

LOWER RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD

CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA 56716

Donald Ogaard, Ada, President
Iner Quern, Oslo, Vice-President
Olaf Soine, Crookston, Secretary
Roger Ward, St. Vincent, Treasurer

Clifford Trangersrud, Badger, Manager
Daniel Wilkens, Fertile Manager
Harley Younggren, Hallock, Manager

MEETING

Lower Red River Watershed Management Board
April 25, 1978

The Lower Red River Watershed Board met on April 25, 1978, at the Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston, Minnesota, at 8:00 p.m. President Ogaard called the meeting to order.

Members present were Don Ogaard, Olaf Soine, Clifford Trangerud, Dan Wilkens, Roger Ward and Harley Younggren. Absent was Einer Quern.

The minutes of the March 9, 1978 meeting were corrected to read present Rolland Gulleckson, Alternate from Sand Hill Watershed District for Dan Wilkens. In the 8th paragraph, the correct spelling for the Middle River-Snake River Watershed was made.

The minutes of the March 9, 1978 meeting were approved with the above corrections

Manager Ogaard stated that the 1978 Legislature passed a new law making it a misdemeanor to construct a new ditch without a permit from the Watershed. The Watersheds should change their rules and regulations to include this new law.

Manager Ogaard reported on the flood damage in Norman County and in the Wild Rice Watershed. He stated that 85 culverts had been washed out in the Wild Rice Watershed. Norman County has been declared a disaster area 14 times during the last 20 years. The 1978 flood caused a 3⁰ million dollar loss in the Minnesota and North Dakota Red River Valley area.

The main reasons for these disastrous floods are:

1. Greatly improved farm drainage 10-15 miles out from the Red River.
2. Improved drop structures in the next 10-15 mile reach.
3. Clearing and improving land.
4. Draining wet lands.

Manager Ogaard stated that Rep. Stangeland asked him what needs to be done in the Red River Valley to control flooding? The Board gave the following methods of control:

1. Change in Watershed management of water.
2. Eliminate 24 hour holding of flood waters in county ditches.
3. State D.N.R. land in the headwaters of the rivers, streams and ditches should be managed for water retention on equal basis as game and wildlife management.
- k. The free drainage of uplands unto lower land must be stopped.
5. Determine the volume of flood waters the Red River can accommodate and plan to hold back the excess and release after flood has passed.
6. Plan to speed up floodwaters from Wild Rice, Red Lake Rivers and other small tributaries before main stem flow of Red River of the north.
7. Compensate farmers for land taken for water retention sites.

According to Manager Ogaard the Wild Rice Watershed had a 30 million dollar loss the 1978 flood.

Manager Soine presented the 3rd step evaluation for the Baird-Beyer project in Red Lake County. All the land rights have been obtained, the final engineering plane will be ready in the near future and bids will be ready in the last part of May.

The following funding has been obtained1 \$25t000 Red Lake County A.S.C.S.
\$50,000 State of Minnesota A.S.C.S.

The total project will cost approximately \$120,000 after the amount of maintenance and some engineering costs.

Manager Ward moved, and Manager Soine seconded and duly passed that the Lower Ret River Watershed Board will pay one-half (1/2)of the amount above \$75,000 and the amount of the accepted low bid price, but not more than 10\$ over estimated bid amount.

Manager Soine presented the ELm Lake Wild Life D.N.R. proposed project. This is a diked four-square-mile area which has a drainage area of 38 square miles. By raising the dikes and outlet structure one foot and modifying the inlet, additional storage of 4,000 acre ft. can be obtained. The estimated cost is \$70,000.

Manager Wilkens moved and Manager Younggren seconded and duly passed that the EL Lake Wild Life Project be moved to Step 2, page 7 in the Project Evaluation Manu;

Manager Younggren gave a short review of the Two Rivers Watershed project. The cost varies from \$240,000 estimate made by the County Engineer to \$340,000 estimate by the Area Office Soil Conservation Service at Thief River Falls. The monies pledged to date are \$60,000 L.C.M.R. and \$50,000 from the D.N.R. Roseau County may pled, from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

The Board discussed small projects on individual farms but no definite policy was formulated. The Board members wanted to study these projects before making any definite commitments.

Manager Ogaard stated that \$10,000 can be spent on preliminary planning of a project.

A motion was made by Manager Soine, seconded by Manager Wilkens and duly passed to pay the following bills 1

Don Ogaard	\$136.50
Olaf Soine	357.99
Clifford Trangerud	199.50
Roger Ward	186.00
Daniel Wilkens	124.80
Harley Younggren	172.50

Roger Ward gave the treasurer's report which is given on Exhibit A.

A motion to adjourn was duly made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Olaf C. Soine, Secretary