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.


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

Motion by Ose, seconded by Mandt, to dispense reading of the October 23, 2014 Board meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated November 12, 2014. Motion by Knott, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated November 12, 2014. Motion carried. It was the consensus of the Board to re-invest the maturing Certificate of Deposit with Ultima Bank if the interest rate is similar to current available rates.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that Davidson Construction, Inc. completed the earthwork and items on the punch list and seeding is being completed today for construction of RLWD Ditch 15, Project No. 175. Sixteen days of liquated damages will be assessed to the contractor, since construction was not completed by the completion date. The final payment hearing will be held next spring after it is determined if there is any erosion damage and seeding repairs. A 10% retainer is presently being withheld and if the contractor wants the retainage amount reduced, he would have to make that request to the Board.

Sam Umlauf, Houston Engineering, Inc. stated that construction has started on the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration Project No. 60F. Completed work consists of small clean-up work along the entire project, repairs to the approaches to the railroad flats cars as well as complete construction on the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration from Station 8+00 – Station 101+00. Administrator Jesme stated that the Contractor worked with local landowners to stage specific construction areas for the deer hunting opener. Umlauf estimated that approximately 1500’ feet of construction has been completed so far, with dewatering being required. Umlauf reviewed the final list of work to be completed. Discussion was held on the Release of Liability with landowners that have the railroad flat cars on their property. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he will complete the Release of Liability for landowner signature.

The Board reviewed the Notice to Suspend Work with R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. for the Grand Marais Creek Channel Restoration-Diversion Channel, Project No. 60F. Due to the lack of available rock and completion of the downstream channel the Engineer recommended giving notice to R.J. Zavoral and Sons, Inc. to suspend work until the 2015 construction season.
Work on the Burnham Creek Project No. 43B, C, and D, Phases 1-4 has been substantially completed. The final payment hearing has been advertised for November 25, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at the District office.

Staff member Gary Lane stated that due to high water levels on State Ditch 83, limited work was completed on the ditch system. Lane stated that in late September, seven side water inlet culverts were installed. Once the water level recessed, a Contractor was hired to repair several sloughed areas.

The Board reviewed the recommendations by Administrator Jesme and Manager Les Torgerson for the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team members: Mark Larson, Juane (Tucker) Johnson, Lyle Stenberg, Larry Olson, Terry Vonasek, Les Roos, Ken Schmalz and Larry Peterson. Administrator Jesme stated that Larry Peterson would represent the Gully Sportsman’s Club. Motion by Coe, seconded by Ose, to approve the recommendations to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team as presented by Administrator Jesme and Manager Torgerson. Motion carried.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed the profile survey and cross sections completed for the inlet channel of the Brandt Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60D. Landowner Joe Stroot stated that he is concerned that the current amount of upstream land that is coming out of CRP, localized flooding for a local landowner will increase due to the existing condition of the existing channel directly upstream of the Brandt Impoundment. Stroot indicated that when the impoundment was constructed, no construction was completed directly upstream of the impoundment to allow water to freely enter the impoundment. Upon investigation of the upstream channel, Sanderson indicated that the inlet channel to the Brandt Impoundment is clearly plugged with brush and sediment. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Knott, to approve hiring of a Contractor at an hourly rate for the removal of brush and sediment in Section 8, Belguim Township, directly upstream of the Brandt Impoundment, Project No. 60D to assure that localized flooding does not occur due to upstream conditions related to water entering the impoundment. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme stated that the Red Lake SWCD completed construction on the St. Joseph’s Church Stormwater Runoff Project. The District cost shared with the Red Lake SWCD through the 2014 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164.

Administrator Jesme shared with the Board documentation showing federal funding guidelines and criteria for receiving funds through NRCS Programs.

The Board reviewed the 2014 MAWD Resolutions and the 2013 MAWD Annual Meeting minutes.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits for approval with conditions stated on the permit: No. 14203, Kevin Sanderson, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 14210, Raymond Capp, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County; No. 14214, Jim Holte, Eckvoll Township, Marshall County; No. 14216, Ron Salentine, Belguim Township, Polk County; No. 14217, Ron Salentine, Euclid
Township, Polk County; No. 14218, Lyle Wilkens, Hammond Township, Polk County; No. 14219, Jerome Hendricks, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 14220, Murray Engelstad, Rocksbury Township, Pennington County; No. 14221, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 14222, Arden Lundeen, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 14223, Richard Schmitz, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 14224, Richard Schmitz, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County; No. 14225 and 14226, Scott Baatz, Russia Township, Polk County; No. 14228, Ray Martell, Excel Township, Marshall County; and No. 14229, Scott Olson, Norden Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

Manager Knott asked about the status of the landowner in Equality Township, Red Lake County that installed a culvert without receiving a District permit. Administrator Jesme stated that Legal Counsel Sparby will discuss this matter under the Legal Counsel update.

Administrator Jesme stated that there were 23 applicants for the Natural Resource Technician position. Jesme and staff members Blix and Hanson narrowed it down to three applicants. Jesme met with the Budget and Salary Committee prior to today’s meeting to discuss his recommendations. Motion by Coe, seconded by Mandt, to offer the position to Ashley Hitt at an hourly rate of $16.00, plus benefits, as recommended by the Budget and Salary Committee with a six month probation period and review at that time. Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Jesme and Manager Knott will attend the RRWMB meeting on November 18, 2014 in Ada. Included in the packed were the October 21, 2014 RRWMB meeting minutes.
- A 1W1P Policy Committee meeting will be held on November 19, 2014 at the District office. This meeting will include the election of officers, hiring of a facilitator, approval of the RFP’s among other agenda items.
- The Four Legged Lake Project Work Team will tour the project area on November 21, at 9:30 a.m. starting at AJ’s Restaurant in Clearbrook. A brief meeting will be held prior to the tour and afterwards.
- Jesme attended the BWSR Academy on October 28th and 29th. As part of the academy training session, Jesme was part of a three person roundtable panel that answered questions concerning the development of the 1W1P Pilot Project.
- Included in the packet was a newsletter from BWSR that touches on the Side Water Inlet Project that the District completed for the Red Lake SWCD as part of a 319 Grant.
- In partnership with the MnDNR and FEMA, a public meeting will be held on December 2 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Marshall County Courthouse.
- The River Watch Fall Kick-Off will be held at the District office on November 17 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that of the two landowner letters, one had been sent out and the other had just been delivered to Administrator Jesme and had not yet been mailed to the landowner. Sparby indicated that he will work with Administrator Jesme to complete the other landowner letter.
Manager Nelson stated that he and Managers Tiedemann and Coe attended the Odney Flaat Project Work Team meeting. Nelson stated that the project will not have much chance of additional enhancement, but could jeopardize downstream roads if the structure is not repaired. Nelson stated that the local landowner is very cooperative and willing to apply for funding. If funding does not materialize, the District would need to consider proceeding forward with the project with use of its own funds.

Manager Mandt inquired on who represented the District on the Pine Lake Area Work Team. Managers Torgerson and Tiedemann are the representatives with Manager Coe as an alternate.

Manager Tiedemann stated that someone left a refrigerator on property owned by the District at the Parnell Impoundment. Administrator Jesme stated that he will arrange with staff to have it removed.

Two individuals that were asked to remove their deer hunting stands from the Euclid East Impoundment have complied with the Board request.

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

LeRoy Ose, Secretary