

*Lower Red River Watershed Management Board*

MEETING  
March 19, 1991

The Lower Red River Watershed Management Board met on Tuesday, March 19, 1991, at 9:30 A.M. at the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District office, Barnesville, Minnesota.

Chairman Ogaard called the meeting to order.

Members present were:

Don Ogaard	Roger Ward
Arnold Person	Ron Osowski
Curtis Nelson	Richard Bowen
Dan Wilkens	Harley Younggren

Others present were:

Gene Ueland, Wild Rice WSD Omar Rood, JOR  
Engineering Kevin Adolfs, Engineer, Red Lake WSD  
Rick St. Germain, Engineer, Houston Engineering  
Jon Roeschlien, Administrator, Bois de Sioux WSD  
Dan Thul, Coordinator, RRWMB  
Richard Kuzel, Middle River-Snake River WSD X  
Eugene Mattsen, International Coalition  
Roland Gullekson, Sand Hill WSD  
Bruce Albright, Administrator, Buffalo Red River WSD  
Ron Adrian, Engineer, Middle River-Snake River WSD  
Aubrey Thomas, Buffalo-Red River WSD Roger Ellefsen,  
Buffalo-Red River WSD Julie Goehring, The  
International Coalition

The Secretary's Report was read and approved with minor changes; motion by Manager Ward and seconded by Manager Osowski.

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved upon motion by Manager Person and seconded by Manager Nelson. It was noted that all stream gage obligations have been paid except for the Two Rivers which owes \$905.00.

The Chairman passed out copies of the proposed legislative bill dealing with expanding the Counties in which member Districts can levee for LRRWMB funds. The bill also drops "LOWER" from the name and changes the wording on the types of activities for which funds can be expended.

On motion by Manager Person, seconded by Manager Bowen, to authorize Dan Wilkens, Ron Osowski and Lowell Enerson to represent the LRRWMB at the legislative hearings and to authorize payment of expenditures for same, duly carried.

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The Chairman reported that the annual conference held on March 15th and 16th at Thief River Falls, MN, was once again well received. It was suggested that the conference be held on a Thursday and Friday next year. The chairman will appoint a committee for planning next year's conference at a later date. On motion by Manager Nelson, seconded by Manager Osowski, to hold the 1992 conference on March 12th and 13th, 1992, at the Best Western Motel in Thief River Falls, duly carried.

The Chairman inquired what value the Board would place on preparing a professional video on the LRRWMB for the member Districts' use. On motion by Manager Osowski, seconded by Manager Wilkens, for the Chairman to get two proposals on preparing a video for presentation, duly carried.

Eugene Mattson, who is on the Water Retention Task Force of the International Coalition, presented their position on water retention.

The Chairman presented a letter that he had written to Ron Nargang of the DNR in St. Paul, MN. The letter basically was on the working relationship and understanding of problems between local initiatives and State response.

It was moved by Manager Ward, seconded by Manager Person, and duly carried, that the letter, as written, be sent to Ron Nargang.

#### Dan Thul Report

Dan reported on the LCMR project to digitize the National Wetlands Inventory. The project will digitize the inventory as it was developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They utilized 1980 and 1982 air photography. The inventory is based on U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service wetland classification system vs. type 1 through 8 wetlands used by the State. The inventory does not include completely drained wetlands but does include partially drained wetlands where a remnant wetland remains.

Dan has requested written feedback on the STAR value method from the Technical Committee. A letter to the Sand Hill Watershed District requesting the opportunity to review the operating plan for the Winger Dam was sent. There was a motion presented by Manager Bowen, seconded by Manager Person and duly carried, authorizing the Technical Committee to meet with the retention committee to finalize the STAR value method and to work with the Sand Hill Watershed District on the Winger Dam operational plan.

Bruce Albright, Administrator of the Buffalo-Red River gave a presentation about the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District.

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DISTRICT REPORTS:

Wild Rice Watershed District

Project #11 progressing with signing of easements; Annual Reports completed; tree removal from main river channels completed; video of District activities developed; and four managers attended the LRRWMB conference.

Red Lake Watershed District

The Managers participated in their annual legislative trip to St. Paul; working on recapturing \$185,777 from Homestead Agricultural Credit; legislation change dealing with the Good Lake Project expected to pass; the MPCA Clearwater River Nonpoint Study is progressing; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers scheduled to meet with Watershed District to review reconnaissance study on Red Lake and Clearwater Rivers; and the Board is coordinating with the Corps of Engineers on bank stabilization projects.

Buffalo-Red River Watershed District

Awaiting DNR response on and permit for mitigation on the Buffalo River Project #9-Donley; the Board has verbal commitment from USFWS for reimbursement of funds expended on wetland restoration outside the District boundary; and the appeal for 1990 HACA payment was denied so the Board has contacted local legislators to draft a bill for reimbursement.

Sand Hill Watershed District

Has installed the Small Cities and Towns Accounting Program; MPCA has accepted the Water Quality assessments and will issue a decision; the Board has reacted to a request by DNR to revive the Maple Creek Project; and Pat Bloomgren, MPCA, toured the Winger Dam Site and met with community residents.

Two Rivers Watershed District

Have purchased 480 acres of land in the Juneberry area. The Nereson Project will be presented at the next meeting for a revised Step II approval.

Step Procedure

Red Lake Watershed District: Parnell Project #81

The project will detain floodwater and provide a wetland wildlife area. It has a drainage area of 12.6 square miles, with gated storage of 3,843 acre-feet. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,185,600.00. The District proposes to obtain

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wildlife funding either through the Minnesota DNR or through the Minnesota DOT mitigation program for at least the expected cost of land \$360,000.00. Flood control cost would then be \$825,000.00, with the Red Lake Watershed District cost being \$275,000.00 and the LRRWMB share being \$550,400.00.

Middle River-Snake River Watershed District: Watershed  
District Project #2-Mar«sh Impoundment

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The primary purpose of the project is flood control. The drainage area is approximately 207 square miles with gated storage of 1,360 acre-feet. The estimated cost of the project is \$614,600.00.

The LRRWMB will schedule a visit of both projects at their May meeting. .

The amount of the Treasurer's bond was discussed. It was decided that the bond should be adequate with the procedures we have in place.

The chairman presented a letter from the Water Planning Technician in Clay County requesting assistance in the digitizing of the Clay County survey. In discussion it was related that some counties have completed their surveys, others are just starting and some have no intention of doing anything. It was decided that we should not fund one without funding all.

On motion by Manager Osowski, seconded by Manager Person, to deny funding to Clay County for the digitization of Clay County Soil Survey, duly carried.

The Chairman will be the delegate from the LRRWMB to meet with the Bois de Sioux Watershed District.

Upon motion, seconded and duly carried, the following bills were ordered paid:

Ye Ole Print Shoppe - Disbursement Vouchers	99.7
Norman County Index, Ada - 500 Annual Reports	599.0
Best Western Motel, Thief River Falls Conference	1,337.9
Loren Harste - Conference	140.1
Clifford Aschinger - Conference	208.5
Jon Roeschlien - Computer Assistance	191.1
Ron Osowski	892.1
Richard Bowen	457.4
Arnold Person	546.5
Don Ogaard	601.9
Dan Wilkens	1,889.4

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Harley Younggren	362.01
Roger Ward	359.00
Curtis Nelson	268.70
Eagle Cafe, Barnesville - noon meal	95.00
JOR Engineering - Technical Committee	255.00
Richard Kuzel	58.25

The next meeting will be held on the call of the Chairman.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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E. Harley Younggren, Secretary