

RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD
NOVEMBER 19, 1991

The Red River Watershed Management Board met on Tuesday, November 19, 1991 at 9:30 a.m. at the Sand Hill Watershed District office, Fertile, Minnesota.

Chairman Don Ogaard called the meeting to order.

Members present were:

Curtis Nelson	Ron Osowski
Don Ogaard	Roger Ward
Arnold Person	Rudee Anderson
Dan Wilkens	Robert Severson

Other present were:

Dan Thul, Red River Coordinator
George Orning, T.I.C.
Lance Yohe, T.I.C.
Steve Mikkelson, T.I.C.
Rolland Gullekson, Sand Hill WSD
Gene Ueland, Wild Rice WSD
Verner Arveson, Red Lake WSD
Gerhard Ross, Red Lake WSD
Lowell Enerson, Administrator, Red Lake WSD
Ron Adrian, Engineer, Middle River-Snake River WSD
Rick St. Germain, Houston Engineering
Omar Rood, J.O.R. Engineering

Minutes of the September 17, 1991, meeting were read and approved with minor corrections.

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Dan Wilkens presented a revised draft of the Red River Watershed Management Board Investment Policy. A number of changes were made. A motion by Manager Nelson, seconded by Manager Person to adopt the revised Policy with the changes made, duly carried.

A motion by Manager Person, seconded by Manager Osowski was approved directing the Treasurer to contact at least two Auditing firms for bids to conduct the Board's Annual Audit.

There was discussion as to if the member Districts should submit a breakdown of funds collected: dilinquent, current, and HACA. It was decided to wait and see what the needs are after the annual audit has been completed.

Dan Thul and Ron Adrian presented a request for funding. The Corps, of Engineers is developing a new mainstem model for the Red River between Grand Forks and the Canadian Border with emphasis between Grand Forks and Drayton. There is a need to collect additional survey data in the form of tributary X-sections on the Grand Marais, Tamarac River and a number of ditch systems. The MRSR WSD would conduct the survey work and submit it to the Corps of Engineers. The State of Minnesota Flood Damage Reduction Cost Share Program will cover 50% of costs. (\$8,000 total cost estimate.) A discussion on the merits of the modeling effort and data acquisition followed. A motion by Manager Osowski, seconded by Manager Person was approved to cost share for the survey work in the amount of \$4,000.

Lance Yohe from the International Coalition updated the Board on the current status of the Land use update, the HEC/GIS modeling effort, and training on the EPPL 7 program.

Land Use: T.I.C. is finishing the northern portion of the State. There have been some problems with transferring data to Limic. T.I.C. is committed to work with the Board and member Districts to make the data accessible and useable.

HEC/GIS: A software program has been developed which utilizes the GIS data to compute HEC values needed to run the HEC runoff model.

EPPL 7 Training: T.I.C. has been working with Alexandria Vo-Tech and Bemidji State to provide basic training of the EPPL 7 GIS program. Lance wants to develop a user's group once the basic training is completed.

George Orning discussed how GIS should be a tool in Water management. He discussed that the Land Use Data is public information and that there is a strong need to get the information out and used. The International Coalition is making the data available in two ways.

Hand drawn products of the quadrangle maps showing land use. This is available either as a blueline print (\$4); a brownline Sepia which can be reproduced (\$10); or a computer printout map.

Digital output on computer disc, useable on either EPPL 7, Tydac, or CAD systems at \$35/quadrangle.

George also discussed the Wetland issues they are investigating. They have grouped the U.S. Fish and Wildlife system into 26 general classes. He feels that GIS may be used to identify spacial related values of wetlands.

Lance passed out the most recent publications by T.I.C. in response to funding provided by the Red River Watershed Management Board. The "Messenger" will be published monthly and will provide for local ties between Watershed District, Counties, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The "Manager" will submit Board issues to the grassroots membership within Minnesota with a section aimed at requesting public input back to the Board on issues. This publication will be sent out six times/year.

District Reports

Red Lake WSD - Lowell showed a VCR video produced for the District outlining their water resource activities.

The District has not billed for work on the Good Lake Project since final agreements have not been received from the BIA.

The District is attempting to expand the Clearwater Nonpoint Study to include nine additional sites for pesticide testing at an additional cost of \$29,900.

The Maple Lake Project continues to move at an extremely slow pace.

The erosion projects with the local SWCD's are progressing well with more funding needed on the State level.

Wild Rice WSD - The District has passed a resolution requesting the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts to assist the Wild Rice Watershed District in getting legislative approval of a special fund capability above the present limit of \$125,000, not to exceed \$200,000 annually. The funds would be used for "works of common benefit" and would give the Watershed District the capability of raising the local cost share dollars needed to participate in the Corps, of Engineers Section 205 initiatives.

In addition, the District is developing an action oriented plan that will result in the protection and enhancement of the channels, the floodplain, and specific activities of the District.

