RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Managers Minutes
November 12, 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, Brian Dwight, Terry Sorenson, LeRoy Ose, Al Page, and Grant Nelson. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Tony Olson, and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby.

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

The Board reviewed the October 22, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the October 22, 2026, Board meeting minutes, with corrections as noted. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of November 10, 2026. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Nelson, to approve the Financial Report as of November 10, 2026. Motion carried.

Staff members Audette and Rychlock reviewed the 2026 General Fund as of September 30, 2026.

Staff member Elaine Rychlock reviewed the current Certificate of Deposit rates for Dakota Heritage Bank, Northern State Bank of Thief River Falls, Edward Jones, Ultima Bank MN, and American Federal Bank-Fosston. Rychlock noted that we have one Dakota Heritage Bank Certificate of Deposit maturing on November 12, 2026, and two Certificate of Deposits with Ultima Bank MN also maturing in late November 2026. A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve re-investing the Certificate of Deposit that matures on November 12, 2026, with Edward Jones for nine months at the current interest rate of 4.55%. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed the December 24, 2026, Board meeting date. Audette recommended the December 24th meeting, which is Christmas Eve, be moved to December 30, 2026. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve moving the December 24, 2026, Board meeting to December 30, 2026, at 9:00 am at the watershed district office Board Room. Motion carried.

The final payment hearing for Northern Harbor, LLC for the Thief River 1W1P, Thief River Streambank 2026 Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A, was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Engineer, Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that Northern Harbor, LLC has completed all construction in the final amount of $42,333.25. After opening the hearing for public comment and no public comment being received, President Gene Tiedemann closed the hearing. Motion by Page, seconded by Nelson, to approve the Final Pay Estimate to Northern Harbor, LLC in the

amount of $42,333.25 for the Thief River 1W1P, Thief River Streambank 2026 Sites, RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Pay Estimate No. 4 for the Clearwater River Bank Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149B, Clearwater 1W1P, in the amount of $119,071.88, to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ose, to approve Pay Estimate No. 4, in the amount of $119,071.88, for the Clearwater River Bank Stabilization, RLWD Project No. 149B, Clearwater 1W1P, to Quality Spray Foam LLC dba Anderson Excavating. Motion carried.

Staff member Corey Hanson discussed the 2027 Thief River Streambank Stabilization Whiteford Township Project, RLWD Project No. 149A, noting that this site is north of State Ditch 83, RLWD Project No. 14. Motion by Ose, seconded by Grant, to request an engineering cost estimate from Houston Engineering, Inc., for the design of the 2027 Whiteford Township Thief River Bank Stabilization Project, RLWD Project No. 149A. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed a revised land rental agreement for the Euclid East Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60C, noting a change in landownership for one individual. A motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the proposed changes to the Zammert Land Rental Agreement to properly reflect ownership change. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed photos of maintenance on the Burnham Creek Project, RLWD Project No. 43B. Work was completed by Lyle Wilkens, Inc., with the remainder of the work to be completed in the Spring of 2027.

RLWD Project No. 179, Improvement to Polk County Ditch 39 was discussed. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2026, at 10:00 am. The utilities have been moved. Administrator Audette discussed a landowner within the project area who is concerned about trees he will be losing that are within the right-of-way, but in the front of his home. After much discussion, a motion was made by Dwight, seconded by Sorenson, to offer a cash payment in the amount of $3,000 to the landowner for the loss of trees Motion carried.

Administrator Audette reviewed the NRCS Preliminary Investigation Findings Report (PIFR) for the City of Grygla FDR, RLWD Project No. 183.

Administrator Audette discussed RLWD Project No. 114, Turtle Connection Cross Lakes FDR Project, regarding items to move forward on the project. Engineer Nate Dalager and Audette will meet with MnDNR officials regarding court ordered lake elevations.

Administrator Audette discussed the Houston Avenue Project in Crookston and the recent meeting that was held with local legislators, City of Crookston and affected landowners and the need for cost estimates for home buyouts, removal of the homes and bank stabilization. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ose, to authorize Houston Engineering, Inc. to determine a potential cost associated with stabilization of the Houston Avenue Project located within the City of Crookston. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed RLWD Project No. 184, Improvement to Judicial Ditch 1. There will be a Joint Ditch meeting this afternoon at the Pennington County Justice Center. Audette plans to attend the meeting as discussion on the potential of redetermination of benefits for the remaining ditch that is not being improved will be discussed. Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, discussed the preliminary engineer's report and setting the date for the preliminary hearing. After much discussion, a motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the submission of the Preliminary Engineer's Report for the Improvement to Judicial Ditch 1, RLWD Project No. 184 to the MnDNR and MnBWSR and schedule the preliminary hearing for the Improvement to Judicial Ditch 1, RLWD Project 184 for December 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office. Motion carried.

Staff member Tony Olson discussed the lowering of a culvert and ditch cleaning on the Winsor-Hangaard Project, RLWD Project No. 113. After much discussion, a motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Sorenson, to table the item for further review. Motion carried with Manager Anderson abstaining.

RLWD permit no. 26106 was discussed. The proposed work is in Section 19, River Falls Township, in Pennington County. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Nelson, to withdraw RLWD permit no. 26106. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the following permits for approval. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Dwight, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 26110, Jared Peterick, North Township, Pennington County; No. 26139, Red Lake County Highway Dept., Browns Creek Township, Red Lake County; No. 26140, Brad Berg, Thief Lake Township, Marshall County; No. 26143, Ted Bowen, Emardville Township, Red Lake County; and No. 26149, Clearwater County Highway Dept., Eddy Township, Clearwater County.

Administrator Audette requested approval for the purchase of 31 River Watch jackets in the amount of $1,564 for the students who participate in the River Watch program. A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the purchase of the jackets for the participating students in the amount of $1,564. Motion carried. Manager Page abstained from the discussion and vote.

Administrator discussed purchasing apparel and accessory items that include our new logo. Discussion was held on how much clothing allowance for each staff/Board member. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve a limit of up to $200 for each staff and board member. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette provided an update on the proposed 1W1P Coordinator position that would be shared with Clearwater, Red Lake River, and Thief River 1W1P's.

Administrator Audette presented the MN Paid Leave policy recommendations that were reviewed and recommended after meeting with the Budget and Salary Committee. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson, to approve the policy as updated specific to the RLWD, with insertion of the MN Paid Leave policy into the District's Policy Handbook. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette shared the upcoming dates for the 2026 MN Watersheds Annual Conference and Trade Show. The conference will be held December 2-4, 2026, in Nisswa, MN, at Grand View Lodge. Board members who are interested in attending, are directed to please let staff member Bushy know.

Administrator's Report:

- Audette updated the Board on the status of the Mud River Project
- Audette will be working on phone calls to landowners along Ditch 20

Legal Counsel Sparby asked the Board of Managers to review the handout on Eminent Domain that is included in the packet.

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



LeRoy Ose, Secretary