

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
January 10, 2022

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: Managers: Dale Nelson, Terry Sorenson, LeRoy Ose, Tom Anderson, Gene Tiedemann, Allan Page. Absent: Brian Dwight. Staff Present Tammy Audette, and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. President Nelson requested the addition of RLWD Permits and Chief Coulee Project to the agenda. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda with the addition of RLWD Permits and Chief Coulee Project. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the December 23, 2021, minutes. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the December 23, 2021, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated January 10, 2022. Staff member, Ann Joppru, noted invoices paid to close out 2021. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated January 10, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

Staff member Ann Joppru presented the 2021 General Fund Budget as of December 31, 2021.

The Board reviewed the proposed Capital Project Fund transfers. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Capital Project Fund transfers as of December 31, 2021. Motion carried.

Pennington County, Red Lake County and Polk County confirmed the reappointment of Managers Nelson, Page and Sorenson, respectively, for an additional 3-year terms on the Board.

Election of officers was conducted with President Nelson turning the meeting over to Vice President, Gene Tiedemann.

Manager Tiedemann called for nominations for President. Manager Ose nominated Dale M. Nelson for President. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, for nominations to cease and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dale M. Nelson for President of the Board. Motion carried.

Vice President Tiedemann turned the meeting over to President Nelson to conduct elections for the remaining Board positions.

Nominations were opened for Vice-President. Manager Page nominated Gene Tiedemann. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Ose,

seconded by Sorenson, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Gene Tiedemann for vice-president of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Secretary. Manager Page nominated LeRoy Ose. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for LeRoy Ose for Secretary of the Board. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Treasurer. Manager Anderson nominated Terry Sorenson. Upon calling for further nominations three times, no further nominations were made. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Terry Sorenson for Treasurer of the Board. Motion carried.

President Nelson reviewed the Advisory Committee members. It was the consensus of the Board to inquire if Dan Stenseng and Les Torgerson would be willing to serve on the Advisory Committee representing the Clearwater Lake Area. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Advisory Committee members as listed. Motion carried.

The position of Delegate and Alternate to the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) was discussed. Manager Nelson stated that Manager Ose is currently the Delegate and just completed his first year of a 3-year term, with Manager Tiedemann and Manager Nelson as Alternates. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Tiedemann, to appoint Manager Ose as the Delegate to the RRWMB, and Managers Tiedemann and Nelson as Alternates. Motion carried.

Delegates and Alternate to the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts were discussed. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Managers Ose and Tiedemann as Delegates and Manager Page as an alternate. Motion carried.

The Budget/Salary Committee was discussed by the Board. A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Page, to appoint Managers Dwight, Sorenson, and Nelson to serve on the Budget/Salary Committee. Motion carried.

The Board discussed representatives on the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Nelson, Tiedemann, and Page to the Grand Marais Creek Joint Powers Board, with Manager Sorenson as an alternate. Motion carried.

The committees for the Joint Ditch 2 and Joint Ditch 72 Joint Ditch Boards were reviewed. It was discussed that due to the redetermination of benefits and consolidation hearing for JD 72, this system no longer exists and has been replaced by Joint Ditch 100 and Joint Ditch 101. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Anderson to the JD 2 and Joint Ditch 100 and 101 Joint Ditch Boards. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to appoint Managers Sorenson and Anderson

