

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Managers Minutes
June 25, 2026

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, Tom Anderson, Terry Sorenson, Grant Nelson, Al Page, LeRoy Ose, and Brian Dwight. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Erick Huseeth, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby attended virtually.

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

The Board reviewed the June 11, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the June 11, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of June 24, 2026. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report as of June 24, 2026. Motion carried.

Staff member Elaine Rychlock presented information regarding the renewal of the District's League of Minnesota Cities Property and Casual Coverage policy. Rychlock informed the board that upon the latest assessment the value of the main building had gone up from \$1,066,898 to \$1,407,900. Because of this they will notice a slight increase in the premium. It was also advised to consider increasing the Cyber security premium from \$250,000 to \$500,000 for an additional premium charge of approximately \$600 to \$1200 more. Rychlock further discussed the monetary limits on municipal tort liability. After much discussion, a motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Nelson, to renew the regular premium limit and increase the cyber security premium to \$500,000; and to choose DO NOT WAIVE the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minn. Stat. 466.04 and renew the *REGULAR PREMIUM option. Motion carried.

Staff member Elaine Rychlock reviewed the League of Minnesota Cities Group Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Plan Notice of Premium Options for Standard Premiums of less than \$25,000. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the League of Minnesota Cities Workers' Compensation Plan Notice of Premium in the amount of \$2,623. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette stated that the Phase 2 Lessard Sam Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) Funding application for Mud River, RLWD Project No. 180C had been submitted.

Administrator Audette shared that the Red Lake River Planning Partnership, on behalf of the members, has submitted the Red Lake River Comprehensive Management Plan for final review. Prior to this submittal, a review period was held from February 13, 2026, to April 15, 2026, to gather comments, and a public hearing was held on April 30, 2026.

The Board reviewed Change Order No. 5 for Chief's Coulee, RLWD Project No. 46S for a net increase in the amount of \$9,412.00. After much discussion on the amount, a motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Nelson to table this item for further clarification on the change order amount. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Nelson, to schedule the Final Payment Hearing for the Chief's Coulee, RLWD Project No. 46S for July 23, 2026, at 9:15 a.m. at the RLWD office. Motion carried.

At 9:15 a.m., President Tiedemann stated that the bid opening for the construction of the Clearwater River Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149B would be conducted. Legal Counsel Sparby noted the time and that no further bid proposals would be accepted after the 9:15 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:

Minnesota Native Landscapes, Otsego, MN, \$1,349,027.00;
Northern Harbor LLC, Walker, MN, \$905,103.00;
Tunheim Construction, Fargo, ND, Mahnomen, MN, \$959,783.18;
LP Contracting LLC, Leonard, MN, \$519,718.73; and
Anderson Excavating, Thief River Falls, MN, \$897,705.13.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Sorenson, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the apparent low bid from LP Contracting LLC in the amount of \$519,718.73 for construction of the Clearwater River Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149B, 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.

At 9:30 a.m., President Tiedemann recessed the regular meeting and called the Polk County Ditch 39 Improvement Final Hearing, RLWD Project No. 179, to order. President Tiedemann then turned the Hearing over to Legal Counsel Sparby who noted that proper notice had been provided to landowners within the Polk County Ditch 39 and County Ditch 66 benefitted areas, together with appropriate governmental subdivisions, including Polk County and affected Township(s). Engineer Jerry Pribula and Viewer Rob Wagner presented the respective updated Engineer's estimate and updated Viewers' Report of Benefits and Damages. President Tiedemann opened the hearing to the public for any comments or questions. Upon public comment being had and upon receiving no further comments, President Tiedemann asked for a motion to close the Hearing. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Dwight, to close the hearing in regard to the amendments to the Engineer's Estimate and updated Viewers' Report for the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179. Motion carried. President Tiedeman called the regular meeting back to order. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve the amended Engineers estimate and updated Viewers Report, as presented and filed with the Board, for the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179. Motion carried. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to order the Engineer, to prepare the Plans and Specifications for construction of the Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39, RLWD Project No. 179. Motion carried.

Due to the meeting running late, the RRWMB and Park Street Public will participate at a later meeting date.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 2/Final to Davidson Construction for the JD 2/Branch A Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 48 in the amount of \$6,500.00. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the payment of Pay Estimate No. 2/Final to Davidson Construction in the amount of \$6,500.00 for the JD 2/Branch A Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 48. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 2/Final to Davidson Construction for the Moose River/JD 21 Channel Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149A in the amount of \$8,012.50. Motion by Page, seconded by Nelson, to approve the payment of Pay Estimate No. 2/Final to Davidson Construction in the amount of \$8,012.50.00 for the Moose River/JD 21 Channel Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed RLWD Project No. 114, Turtle Cross Connection Lakes.

Administrator Audette and HEI Engineer Tony Nordby discussed the recent State Ditch 83 Thief River Area Flooding Concerns Project Team meeting that was held on June 17, 2026.

The Board reviewed the following permits for approval. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 26016, Kyle Jore, Lessor Township, Polk County; and No. 20556, Mark Nelson, Lambert Township, Red Lake County.

Administrator Audette discussed the possibility of having a RLWD Summer Bus Tour for our Board to visit some of our active project sites.

Administrator's Report:

- **Polk/Red Lake County Legal Ditches:** Included in the packet is a meeting notice for Ditch Redetermination for Polk and Red Lake County Joint Ditches. The meeting will be held on July 9, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the Red Lake Falls Community Hall.
- **River Watch Retreat:** The River Watch Retreat was held this week from Tuesday-Thursday.
- **RRWMB:** Included in the packet is a letter from the RRWMB to the Minnesota Plumbing Board regarding regulation to reuse stormwater.
- **Middle Snake Tamarac WD Groundbreaking:** The RLWD will be the host office for the MSTRWD Nelson-Coulee Groundbreaking ceremony on June 30th.
- **Drainage Work Group:** Included in the packet are the June 11, 2026, Drainage Work Group meeting notes.
- **Grygla Flood Control:** Audette participated in a Teams meeting regarding the Grygla Flood Control Project with individuals from the City of Grygla, Moore Engineering, NRCS, and Baird Associates
- **Vacation:** Administrator Audette plans to take vacation the week of June 29th.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LeRoy Ose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large "L" and "O".

LeRoy Ose, Secretary