President Dale M. Nelson 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: Dale M. Nelson; Vernon Johnson; LeRoy Ose; Dennis Nikolayson; Lowell Smeby; Orville Knott; Myron Jesme, Administrator; Arlene Novak, Accounting/Secretary Technician II; Sandy Radniecki, Secretary/Receptionist; and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby. Bob Proulx was not present.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Smeby, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the agenda.

Arlene Novak read the minutes of July 24, 2003. A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Knott, that the board approve the minutes as changed. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the 2004 Budget hearing be scheduled for September 11, 2003, at 10:00 a.m.


Permits were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the board approve the following permits: No. 03073* from Joseph Stroot, Jr., Belgium Township, Polk County; 03081 from Polk County Highway Department, Grove Park Township; No. 03083* from Dennis Schulz, Belgium Township, Polk County; No. 03085* from Fanny Township, Polk County; No. 03086* from The Nature Conservancy, Tilden Township, Polk County; and No. 03089* from Mark Pester, Andover Township, Polk County. *With conditions stated on permit.

The board received a letter from Marshall/Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) regarding the cost share of streambank stabilization on the Moose River. It was the consensus of the board that this erosion problem had been previously discussed and that Administrator Jesme should move forward with the repair on a cost-share basis with the Marshall/Beltrami SWCD.

Administrator Jesme presented a Water Quality project and budget summary, which had been prepared by Corey Hanson, Water Quality Coordinator. He pointed out the fact that the Water Quality Program plays an integral part in the overall scope of the watershed district. He also stressed the fact that this Program is largely funded by grant monies.

Administrator Jesme reported on a meeting he attended regarding the C.D. 19 Petition from Polk County landowners. He stated the landowners were not interested in dropping
the petition at this time; but their main concern is the erosion at the Sandhill Lutheran Cemetery. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that Administrator Jesme should work with the Sandhill Lutheran Cemetery Committee to implement remaining FEMA funds, in the amount of $10,302.06, for the repair of the erosion at the cemetery.

The board discussed Project 60 and what should be done to proceed with the project. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD should instruct HDR Engineering to proceed with the preliminary engineering on Project 60. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the RLWD should have an appraisal done on the property involved on Project 60.

Administrator Jesme presented his update to the board. He elaborated on the issues at hand at Seeger Dam. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the board that the RLWD should repair Seeger Dam in light of the public safety issue, and upon receipt of the required permits.

Administrator Jesme informed the board that the RLWD received a petition from the JD 11 Board for repair to parts of State Ditch 83. Legal Counsel Delray Sparby will review the petition and report back to the board at a future meeting.

Administrator Jesme discussed the monies remaining for ring dikes. A motion was made by Nikolayson, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that RLWD staff should determine the number of remaining ring dikes to be constructed, with any remaining funds being turned over to the RRVMB for dispensing to other watershed districts in the Red River Basin.

Administrator Jesme addressed the condition of some RLWD ditches, stating that we are in the process of spraying ditches for brush and cattails and that some systems are in dire need of tree removal. The board recommended that Administrator Jesme should contact contractors for tree removal on the systems.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby presented his update to the board.

A motion was made by Smeby, seconded by Nikolayson, and passed by unanimous vote that the meeting adjourn.

Signed

Dennis Nikolayson, Secretary