

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
September 22, 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: Gene Tiedemann, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, Brian Dwight, Tom Anderson, and Dale M. Nelson. Absent: LeRoy Ose. Staff Present: Myron Jesme, Tammy Audette, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the September 8, 2022, minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the September 8, 2022, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated September 21, 2022. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Financial Report dated September 21, 2022, as presented. Motion carried. Staff member Ann Joppru noted the increased interest rate at American Federal Bank-Fosston and the interest rates obtained with Edward Jones for the purchase of three Certificate of Deposits.

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, that Edward Jones be designated as a depository for the RLWD with the following signatures on the signature cards: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Terry Sorenson, Myron Jesme, and Ann Joppru. Motion carried.

Staff member Ann Joppru noted that staff health insurance will have a 5% increase for 2023 premiums, with the dental insurance premiums increased by 24%.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., reviewed the Technical Memorandum for the Amendment to the Elm Lake Trigger Elevations dated September 23, 2022. Administrator Jesme discussed the difference between using 1929 datum versus 1988 datum. To provide consistency and avoid confusion in future operations, this amendment will convert all Elm Lake referenced pool levels and report all downstream trigger elevations be converted to 1988 datum. It was noted that this doesn't not change the operating plan, just gives future staff better direction in operating Elm Lake Structure. Nordby noted that in the report completed in 2006, it did not identify the roadway overtopping at the Site 2 location, which is dictated by the back level of State Ditch 83. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the conversion of datum from 1929 to 1988 datum for operation of the Elm Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 52. Motion carried. Nordby indicated that he will provide District and MnDNR staff with information indicated with trigger point levels. Administrator Jesme noted that the District staff will adjust staff gages as well as install an additional gauge near Site 2 Trigger Point.

The following quotes were received for the Demarais/Hanson Repair, RLWD Project No. 149: Quality Spray Foam LLC/Anderson Excavating, \$92,619.00; and Triple D Construction and Leasing, Inc., \$145,923.00. Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the low quote from Quality Spray Foam LLC/Anderson Excavating in the amount of \$92,619.00, for the Demarais/Hanson Repair, RLWD Project No. 149. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 19 in the amount of \$23,050.59 to R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc., for construction of the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that there is minor cleanup along the backslope of County Road 12 that needs to be leveled, along with the mill over and overlay on CSAH 3 where the water enters the impoundment. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve Pay Estimate No. 19 in the amount of \$23,050.59 to R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc., for construction of the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Motion carried.

Administration Jesme stated that engineering staff from the NRCS will be in the area to review the repairs needed at the Burnham Creek Impoundment/BR6, RLWD Project No. 43A.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 3 in the amount of \$9,993.99 to Spruce Valley Corporation, Inc. for construction of the Thief River Falls Oxbow Project, RLWD Project No. 46Q. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve Pay Estimate No. 3 in the amount of \$9,993.99 to Spruce Valley Corporation for construction of the Thief River Falls Oxbow Project, RLWD Project No. 46Q. Motion carried. The City of Thief River Falls will set the date for the Final Payment Hearing, which will be held at the City Council meeting.

Staff member Nate Koland discussed construction activity at the Sorum Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AW. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$87,517.61, to Paul Zavoral, Inc./Higher Ground for construction of the Sorum Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AW. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on construction of the Nelson Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AU, and minor items left to complete the construction.

Administrator Jesme stated that the State of Minnesota has funding for the construction of ring dikes through a LCMRR Grant. This grant will be provided to the RRWMB, for ring dike construction in 2023.

The District office will host the River Watch Fall Kickoff on October 6th. It is estimated that 75 students and teachers will participate in the event.

Repairs to the Brandt, Euclid East and Parnell Impoundments have been noted and will be repaired through FEMA funding. Discussion was held on mowing of the Moose River Impoundment, and the request by the MnDNR to minimize mowing between the two structures this year and then complete all of the mowing in 2023. FEMA funding will be used to clean up all debris on the Moose River Impoundment. Discussion was held on the south access road erosion.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve amending RLWD Permit No. 22195, Jeremy Nelson, Grand Plain Township, Marshall County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 22155, Mary A. Miller, Tilden Township, Polk County; No. 22205, Brady Anderson, North Township, Pennington County; No. 22206, Brandon Blaine, Benville Township, Beltrami County; No. 22207 and 22208, Aaron Miller, Reiner Township, Pennington County; No. 22209, John Klein, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 22210, Daniel Payment, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 22211, Paul Engelstad, Parnell Township, Polk County; No. 22213, Baylen Hagen, Veldt Township, Marshall County; No. 22214, Steve Goodwin, Euclid Township, Polk County; and No. 22215, Tom Anderson, Leo Township, Clearwater County. Motion carried.

Administrators update:

- Jesme attended the September 20th RRWMB meeting via teams.
- The District received the signed 10-year rental agreement and first payment from Roger and Roxanne Hagen for the Brandt Channel Restoration Project.
- Staff members Hanson and Slowinski participated in Pennington County Outdoor Education Day.
- There will be a Mud River Project Team meeting on September 23, 2022.
- Jesme participated in a Virtual Drainage Workgroup meeting on September 8, 2022. One of the main topics was the proposed “Drainage Portal” being proposed by the environmental groups and appears to be supported by BWSR. Jesme will participate in an Association of MN Counties meeting on September 29th on the same topic.
- Jesme will participate in the MAWD Legislative meeting on September 29 via Zoom.
- Jesme will attend the MAWD Strategic Plan meeting scheduled for September 29, 2022.
- A Clearwater River 1W1P Planning Workgroup meeting was held on September 21st in preparation of approval by BWSR for the plan.
- The Upper/Lower Red Lake 1W1P Policy Committee meeting will be held on October 4th at 10:00 a.m.

Attorney Jerry VanKorf completed a draft Appeals Brief for the Appeal of the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179.

Manager Dwight stated that the Upper Red Lake Association will present the “Keep It Clean” campaign at MAWD Annual Convention.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary