

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
July 11, 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: Gene Tiedemann, LeRoy Ose, Gene Tiedemann, Brian Dwight, Allan Page, and Grant Nelson. Manager's Absent: Terry Sorenson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Elaine Rychlock, Lindsey Kallis, Erick Huseth, Nate Koland, Lauren Palmer, Melissa Bushy and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the June 28, 2024, minutes. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Nelson, to approve the June 28, 2024, Board meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated July 10, 2024. Staff member Rychlock reviewed current CD rates with area banks. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated July 10, 2024, as presented, to approve the purchase of a \$500,000 seven-month CD @ 5.17%, and a \$500,000 nine-month CD @ 5.25% at Dakota Heritage Bank in Red Lake Falls, MN. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette stated that Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., plans to present the Preliminary Engineers Report for the Turtle Cross Connection Project, RLWD Project No. 114 at the July 25, 2024, board meeting

Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering Inc, and Delray Sparby, Legal Sparby have reviewed the documents from lowest bidder ACM LLC for the Drees/Stock Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149A. Nordby stated they will start discussions soon on a possible start date – looking at late July or early August.

Administrator Audette provided an update on District Impoundments.

Staff member Kallis review the draft RLWD Scholarship Application. Scholarship eligibility and criteria were discussed. The board asked Administrator Audette to check with Matt Fischer, BWSR, asking for written approval from BWSR if we move forward with a scholarship program

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. 24065, Andrew Zavoral, Bygland Township, Polk County; No. 24066, Andrew Zavoral, Bygland Township, Polk County; No. 24069, Richard Yaggie, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 24070, Richard Yaggie, Equality Township, Red Lake County; No. 24071, Tim Sedlacek, Bray Township, Pennington County; No. 24073, Lee Tate, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 24075, James Abeld, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; No. 24076, Marshall County Highway

Dept., Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 24078, Ross Rindahl, Star Township, Pennington County; No. 24081, Erwin Wetekamp, Louisville Township, Red Lake County; and No. 24082, Jeanette Kliner, Euclid Township, Polk County. Motion carried with Manager Tiedemann abstaining.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to table RLWD Permit No. 24075 to the July 25, 2024, board meeting pending more information. Motion carried.

Administrator's Report:

- **Judicial Ditch 1:** Landowner Greg Hilgeman held a meeting at the District office on July 9th. Approximately 20 landowners were in attendance. Managers Nelson and Page also participated, along with staff from Pennington and Red Lake County. Hilgeman did a very nice job of explaining the Petition for Improvement process as it relates to MN Statutes 103E.
- **RRWMB:** I plan to attend the RRWMB meeting in Ada on July 16th. A funding application was submitted to the RRWMB for their Water Quality Base Funding for the 3 bank stabilization projects on the Thief River.
- **Baird Beyer Dam:** Manager Page received a call from a local landowner regarding the Baird Beyer Dam, and amount of water within the impoundment. District staff will inspect the site and talk with the landowner.
- **Odney-Flaat:** Loren Sanderson informed the District that a beaver was making a dam against the trash rack at the Odney-Flaat structure. A trapper removed two beavers and a local contractor will be removing the dam in the near future.
- **Black River Impoundment-Diversion Ditch:** Replacement of the 18" culvert with a 30" culvert that was approved at the last Board meeting was installed on July 8th.
- **Ditch 16, RLWD Project No. 177:** Higher Ground plugged the abandoned culverts and repaired the road slopes on RLWD Ditch 16 on June 26th.
- **Four-Legged Lake, RLWD Project No. 102:** District staff was informed that beaver plugged the outlet culvert near 233rd Avenue and also at County Road 23 on the Four-Legged Lake Project. Staff member Huseth removed a portion of the dam on County Road 23 on the inlet side (outlet of East Four-Legged Lake) to allow for water movement. Huseth has contacted a local trapper and will have the dams removed once the beaver has been trapped.
- **Ditch Maintenance:** District ditches are currently being mowed. Contractors are making good progress considering the rain events we have had.
- **Water Quality Update:** District staff have begun testing area lakes for blue green algae on July 9th and will continue to monitor the various sites as needed.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that the City of Thief River Falls is working on easements for the Chief's Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S. Sparby indicated that the Minnesota Supreme Court has not ruled on the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179 Appeal.

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Manager Page questioned the timeline for the repairs to the Knutson Dam. Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that he will have an update at the July 25, 2024, meeting.

Manager Anderson stated that he looked at the Pine Lake-Phase II Project, stating that the project looked good.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LeRoy Ose". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

LeRoy Ose, Secretary