

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
March 13, 2025

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

Present: Managers: Gene Tiedemann, Tom Anderson, Brian Dwight, Grant Nelson, LeRoy Ose, and Allan Page; Terry Sorenson participated via Zoom, but did not deliberate or vote on any motions. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Erick Huseh, Tony Olson, Corey Hanson, Lindsey Deselich, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the February 27, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the February 27, 2025, Board meeting minutes, with correction. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated March 12, 2025. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the Financial Report dated March 12, 2025. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed the financial donation request from West Polk SWCD for the Area I Envirothon on April 30, 2025, at Rydell Refuge in Erskine, MN. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ose, to approve the requested max donation of \$300 to the West Polk SWCD for the Area 1 Envirothon. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed the Client Services Agreement with Houston Engineering, Inc. for RLWD Project No. 149B, Thief River Streambank Stabilization Projects (3 sites). Motion by Anderson, seconded by Page, to approve the Client Services Agreement with Houston Engineering, Inc. for the Thief River Streambank Stabilization Projects, RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Bid Opening date for the Huot Streambank Project, RLWD Project No. 149. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to set the Bid Opening date for the Huot Streambank Project, RLWD Project No. 149 for April 10, 2025, at 9:30 am. Motion carried.

The Board discussed Rural Flood Mapping and reviewed a map outlining potential project areas.

Administrator Audette discussed Polk County's recent request regarding a joint effort between the District and Polk County for the potential of redetermination of benefits on legal drainage ditches located in Polk County. Staff member Huseh shared information with the Board outlining our ditch systems showing miles and the benefitted amount.

Administrator Audette provided an update related to a proposal by a member watershed district to fund a local culvert inventory. The culvert inventory would update culvert-related information collected previously by watershed districts. The required match from each district would be 25 percent. Audette will continue to keep the board updated on this.

Administrator Audette reviewed the request for a letter of support from Pheasants Forever. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to approve the request from Pheasants Forever. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed a proposal with the board relating to an LCCMR Grant for the Keep It Clean Campaign. The Campaign is proposing a cost share contract and requesting that the District be their fiscal agent. A letter of support was requested by Manager Dwight. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve submitting a letter of support for an LCCMR Grant for the Keep It Clean Campaign, authorizing the District to be the fiscal agent if the grant is received, with Manager Dwight abstaining from motion discussion and vote. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette gave an overview on the Red River Basin Riparian Habitat Program. The program's goal is to permanently protect, restore, and enhance riparian habitat along priority stream reaches within the Red River Basin. The current priority projects are: Swift Coulee Channel Restoration, Lower Wild Rice Corridor Habitat Restoration, and Doran Creek Stream Rehabilitation.

Staff member, Melissa Bushy, presented a proposal from Streamline Media for website redesign, migration and hosting. Bushy highlighted some of the many available features with Streamline Media which included: a user-friendly platform, ADA compliance, and the ability to migrate two current websites into one. Streamline Media will handle all the content transfer with a 60–90-day migration timeline while our current website remaining live throughout the migration period. Bushy shared the names of other District's in the Minnesota who currently use Streamline Media for website hosting. The proposal would consist of \$2,500 to transfer all the information from the old website to the new site; and \$350 per month for hosting and maintenance. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Nelson, to approve the proposal from Streamline Media for development of a new District website. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reminded the Board that there will be a special meeting of the Minnesota Watersheds' membership held on Friday, March 21 at the Park Event Center in Waite Park, MN.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to adjourn to the March 17<sup>th</sup> RLWD Advisory Board Committee meeting at the RLWD office beginning at 9:30 am. Motion carried.



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LeRoy Ose, Secretary