polk County Road 17, which would change the direction of the flow of water and may involve the Parnell Impoundment Project. It was the consensus of the board to schedule a hearing to further discuss this and to have the hearing in conjunction with the hearing for the Parnell Impoundment Operating Plan. At this time, no hearing date has been scheduled.

Administrator Lanning informed the board that Don Ogaard, Executive Director of the RRWMB, had inquired about the status of the Bee Lake Project. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD not pursue any further action on the Bee Lake Project and that this Project No. 83 be declared inactive.

Administrator Lanning reviewed a 'draft' employee performance evaluation with the board and asked for their comments and recommendations. He also discussed the hourly/salary status of the RLWD employees, as well as the payroll schedule. Following discussion and input from the staff, it was the consensus of the board to continue the same as has been done in the past.

Administrator Lanning reviewed the sediment study that has been done so far on the river going into Thief Lake and Agassiz and requested additional funding to continue this study. A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD contribute an additional \$2,000 for this sediment study, for a total budget of \$16,000.

Two quotes were received for the culvert advertised for sale by the RLWD. They were as follows: \$275.00 from Jim Dufault and \$1,160.00 from Dale Kolseth. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Dailey, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD accept the quote from Dale Kolseth, in the amount of \$1,160.00, for the 32' x 60" culvert.

The board discussed the current administrative levy of \$125,000. It was the consensus of the board to contact the counties of the RLWD to discuss this matter with them.

Administrator Lanning reported on his meeting with the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Tribal Council. He stated that they had requested the Corps of Engineers put a net in front of the dam to keep their fish from getting out of the lake. He also said they discussed Good Lake and the possibility of using it for recreation, and discussion about them having a member appointed as a representative to the RLWD Board of Managers.

A draft Option to Purchase an Easement was reviewed by the board. Discussion was held in regard to land values on the proposed Thief River Diversion and Storage Project. It was the consensus of the board that an independent appraisal be done to determine the value of this property.

Legal Counsel Sparby updated the board on the recording of easements for RLWD projects. It was his recommendation that a document of record be placed with the appropriate county for RLWD drainage projects.

A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Love, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve a ring dike request from Scot Boushee, East Grand Forks, as long as it follows the stipulations of the RLWD.

The following managers will be attending the TIC Summit Conference on January 16-18, 2001 in Grand Forks: Roger Love, Vernon Johnson, Leonard Moe, Dennis Nikolayson, and Administrator Lanning.

A motion was made by Moe, seconded by Nikolayson, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Signed
George Dailey, Secretary