

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
September 12, 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, Terry Sorenson, Brian Dwight, LeRoy Ose, Grant Nelson, Allan Page, and Tom Anderson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Erick Huseth, Tony Olson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the August 22, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, to approve the August 22, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated September 11, 2024. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report dated September 11, 2024. Motion carried.

The 2025 Proposed Special Revenue Project Levies were presented by Administrator Audette and discussed by the Board. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ose, to approve the following Special Revenue Project Levies for 2025. Motion carried.

2024 PAYABLE 2025, PROPOSED RLWD SPECIAL REVENUE PROJECTS

Pjt.#	Project Name	PROPOSED 2025 LEVY
2	Red Lake River	0.00
3	Clearwater River	0.00
4	Lost River	0.00
5	RLWD Ditch No. 1	2,000.00
7	RLWD Ditch No. 3	4,000.00
14	State Ditch 83	50,000.00
20	RLWD Ditch No. 7	9,000.00
35	Pine Lake Maintenance	10,000.00
36	RLWD Ditch No. 8	2,000.00
39	RLWD Ditch No. 9	1,000.00
41A	J.D. No. 100 redetermination	0.00
41B	J.D. No. 101 redetermination	0.00
41AA	J.D. No. 100 maintenance	5,000.00
41BB	J.D. No. 101 maintenance	2,500.00
43B	Burnham Creek	40,000.00
45	Wild Rice Allocation	5,000.00
48	JD 2 Br. A & Br. 1 of A	5,000.00

49	JD 2 Main Upstream Anderson Lake Laterals B & C	2,000.00
51	JD 2 Main (Eck Pet) Downstream Anderson Lake	2,000.00
53	Krostue Petition	5,000.00
101	JD 4	0.00
102	JD 5 (4-Legged Lake)	2,200.00
103	County Ditch 1	0.00
109	Arveson Petition	2,500.00
113	Winsor-Hangaard	8,000.00
115	RLWD Ditch 1 Lat. C	4,000.00
117	Kenneth Johnson Pet.	2,500.00
119	Polk Co. Ditch Improv.	15,000.00
122	Challenger Ditch	1,000.00
123	Scott Baatz Petition	1,400.00
134	Polk Co. Dt. 63	5,000.00
135	Polk Co. Dt. 33	3,000.00
161	RLWD Ditch No. 10	0.00
166	RLWD Ditch No. 11	6,000.00
169	RLWD Ditch No. 12	10,000.00
170A	RLWD Ditch No. 13	2,000.00
171	RLWD Ditch No. 14	13,000.00
171A	TRF FDR Proj.	5,000.00
175	RLWD Ditch No. 15	10,000.00
176A	Black River Diversion	20,000.00
177	RLWD Ditch No. 16	0.00
178A	Thief River Westside	20,000.00
179	Improv. To Polk Co. #39	0.00
	TOTALS	275,100.00

Discussion was held on the repairs to the Knutson Dam, RLWD Project No. 50F. Administrator Audette and Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that they have not heard a starting date from Taggart Contracting, Inc. After considerable discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Page, seconded by Dwight, to send a letter to Troy Taggart, Taggart Contracting, Inc., notifying them that if work has not begun on the repairs to the Knutson Dam, RLWD Project No. 50F, by September 23, 2024, the District will hire an additional contractor to complete said work, with Taggart Construction, Inc. to be responsible for 100% of the repair costs. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Change Order No. 1 to Higher Ground/Paul Zavoral Inc. for the Cardinal Ring Dike Project, RLWD Project No. 129BB in the amount of \$9,144.00. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve Change Order No. 1 to Higher Ground/Paul Zavoral Inc. in the amount of \$9,144.00 for the Cardinal Ring Dike Project, RLWD Project No. 129BB. Motion carried.

Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., shared with the Board Task Order No. 3 for completion of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) in the amount of \$56,100 for the Turtle Connection Cross Lakes Flood Damage Reduction Project. RLWD Project No. 114. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve Task Order No. 3 for the Turtle Connection Cross Lakes Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 114. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to schedule the hearing for the Turtle Connection Cross Lakes Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 114, for October 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Garden Valley Technologies office meeting room, 206 Vance Avenue South, Erskine, MN. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ose, to schedule the Final Payment Hearing for the Pine Lake Project-Phase II, RLWD Project No. 26B for October 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the RLWD office. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette stated that Staff member, Corey Hanson, is working on a Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant Application through the MnDNR for the Huot Bank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149. The estimated project cost is \$655,730, of which a 10% match is required. Audette stated that the CPL Grant would pay for the toe-wood sod mat portion of the project, with the remaining funds paid for through the Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149 funds. The application deadline for the CPL Grant is September 17th at 4:00 p.m. Motion by Page, seconded by Dwight, to approve the CPL Grant Application for the Huot Bank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149, to include a 10% match on behalf of the District. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette stated that Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., estimated the cost of the Lost River Structure Replacement, RLWD Project No. 17, to be just under \$1 million dollars. Audette stated that they had originally planned to apply for a CPL Grant Application, however, with the current estimate, other funding sources should be pursued. Discussion was held on the possibility of approaching the MnDNR to see if additional flood storage within the Lost River Impoundment would be a possibility. Audette will report back to the Board at a future date.

