

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
October 10, 2019

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 were: Managers Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, and Brian Dwight. Absent: Les Torgerson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and 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 September 26, 2019 minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the September 26, 2019 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated October 9, 2019. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated October 9, 2019, as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the General Fund Budget as of September 30, 2019.

Matt Fischer, BWSR appeared before the Board to present the District with a plaque recognizing the Red Lake Watershed District's 50th Anniversary.

Administrator Jesme stated that the Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149, Advisory Committee and Planning Work Group met to review and make recommendations to the Workplan to be submitted to the Policy Committee for review and approval. Included in the Workplan, was \$185,000 to assist with repairs to the outlet of Ditch 10, RLWD Project No. 161.

Staff from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE), notified Administrator Jesme that the USCOE permit for the construction of Ditch 16, RLWD Project No. 177, should arrive on October 11, 2019. The USCOE acknowledged that the Contactor for the project was told that construction could begin on Highway 220, as the USCOE did not have jurisdiction in that area.

Administrator Jesme is working with Attorney John Kolb, to complete the easements, with the landowners, on the Thief River Falls Westside Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Discussion was held on waiting to payout the damages, until bids for construction are received. Purchase of the property from Marland and Sharon Johnson is proceeding. All permits are received, except for the USCOE permit. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that he would like to proceed with advertising for bids in November, with a bid opening date in December.

Staff members Loren Sanderson and Nick Olson updated the Board on recent District Impoundment activity. Sanderson stated that the Lateral 2 gate has been opened since September on the Parnell Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 81, but the west pool gate has been closed, as the drainage area for the impoundment had not received the big rain events like the Euclid East Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60C and the Brandt Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60D. Sanderson noted that the 80-acre Flood Storage Easement site just downstream of the Parnell Impoundment is almost to capacity and we will need to start releasing water today. Water at the south pool of the Moose River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 13 is 2' below the top of the weir, with Agassiz NWR starting to release water yesterday. The North Pool of the Moose River Impoundment is .4' from going over the weir. The DNR indicated that Thief Lake WMA is 1.5' higher in water than what they would like to be, but the District may have to start releasing water. Sanderson estimated that the District would need to release 14,000 ac.ft. of water from the Moose River Impoundment to get it to the winter pool elevation. At 200 cfs per day, it would take approximately 35 days to release the water. Olson stated that inflows at Euclid East and Brandt Impoundment's are dropping off, but water is coming in .4' over the weir at the Euclid East Impoundment and .2' at the Brandt Impoundment, so the water is going over the structure. Brandt Impoundment is currently open 9", and the channel immediately downstream is full, with more capacity west of Highway 75. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., stated that water is also coming in downstream of the impoundments, plus current vegetation restricts water more than in the Spring. Administrator Jesme discussed the importance of draining down the impoundments prior to freeze-up and the assumed timeline it would take. Dalager noted that the current operation of the impoundments is about as good as it can be. Discussion was held on obtaining additional easements downstream of the Brandt Impoundment where there presently was not a channel restoration project completed. Matt Fischer stated that a Watershed Based Implementation Program funds can be used for easements for multipurpose projects.

Staff member Nick Olson stated that the District received RLWD Permit No. 19176, PCB & MDB, LLLP, Lambert Township, Red Lake County, on October 7, 2019 for the installation of tile. When Olson arrived on site, on October 9, 2019, the proposed work on the application was already completed. The Board discussed submitting a letter of warning for unauthorized/unpermitted work to the applicant. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve RLWD Permit No. 19176, PCB & MDB, LLLP, Lambert Township, Red Lake County, with conditions stated on that permit, and to submit a letter of warning to the applicant for unauthorized/unpermitted work. Motion carried. Discussion was held on amending the District's Rules and Regulations to include designating the contractor liable for non-permitted work. Legal Counsel Sparby discussed sending a letter to Field Drainage, Inc., informing them that if they have one more violation, the District would send an injunction to the District Court, where Field Drainage, Inc., would not be allowed to work within the District boundaries. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Sorenson, that due to repeated violations by Field Drainage, Inc., any subsequent violation of the District's Permit Rules and Regulations, will result in the District seeking injunctive relief from the District Court to prohibit and restrain Field Drainage, Inc., from conducting tile drainage within the jurisdiction of the District. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Page, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 19141 and 19142, Folsom Farms Corporation, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 19155, Red Lake County Highway Department, Wylie Township, Red Lake County; No. 19158, Andrey Lisoff, Maple Lake Flats, LLC, Grove Park Township, Polk County; No. 19160 Carolyn Faivre, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 19161, Donovan Dyrdal, Bray Township, Pennington County; No. 19164, Howard Applequist, Onstad Township, Polk County; No. 19165 and 19166, Mike Altepeter, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 19167, Pederson Brothers, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 19168, Curtis Amundson, Sullivan Township, Polk County; No. 19170, Scott Strand, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 19171, Ross Hegge, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 19172, Bray Township, Pennington County; No. 19173, John L. Lubitz, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 19174, Dale Kolseth, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; and, No. 19175, Rudy Applequist, Onstad Township, Polk County. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme indicated that the November 28, 2019, Board meeting date falls on Thanksgiving Day. Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to change the November 28, 2019 Board meeting date to November 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the District office. Motion carried.

Administrators update:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the October 15, 2019 RRWMB meeting in Ada.
- On October 1, 2019, Jesme and the respective managers presented the 2018 Annual Report to the Polk County, Marshall County and Beltrami County Commissioners. Jesme also attended the Pennington County Commissioner meeting on October 8th and will meet with the Clearwater County Commissioners on October 29th.
- The Red Lake River 1W1P Planning Work Group and Advisory Committee members met to discuss upcoming projects and funding for the 2020 fiscal year and assisting with the Work Plan for the upcoming funding cycle.
- Due to weather issues, the project that the District cost shared with funds from the 2019 Erosion Control Funds with the Clearwater SWCD will not be completed until next year.
- Jesme reminded the Board that the District Flu shot Clinic will be held on October 24, 2019 at 8:15 a.m.

Manager Ose encouraged the District staff to attend the MAWD Drainage Rules seminar.

Manager Ose indicated that he may not be available to attend the November 2019 RRWMB meeting to be held at the District office. Ose noted that his alternate is Manager Torgerson who will also be unavailable. Ose requested that the District appoint an additional alternate. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to appoint Manager Nelson as an additional alternate to the RRWMB, in the event that Managers Ose and Torgerson are unable to attend. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Delray Sparby indicated that he will draft a letter to be submitted to Field Drainage, Inc.

Manager Dwight asked if any public comment had been received on the draft Thief River 1W1P. Matt Fischer stated that BWSR had received comments from landowner, Darrold Rodahl, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Discussion was held on forming a committee to work on the District's Rules and Regulations regarding tiling.

The Board recessed for lunch at the District office for a retirement party for Staff member Loren Sanderson.

After the retirement party and staff lunch was over, motion by Ose and seconded by Sorenson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry Sorenson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Terry Sorenson, Secretary