

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
November 9, 2023

Vice President, Gene Tiedemann, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present: Managers: Brian Dwight, Gene Tiedemann, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, LeRoy Ose, and Tom Anderson. Absent: Dale Nelson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Lindsey Kallis, and Melissa Bushy.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the November 9, 2023, agenda. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the October 26, 2023, minutes. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the October 26, 2023, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated November 8, 2023. Manager Anderson requested an explanation on how the District tracks the 1W1P Funds. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated November 8, 2023, as presented. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette updated the Board on the County Ditch 99 Bank Stabilization Project located near Crookston. All that remains to be completed is dormant seeding.

All funds have been exhausted from the Thief River 1W1P 2020 Grant, RLWD Project No. 149A. Final documentation will be submitted to BWSR, which will trigger an audit of the final numbers. Expenditures will now come from the 2022 Grant.

The District received 50% of the 2024 Red Lake River 1W1P Grant, RLWD Project No. 149 in the amount of \$850,219.50.

Engineer, Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., provided an update on Turtle Cross Connection, RLWD Project No. 114, Project Team meeting that was held on November 2, 2023. Dalager will prepare a Feasibility Report for presentation to the Board in early 2024.

The Board reviewed the Final Pay Estimate to Lunke's, Inc. for work on the Beich Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AY, in the amount of \$9,778.91. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Final Pay Estimate to Lunke's, Inc. in the amount of \$9,778.91 for work at the Beich Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AY contingent on receipt of the final payroll reports and IC134 documentation. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Final Pay Estimate to Anderson Excavating for work at the Fladeland Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AX, in the amount of \$13,103.20. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to approve the Final Pay Estimate to Anderson Excavating in the amount of \$13,103.20 for work at the Fladeland Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AX, contingent on receipt of the final payroll reports and IC134 documentation. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Final Pay Estimate to Anderson Excavating for work at the Stock Streambank Stabilization site, RLWD Project No. 149A, in the amount of \$11,214.45. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Final Pay Estimate to Anderson Excavating in the amount of \$11,214.45 for work at the Stock Streambank site, RLWD Project No. 149A, contingent on receipt of the final payroll reports and IC134 documentation. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Final Pay Estimate to Anderson Excavating for work at the Barth Streambank Stabilization site, RLWD Project No. 149A, in the amount of \$6,659.40. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to approve the Final Pay Estimate to Anderson Excavating in the amount of \$6,659.40 for work at the Barth Streambank site, RLWD Project No. 149A, contingent on receipt of the final payroll reports and IC134 documentation. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed two permit violations in Gervais Township, Red Lake County. After further discussion, a motion was made by Page, seconded by Dwight, to send a permit violation letter to both landowners, stating that the violation will need to be removed by November 20, 2023, or the District will repair the necessary work, with the landowner responsible for all costs. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed RLWD Permit No. 23083 in Red Lake Falls Township. The permit needs to be revised as they are now choosing to install a 15" culvert, rather than a 12" as previously indicated. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to amend the permit. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed RLWD Permit No. 23092 in Red Lake Falls Township. The permit needs to be revised as they are now choosing to install a 15" culvert, rather than a 12" as previously indicated. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to amend the permit. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed RLWD Permit No. 23210, Ryan Nelson and Quinten Nelson, Deer Park Township, Pennington County. Administrator Audette stated that a portion of the permit is located in a non-benefitted area of the Red Lake River, RLWD Project No. 2, therefore, it will require a hearing to be added to the legal drainage system's benefitted area. After further discussion, a motion was made by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to table RLWD Permit No. 23210. Motion carried. The landowner will submit a petition to the District to be added to the system.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 23164, Maribeth Stock, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; No. 23195, Bauer Farms, Knute Township, Polk County; No. 23197, Scott Tersteeg, Kertsonville Township, Polk County; No. 23199, Craig Mickelson, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 23200, David Thompson, Northland Township, Polk County; No. 23204, Kevin Amiot, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 23208, Enbridge Energy, Bygland Township, Polk County; and No. 23211, Lannie Runck, Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the FDRWG Currents newsletter that portrays the Pine Lake Project, RLWD Project No. 26.

Administrator's Update:

Impoundments: Water elevations at Pine Lake have risen due to increased upstream flow. District staff opened the gate on the structure to get to winter elevation. Staff will monitor the project closely. Annual gate maintenance was completed on the Schirrick Dam.

Minnesota Watersheds: If you plan to attend the Minnesota Watersheds Annual meeting beginning November 29th, please let Melissa know your plans.

Mud River Project Work Team: Just a reminder that the Mud River Project Work team meeting will be held at the District office, on Monday, November 20th at 1:30 p.m. My attempts at meeting with downstream landowners have not been successful. I will continue to reach out to landowners next week.

Crescent Avenue Project: I spoke with a landowner on the Crescent Avenue Project in Crookston. I intend to personally reach out to the remaining landowners to visit about the project.

Veterans Day: In observance of Veterans Day, the District office will be closed on Friday, November 10th.

November Board Meeting: Just a reminder that the 2nd Board meeting in November will be held on Monday, November 20th at 9:00 a.m.

Legal Counsel Sparby was absent, however Administrator Audette read aloud an email update from him: "regarding the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179, stating that we have a draft brief that is being reviewed. We have until December 1st to file, but plan on doing so earlier."

Manager Page shared that he thinks the Thibert/Knott project is finished.

Manager Tiedemann shared that he has been contacted about unauthorized entry/hunting at the Parnell Impoundment.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary