

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Managers' Minutes  
December 30, 2024

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

Managers Present: Grant Nelson, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, Tom Anderson, LeRoy Ose, and Gene Tiedemann. Managers Absent: Brian Dwight. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Lindsey Deselich, Elaine Rychlock, Nate Koland, Tony Olson, Melissa Bushy, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the December 12, 2024, minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the December 12, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated December 11, 2024. Staff member Elaine Rychlock requested authorization to pay any additional regular bills that may come in prior to year end. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Nelson to approve the Financial Report dated December 11, 2024, as presented, and grant authority for the payment of additional regular bills that may come in prior to year end. Motion carried. Administrator Audette noted that any additional regular bills paid will be presented to the Board at the January 9, 2025, Board meeting.

Discussion was held on the Certificate of Deposit (CD) that the Board had authorized to invest at Unity Bank at the December 12, 2024, meeting. Due to the lack of communication from Unity Bank, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nelson, for staff member Rychlock to seek quotes for the highest rate from other financial institutions for investment of the \$250,000 that was going to be invested in at Unity Bank and for the investment of two maturing CD's set to expire on January 2, 2025, and to invest the same with the financial institution offering the highest rate. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed correspondence from the League of Minnesota Cities, announcing that the District received a \$718 dividend on our Property/Casualty Insurance and a \$327 dividend on our Workers Compensation for a total dividend amount of \$1,045.

Administrator Audette stated that Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., has tried various times to reach out to Taggart Contracting, Inc. for the submission of an invoice for the repairs to the Knutson Dam, RLWD Project No. 50F, without response. It was the consensus of the Board to wait for Taggart Contracting, Inc. to submit a bill.

Administrator Audette reviewed a Summary of Engineering Services for Phase 1 of the Clearwater River Grade & Bank Stabilization Design, Clearwater River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149B, in the amount of \$78,100. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve

Phase 1 of the Clearwater River Grade & Bank Stabilization Design, Clearwater River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149B with Houston Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$78,100. Motion carried.

The final payment hearing for ACM, LLC, for the Thief River Streambank Project, RLWD Project No. 149A, was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Administrator Audette stated that the hearing had been adequately published and will be videotaped. Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that ACM, LLC, has satisfactorily completed all construction on the project and that he approved final payment in the amount of \$85,558.68. Administrator Audette stated that a Notice of Claim on Payment Bond was presented from Attorney Kyle E Hart, on behalf of Olson Gravel, Inc. for \$134,476.15. For the record, it was noted that Attorney Kyle Hart; Attorney Aaron Dean, representing ACM, LLC.; Nick Alderink, ACM, LLC; and Charlie, a representative from Crawford's Equipment, were in attendance during the Final Payment Hearing via Zoom. Administrator Audette and Legal Counsel Sparby noted that they spoke with the bonding company, Employers Mutual Casualty Company, who noted that they will issue a Consent of Surety to Final Payment, which would allow the Board to make final payment directly to ACM, LLC. Motion by Sorenson, seconded Page, to approve the final payment to ACM, LLC, in the amount of \$85,558.68 for the Thief River Streambank Project (Drees/Stock), RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried. Manager Anderson voted in opposition. Manager Dwight was absent.

Administrator Audette and Engineer, Tony Nordby updated the Board on the Project Work Team meeting held for the State Ditch 83 Area, RLWD Project No. 181, on December 18<sup>th</sup> at the District office. Further discussion was held on the grant that the RRWMB received through FEMA for Floodplain Mapping.

#### **Administrator's Report:**

- **Ron Weiss Retirement:** Included in the packet is a Retirement Open House invitation to a retirement reception for Ron Weiss, Red Lake County Commissioner, to be held on January 9, 2025, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.
- **Watershed Manager Orientation:** If you wish to attend the BWSR Watershed Manager Orientation that will be held at the RLWD office on January 28, 2025, from 1:00 – 4:00 pm, please inform Melissa.
- **Upper/Lower Red Lake 1W1P:** The BWSR Northern Committee Meeting will review the draft Upper/Lower Red Lake 1W1P at their January 6, 2025, meeting to be held in Bemidji. Staff members Audette and Hanson will participate in a Steering Committee meeting on January 2, 2025.
- **RRWMB:** The RRWMB meeting will be held on January 7, 2025, starting at 10:00 a.m. The meeting date is one week earlier than normal due to the Annual Red River Basin Conference. Audette plans to attend the meeting.
- **Pine Lake Aeration:** Legal Notices have been issued for the intent to operate the aeration system on Pine Lake. The legal notice must be published prior to receiving the MnDNR permit application. The RLWD will inform the Board of when the aeration begins.

- **MS4 Front Demo:** District staff participated in a MS4 Front Demo, along with several of the One Watershed One Plan sub watersheds. Administrator Audette will report back to the Board after the 1W1P members are available for discussion.

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

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LeRoy Ose, Secretary