as Delegates and Manager Dwight as Alternate to the Pine Lake Area Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the need to continue with the Four-Legged Lake Project Work Team. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to dissolve the Four-Legged Lake Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Black River Impoundment Project Work Team. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Managers Nelson and Page as Delegates and Manager Tiedemann as Alternate to the Black River Impoundment Project Work Team. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Managers Nelson, Ose and Tiedemann to the 20% Flood Reduction Committee. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to appoint Manager Tiedemann as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Managers Nelson and Page to the Advisory Committee for the Red Lake River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Thief River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Manager Ose as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Managers Nelson and Dwight to the Advisory Committee for the Thief River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Blackduck Lake Structure Joint Powers Board. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, to appoint Managers Dwight and Anderson to the Blackduck Lake Structure Joint Powers Board. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Permit Rules and Regulations Committee. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Managers Dwight, Page and Tiedemann to the Permit Rules and Regulations Committee. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Policy Committee and Advisory Committee for the Clearwater River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to appoint Manager Anderson as Delegate and Manager Sorenson as Alternate to the Policy Committee and Manager Page to the Advisory Committee for the Clearwater River 1W1P. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the appointment of representatives to the Mud River Project Work Team. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to appoint Managers Ose as Delegate and Manager Nelson as Alternate to the Mud River Project Work Team. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Ose, and passed by unanimous vote that the regularly scheduled Board meetings be held at 9:00 A.M. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month for 2022.

A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, that the following institutions be designated as depositories for the RLWD: Northern State Bank of Thief River Falls and American Federal Bank, with the following signatures on the signature cards at the financial institutions: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Terry Sorenson, Myron Jesme and Ann Joppru. Motion carried.

The Conflict-of-Interest policy was reviewed by the Board. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve the Conflict-of-Interest Policy and have each Board member sign the Conflict-of-Interest policy and return it to staff member, Ann Joppru. Motion carried.

Staff member, Nick Olson, stated that aeration on Pine Lake, RLWD Project No. 35, has been active for the past three years, and it appears to be trending the same way this year. The District is considered the permit holder, Gully Sportsman Club handles the monitoring and installation, and the Gonvick Lions Club pays for liability insurance. Olson discussed the advertisement process required to run the aeration system.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 21180 and 21182, Clearwater County Highway Department, Leon and Pine Lake Townships, Clearwater County. Motion carried.

Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to table RLWD Permit No. 21181, Ron Grande, Godfrey Township, Polk County, to allow for further review upon spring run-off. Motion carried.

Staff member Tammy Audette stated that letters were sent to landowners regarding their assessment for the Redetermination of Benefits for recently referred to as Judicial Ditch 72, RLWD Project No. 41, now referred to as Joint Ditch 100, RLWD Project No. 41A and Joint Ditch 101, RLWD Project No. 41B. Landowners were given the opportunity to pay off their assessment without interest, prior to them being listed on their property tax statements as payable in 2022 at an interest rate of 1.0 % for a period of 10 years. Audette stated that the District will have to submit checks for damages to the landowners, in the amount of \$5,630.20 for Joint Ditch 100, RLWD Project No. 41A and \$26,947.76, for Joint Ditch 101, RLWD Project No. 41B, and collect the assessments over the 10-year time frame. Since this was a Redetermination of Benefits, no bond was purchased by the respective counties to pay for the costs, therefore the District will have to pay the costs of Redetermination of Benefits along with damages awarded and be reimbursed over the 10-year collection period. Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve payment of damages for the Redetermination of Benefits for Judicial Ditch 72, RLWD Project No. 41, now referred to as Joint Ditch No. 100, RLWD Project No. 41A and Joint Ditch 101, RLWD Project No. 41B as well as costs for the Redetermination, with assessments being collected over a period of 10 years. Motion carried.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., and Wayne Johnson, City of Thief River Falls, appeared before the Board for discussion on a potential project, City of Thief River Falls Chief Coulee Project, which enters into the City of Thief River Falls, North of the city along Highway 32, through private property, entering the Red Lake River near the Red Robe Park. Discussion was held on agricultural drainage North of the city, and water quality concerns within the project area. The city wishes to install storm sewers within the city and divert the agricultural area into a ditch system to the North. HDR Engineering, Inc, has completed an engineering study of the area. The city would like to go forward with the project, with the support of the District, along with assistance to seek outside funding. Johnson noted that Staff member, Corey Hanson, has previously obtained water quality information within the project. Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to support and assist the City of Thief River Falls with water quality assistance for the proposed City of Thief River Falls Chief Coulee Project. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he has not heard from Attorney, Mark Grainger, regarding the stipulation of facts for the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179.

Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary