

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
October 24, 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, Brian Dwight, LeRoy Ose, Grant Nelson, Allan Page, Terry Sorenson and Tom Anderson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Nate Koland, Lindsey Deselich, Erick Huseth, Tony Olson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. Manager Ose requested the addition of being recognized by the President prior to speaking. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Dwight, and passed by a unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda, with addition. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the October 10, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Page, seconded by Nelson, to approve the October 10, 2024, Board meeting minutes, with minor corrections. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the October 17, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the October 17, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated October 23, 2024. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report dated October 23, 2024. Motion carried.

Staff member Elaine Rychlock reviewed the 2024 General Fund as of September 30, 2024.

Staff member Lindsey Deselich discussed the proposed RLWD Pollinator Garden. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Page, to hold off until Spring 2025 to gather more information and research possible grants available for this project. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a request from the Red Lake SWCD for cost share for the construction of a Streambank & Shoreline Protection project on the Cole Nymann property, located in Section 2, Emardville Township, Red Lake County. The project cost was \$46,284.00. The Red Lake County SWCD will be using Clearwater River Watershed Based Implementation funding to fund 90% of this project. The partial payment local match requirement is \$4,628.40. The landowner will be in charge of paying \$1,628.40; if the Red Lake Watershed District approves the \$3,000.00 request. Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to approve the cost share request in the amount of \$3,000.00 for the construction of a Streambank & Shoreline Protection project with the Red Lake SWCD, for the Cole Nymann Project. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a request from the Red Lake SWCD for cost share on the Oak Knolls Lined Waterway Project located on Sections 22 and 23 of Red Lake Falls Township in Red Lake County. The lowest bid on this project is \$154,267.97. The Red Lake County SWCD will be

using Clearwater River Watershed Based Implementation funding to fund 90% of this project. The additional 10% local match requirement for the project is \$15,426.80. The landowner will be responsible for \$4,926.80, if the Red Lake Watershed District approves the \$10,500.00 request. Motion by Ose, seconded by Dwight, to approve the cost share request in the amount of \$10,500.00 for cost share in the Oak Knolls Lined Waterway Project in Red Lake County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 1 to ACM, LLC for the Thief River Streambank Stabilization Project-Drees/Stock Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A in the amount of \$178,432.01. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the payment of Pay Estimate No. 1 to ACM, LLC in the amount of \$178,432.01 for the Thief River Streambank Stabilization Project-Drees/Stock Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette shared the project team meeting summary for the recent Thief River Area Flooding Concerns/SD 83 Meeting held on October 16, 2024.

Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby, presented a Findings of Fact and Order for Turtle Cross Connection Project Hearing, RLWD Project No. 114, that was held on October 17, 2024. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the Findings of Fact and Order for the Turtle Cross Connection Project, RLWD Project No. 114. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed a drainage violation in Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County. Since this is a second violation for not applying for a permit, Olson recommended adhering to the \$500 penalty rule set in the RLWD Rules and Regulations. Motion by Page, seconded by Ose to submit a letter to the landowner in violation of not applying for a RLWD permit to include a \$500 fine. Motion carried. Staff member Tony Olson will send a letter to the landowner.

Staff member, Tony Olson, discussed RLWD Permit No. 23183 in Section 28, Equality Township, Red Lake County. The recommendation was to grant the permit extension request. A motion was made by Page, seconded by Nelson, to approve the permit extension request for RLWD permit no. 23183. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson reviewed an after-the-fact permit No. 24196 located in Section 30, Lambert Township, Red Lake County. Olson stated that this is the landowner's first warning for work without a permit. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve RLWD Permit No. 24196, J-S Farmland Holdings AP, aka Farmland Opportunity LLC, Section 30, Lambert Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 24177, Charles Carlson, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 24180, Robert Coan, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 24184, Wayne Olson, Brandsvold Township, Polk County; No. 24185, Wayne Olson, Brandsvold Township, Polk County; No. 24186, Mike Theis, Brandsvold Township, Polk County; No. 24188, Proulx Brothers, Black River Township, Pennington

County; No. 24193, Donald Strickler, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 24198, Cole Nymann, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; No. 24199, Cole Nymann, Mayfield Township, Pennington County; and No. 24200, Matt Bitter/MnDOT, Emardville Township, Red Lake County. Motion carried.

**Administrator's Update:**

- **Winsor Hangaard, RLWD Project No. 113:** Brushing was recently completed on the Winsor Hangaard Ditch.
- **Black River Impoundment:** District staff found a fair amount of sand deposited in one of the diversion ditches of the Black River Impoundment.
- **State Ditch 83:** Minor sediment removal and bank stabilization will begin next week on State Ditch 83, RLWD Project No. 14.
- **2024 BWSR Academy:** Administrator Audette along with staff members Bushy, Rychlock, Hanson, and Deselich will participate in the BWSR Academy next week.
- **RRWMB Administrator's Meeting:** Administrator Audette participated in a RRWMB Administrator's meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Manager Dwight updated the Board on the hearing held for the Upper/Lower Red Lake Comprehensive Plan, RLWD Project No. 149C. BWSR will hold a hearing on the plan in January 2025, followed by submittal to all the local government units involved for approval.

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



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LeRoy Ose, Secretary