Buffalo - Red River WSD - the District met with the Corps, of Engineers on November 6, 1991 to review data and concerns on the Buffalo-Red River Flood Control Site No. 1 (formerly the Donley Project). The District is planning to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to identify possible mitigation sites.

Two major log jams on the Red River in South Moorhead were removed so as not to cause major flooding during a flood. Costs of the project are expected to be \$20,000, with a number of local and State agencies sharing in those costs.

Middle River-Snake River WSD - working with the City of Warren and the Corps, of Engineers to remove downed trees due to a storm.

The District applied with Marshall and Polk Counties for Stream Maintenance funding in the amount of \$18,000.

The District contracted for an additional farmstead ring dike but the early snow stopped work.

Joe River WSD - three farmstead ring dikes under construction; problems developed with the contractor (liquidated damages being charged).

Roseau River WSD - The District received a resolution from Roseau County assessing that it is the Fish and Wildlife agency's responsibility for removal of Beaver Dams on protected waters. There are problems with log jams on the Roseau River (Ditch 51).

The planned maintenance of the Roseau River (Ditch 51) which included removal of a number of sand bars was not completed due to high water.

The District reported that conditions are prime for a large Spring runoff due to very wet conditions throughout the District. In anticipation, the Manager at Roseau River State Wildlife Management Area (Stan Wood) offered to lower pools. This was an unsolicited offer and the District was very appreciative.

Sand Hill WSD - The District has submitted a letter to the Corps, of Engineers explaining the project purpose of the Winger Dam. The Corps, has expressed concern that the District did not choose the least impact alternative for the Project.

Two Rivers WSD - "Too wet to do anything" bids were opened in June on the Nereson sub-impoundment and then the rains came; contracts were extended through September, 1992.

Omar Rood reported that 6000 plus acres are presently available for sale on the Juneberry Ridge Project Site. With the CRP payments at \$50,000/year for 5 years, one parcel could be owned, basically, for the interest on \$250,000 over five years. This parcel could provide for 4000 acre-ft. of off-channel storage at \$100/acre.

The Board discussed the upcoming joint meeting with the Red River Joint Water Management Board in North Dakota. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for the Westward Ho Motel in Grand Forks on either the 6th or 15th of January. Chairman Ogaard will finalize a date with the joint Board. The morning will be set aside for the board meeting (9 - noon) with the afternoon set up for a joint meeting (1-4 p.m.)

The Board formed a committee to set up the March Conference for Watershed District Managers. "Operational Issues" will be the main theme and is scheduled for the 12th and 13th of March at the Best Western in Thief River Falls.

Committee: Curtis Nelson
 Ron Osowski
 Arnold Person
 Bruce Albright
 Ron Adrian

Dan Thul Report

Dan updated the Board on the Flood Damage Reduction Program. \$2,635,495 State Cost Share dollars appropriated to the Red River Valley since 1988. Recent applications for 1992 bonding session totalled \$13,479,610 total project costs of which \$6,042,680 has been requested from the State. (14 projects)

Dan discussed project monitoring after construction. Some previous projects have incorporated different levels of monitoring to document watershed runoff response and bounce on wildlife pools. This needs to be expanded to include other vegetation and habital impacts. Interest within the DNR to cooperate. Jerry VanAmberg has discussed the possibility of such monitoring to be conducted by the University. Dan was instructed to pursue this issue.

A motion by Manager Nelson seconded by Manager Osowski to transfer \$17,503 from the RRWMB to the Buffalo-Red River WSD, duly carried. These are State Flood Damage Reduction dollars for the Stinking Lake Project Construction received by the RRWMB.

By motion of Manager Anderson, seconded by Manager Severson, the following bills were ordered paid:

Name	Item	Amount
IRS	Soc. Sec. and Medicare	\$ 241.08
Mac's Cafe	Noon Meal	100.00
FSB Fertile	Refund overpaid int.	95.46
Roger Ward	M and M	
Robert Sererson	M and M	106.12
Ronald Osowski	M and M	76.42
Arnold Person	M and M	76.42
Daniel Wilkens	M and M and M	404.97
Donald Ogaard	M and M and M	313.30
Curtis Nelson	M and M	57.72
Buffalo Red W. D.	Stinking Lake #2	17,503.00
Mascom Inc.	Fax Service	4.00
		<u>\$19,099.46</u>

A resolution was made by Manager Person, seconded by Manager Severson, and approved to support Gerhard Ross, Manager for the Red Lake Watershed District, for appointment to the "Wetland Heritage Advisory Committee", formed under the Wetland Conservation Act of 1991. The Resolution also included support to Manager Ross for appointment to the Board of Water and Soil Resources "Rules Committee".

The next meeting will be held at the Wild Rice Watershed District office, Tuesday, December 10, 1991, at 9:30 a.m., Ada, Minnesota.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Harley Younggren