

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
June 28, 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, Terry Sorenson, Allan Page, and Grant Nelson. Managers Absent: Brian Dwight. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Elaine Rychlock, Lindsey Kallis, Tony Olson, Lauren Palmer, Nate Koland, Melissa Bushy and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the June 13, 2024, minutes. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve the June 13, 2024, Board meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated June 27, 2024. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated June 27, 2024, as presented. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed the League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form. Audette stated that this form is unique to the League of Minnesota Cities as it does not waive Liability Coverage but gives you an option to waive the State Liability Limits (Tort Limits) of the \$1.5 million. The State of Minnesota has set their General Liability limit at \$1.5 million, if you "Do Not Waive" then anyone who may sue the District would only have access to the \$1.5 million State Tort limit. If you "Waive" then an individual would have access to full Policy Limits. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson to approve the League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form that does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed the 2024 General Fund as of May 31, 2024.

Staff member Erick Huseth provided an update on maintenance on RLWD Project No. 177, Ditch 16 noting that approximately ½ mile of the ditch had blown in with sediment. Huseth contacted the landowner, who stated that he would like to have the sediment deposited along side the field, and he will level it off once the field has been harvested.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 1 to Houle Excavating for work at the Pine Lake Project Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B in the amount of \$372,898.75. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve Pay Estimate No. 1 to Houle Excavating in the amount of \$372,898.75 for work at the Pine Lake Project Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed an email from NRCS State Conservation Engineer, Dave Jones, regarding Burnham Creek BR-6 Remedial Repair, RLWD Project No. 43A. There is no

commitment necessary from the RLWD. NRCS just wanted to make us aware of the status of potential repair activity. Repair work will be 100% NRCS costs.

At 9:30 a.m., President Tiedemann stated that the bid opening for the Drees/Stock Bank Stabilization Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A would be conducted. Legal Counsel Sparby noted the time and that no further bid proposals would be accepted after the 9:30 a.m. bid submittal deadline. Bids were opened and bid amounts were publicly announced and are on file at the District office. The following bids were received:

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| Geomorphic Restoration | \$299,406.50 |
| MNL | \$446,797.00 |
| Anderson Excavating | \$376,946.00 |
| ACM LLC | \$259,776.94 |
| Pugh Brothers Excavating Inc. | \$529,466.00 |
| Olson Construction TRF Inc. | \$317,205.00 |
| Rigid Excavating | \$386,663.50 |
| Tunheim Construction | \$494,885.00 |
| Taggart Construction | \$347,730.00 |
| Gladen Construction | \$435,701.00 |

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the apparent low bid from ACM LLC (Alderink Construction Masters), in the amount of \$259,776.94 for the Drees/Stock Bank Stabilization Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A, contingent upon the audit by staff and review of the bids and approval by Legal Counsel Sparby, District staff, and Project Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc.

Administrator Audette reviewed the RRWMB Base Funding Request for Water Quality Programs in the amount of \$93,750 to be used for the construction of Drees/Stock Bank Stabilization Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A. Audette stated that the RRWMB Base Funding requires a local match in the amount of \$31,250. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to approve the RRWMB Base Funding request in the amount of \$93,750, with a local match from the District in the amount of \$31,250. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed a quote received from Anderson Excavating for culvert replacement near the intersection of County Road 57 and CSAH12 for the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Staff member Erick Huseh stated that originally this site was an open channel; an 18" side water inlet was installed to allow for access during mowing/maintenance. The quote to replace the existing 18" pipe with a 30"x50" is \$6,933. Huseh stated that the 18" pipe and trap are in good condition, therefore they will be stored for a future project. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Page, to approve Anderson Excavating to complete the replacement of the 18" culvert for the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176 in the amount of \$6,933. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette stated that the RRWMB approved funding of \$214,000 for the Chiefs Coulee Project, RLWD Project No. 46S. Audette has submitted all funding requirements to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, requesting \$106,000 from the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program. Pennington County will hold a Public Hearing on July 9, 2024, at 9:00

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed a permit violation located in Belgium Township, Polk County. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to send a letter requiring the landowner to install the berm by July 17, 2024. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Page, seconded by Anderson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 24052, Scott Tersteeg, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 24064, Al Ste. Marie, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; and No. 24072, Parjim Farmland GP, Poplar River Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed the purchase of a camera for the boardroom for virtual meeting purposes. The Meeting Owl 3 captures 360* video in 1080p HD and 360* audio up to 18'. Automatically focuses on whoever is speaking to foster active collaboration and increased participation, while showing a 360* view of the room. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Page, to approve the purchase of a Meeting Owl 3 camera for the boardroom. Motion carried.

Administrator's Report:

- **Judicial Ditch 1:** Landowner Greg Hilgeman has been in the office several times in recent weeks to discuss the potential of a petition for improvement to JD 1 located in Deer Park Township, Pennington County and Equality Township, Red Lake County. This ditch would be approximately 13 miles in length. Mr. Hilgeman has planned a landowner meeting for July 9th at 9:00 a.m. at the District office. Hilgeman plans to run the meeting, and asked the District to be there for potential questions that he may not be able to answer. Mike Flaagan and Kurt Casavan have been invited to participate in the meeting.
- **City of St. Hilaire and JD 13 flooding:** I received a call from Mike Flaagan, Pennington County Engineer who is receiving calls regarding the ditch/coulee through the City of St. Hilaire and a ditch east of Goodridge, known as JD 13 where a landowner's field is completely underwater after recent events.
- **Little Pine Lake:** I received a call from a USFWS employee who is collaborating with a landowner on some wetland restoration projects located east of Little Pine Lake. He has one area that is approximately 15 acres, near the lake that the landowner would not mind seeing restored to open water.
- **FDRWG Meeting Highlights:** Included in the packet is the FDRWG June 20, 2024, meeting highlights. Take note that the FDRWG added the SD 83 area as a new project team.
- **RLWD Newsletter:** Included in the packet is the first RLWD newsletter created by Lauren, our summer intern.
- **RiverWatch Retreat:** Lindsey has put together a recap of the recent River Watch Retreat held at UMC. They have big hopes for next year.

- **Holiday:** Just a reminder that the District office will be closed on July 4th, along with the office being closed on July 5th, to allow the staff a little extra time to spend with family. Staff will use vacation time for July 5th. I plan to take vacation the entire week but am available by phone if need be.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LeRoy Ose". The signature is written in a cursive style.

LeRoy Ose, Secretary