A letter was received from Raymond Zammert requesting that we remove his name from his Land Rental Agreement and replace it with Jaclyn Zammert and Andy Zammert. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the proposed changes to the Raymond Zammert Land Rental Agreement. Motion carried. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that Raymond Zammert should also submit a release to the District for the land rental.

Staff member, Tony Olson, presented pictures and discussed RLWD Project No. 174, Chuck Flage Erosion Control. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve a temporary repair and installation of a trash rack until it can be better addressed in the Spring. Motion carried.

Staff member, Tony Olson, presented pictures and discussed some unpermitted ditching that has occurred in Section 9, Bygland Township, Polk County. A motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by Nelson, for Olson to send the landowner a letter notifying him of a written warning and instructing the landowner to make application for an after the fact permit. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Page, seconded by Anderson, to approve the withdrawal of RLWD Permit No. 24131, Gervais Township, Red Lake County, as requested. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 24089, Randy Lee, Badger Township, Polk County; No. 24099, Joel Gasper, Polk Centre Township, Pennington County; No. 24108, Earl Pederson, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 24110, Peter Mosbeck, Polk Centre Township, Pennington County; No. 24118, Morris Grosz, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 24121, Paul Lofberg, Smiley Township, Pennington County; No. 24127, Don Klein, Fisher Township, Polk County; No. 24128, Meribeth Stock, Emarville Township, Red Lake County; No. 24129, Pennington County Highway Department, Star Township, Pennington County; 24130, Pennington County Highway Department, Numedal Township, Pennington County; No. 24132, Randy Myhre, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 24134, Caleb Baird, Emarville Township, Red Lake County; No. 24138, Ken Kalsnes, Bray Township, Pennington County; No. 24139, MnDOT, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 24140, Kathi Jenkins, Reiner Township, Pennington County; No. 24143, USFWS, Dudley Township, Clearwater County; and No. 24152, Randy Barth, Silverton Township, Pennington County. Motion carried.

The FDRWG is sponsoring an invitation only training event this Fall at the RLWD office. This training will offer skills enhancement to regular participants in the Red River Basin “Project Team Process” who have the interest and aptitude to provide leadership within project teams. The FDRWG training dates are October 29, October 30, November 20 and November 22. If any of the board members have an interest in attending, please let Administrator Audette know.

Staff member, Melissa Bushy, announced there will be flu shots available at the RLWD office before the board meeting on September 26, 2024. Bushy emailed the Board the link to register for an appointment slot.

Administrators Update:

- **Thief River Bank Stabilization Project (Drees-Stock Sites):** River levels are still too high for construction of the three bank stabilization projects on the Thief River. The contractor did move in some equipment this past Monday with the hopes of completing some clearing.
- **Boundary Change:** No written comments were received for the proposed boundary change between the RLWD and the Sandhill River Watershed District. This item was on the agenda for the BWSR Northern Region Committee meeting on September 4th and last week’s BWSR meeting.

- **FEMA flood plain mapping:** Included in the packet is information on the FEMA Grant for Flood Mapping/Modeling in rural areas of the Minnesota's Red River Basin. The RRWMB/Red River Basin FDR has been awarded a grant up to \$1 million to develop flood inundation mapping and modeling. The grant period is for three years. More information to follow.
- **Good Lake:** The District was informed of the need to remove beavers and a beaver dam on the Good Lake Project that was causing downstream flooding. District staff will also be monitoring mowing of the dike.
- **Pine Lake:** District staff found a beaver dam at the outlet of the Pine Lake. A local trapper was contacted.
- **One Watershed One Plan Program Update:** Included in the packet is correspondence from BWSR giving an update on One Water, One Plan Planning efforts throughout the state.
- **Cyber Security Training Program:** Updates are needed on the Board members' Surface Pros. Staff member, Melissa Bushy, will update the Board.

Manager Dwight shared that the comment period for the Upper/Lower Red Lake 1W1P ends September 30th.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary