



Red River Watershed Management Board

Board of Managers

John Finney, President-Humboldt LeRoy Carriere-Roseau Dan Money-Hallock Ben Kleinwachter, Vice President-Strandquist
LeRoy Ose-Thief River Falls Daniel Wilkens, Treasurer-Fertile Greg Holmvik-Ada Jerome Deal, Secretary-Wheaton
Naomi Goral, Administrator-Detroit Lakes

RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
June 21, 2016
Red Lake Watershed District, Thief River Falls, Minnesota

The RRWMB met on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at the Red Lake Watershed District, Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

President John Finney called the meeting to order.

Members present were: LeRoy Carriere Dan Money
 Ben Kleinwachter LeRoy Ose
 Daniel Wilkens Greg Holmvik
 Jerome Deal

Others present were: Dan Thul, Red River Coordinator
Ron Harnack, Project Coordinator
Kevin Ruud, Administrator – Wild Rice WD
Jerry Bents, Engineer – Houston Engineering, Inc.
Nate Dalager, Engineer – HDR Engineering, Inc.
Daron Selvig, Advanced Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc. (AE2S)
Rob Sip, Environmental Policy Specialist – MDA
Danni Halvorson, Director – Education and Monitoring, IWI
Morrie Lanning, Barr Engineering, Inc.
Myron Jesme, Administrator – Red Lake WD
Danny Omdahl, Administrator – Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers WD
Chad Engels, Engineer – Moore Engineering, Inc.
Henry Van Offelen, Red River Basin Coordinator – MDNR
Blake Carlson, Engineer – WSN Engineering, Inc.
April Swenby, Administrative Assistant – Sand Hill River WD
Jim Ziegler, Regional Manager – MPCA
Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator – Roseau River WD
Allen Wold, Manager – Bois de Sioux WD
Linda Vavra, Manager – Bois de Sioux WD

Manager Finney reported that N. Goral was absent today due to the unexpected death of her father-in-law.

Motion by Manager Kleinwachter to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as written with minor corrections, **Seconded** by Manager Money, **Carried**.

The Treasurer's report was presented and it was approved as read. **Motion** by Manager Deal to approve the Treasurer's Report, **Seconded** by Manager Ose, **Carried**.

The bills to be approved as of June 21, 2016 were as follows:

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
06/21/2016	8047	ACS	Phone line, Fax/Internet	\$153.02
06/21/2016	8048	Adv. Engineering & Environmental Services	Public Information Consulting Services	\$5,462.65
06/21/2016	8049	Charles W. Fritz	Professional Services - 05-15 - 06-21	\$8,505.85
06/21/2016	8050	Fargo Rubber Stamp Works, Inc.	Metal Photo Plaque - Dan Thul	\$92.87
06/21/2016	8051	HDR Engineering, Inc.	Invoice No. 486514-H	\$2,437.25
06/21/2016	8052	Jon Schauer/Consulting Unlimited Inc.	Invoice No. 3505	\$1,245.00
06/21/2016	8053	Marco Technologies LLC	Photocopier Maintenance - Invoice No. INV3375076	\$322.21
06/21/2016	8054	MCI	Long distance service	\$37.83
06/21/2016	8055	Moore Engineering, Inc.	Invoice No. 12966	\$637.50
06/21/2016	8056	Naomi Goral	Reimbursed Expenses	\$539.26
06/21/2016	8057	Red River Retention Authority	Annual Cost-share - 2nd half of 2016	\$28,500.00
06/21/2016	8058	Roseau River Watershed District	Roseau River Wildlife Management Area Proj. - Pay Req. No. 1	\$96,531.81
06/21/2016	8059	Sand Hill River Watershed District	Comprehensive WD Mgmt Plan - Pay Req. No. 1	\$62,127.06
06/21/2016	8060	Smith Partners PLLP	Invoice No. 37962, May 2016	\$396.33
06/21/2016	8061	Virtual Systems	Invoice No. May 2016-19	\$30.00
06/21/2016	8062	Widseth Smith Nolting & Assoc., Inc.	Invoice No. 109798	\$1,708.30
06/21/2016	8063	Wild Rice Watershed District	Farmstead Ring Dike Program - Pay Req. No. 1 (Visser)	\$2,353.16
06/21/2016	8064	Wild Rice Watershed District	Farmstead Ring Dike Program - Pay Req. No. 2 (Ramstad)	\$5,018.53
06/21/2016	8066	Ronald D. Harnack	Project Coordinator Exp. - June 2016	\$801.71
				\$216,900.34

Motion to approve and pay bills by Manager Deal, **Seconded** by Manager Carriere, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

Public Information Initiative

D. Selvig distributed the Public Information report. A. Swenby of Dot.Com Connection has completed the redesign of the board's website and the launch of the new site has been completed. She will be handling all future website updates.

The newly-formatted, mobile-friendly *News & Views* e-newsletter was distributed, featuring articles on highlights of the 18th Joint Annual Conference, Wayne Goeken's accomplishments and contributions to the River Watch program over the past two decades, and an announcement of the launch of the redesigned website. Also distributed through the e-newsletter e-mail subscription list was a reminder of the Nordick Farm Field Day.

Water Quality Project Monitoring

D. Halvorson distributed the IWI Monitoring and Education Activity Report. Staff are working with H. Van Offelen to begin the organization/planning for the 2016 monitoring project reports which will incorporate wetland plant community conditions, water quality, and other available information.

A model/draft report has been developed using information for the Brandt Impoundment. The draft report will be presented at today's Work Group meeting.

Red River Retention Authority / NRCS Contribution Agreement

A contribution agreement to co-locate the Red River Retention Authority (RRRA) staff and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) was discussed. The RRRA and the NRCS have a common purpose of helping to coordinate the planning and implementation of flood damage reduction projects and conservation systems which will alleviate flood impacts to the residents of the Red River of the North Basin (Basin).

The agreement states that the Red River Joint Water Resource District (Partner), through the RRRA Joint Powers Agreement, and NRCS will enter into the agreement for the purposes of prioritizing and coordinating flood retention efforts in the Basin. Both parties will contribute funds to the accomplishment of the work not to exceed \$60,020.00 (\$120,040 total). The agreement would be effective October 01, 2016 through September 30, 2018. **Motion** by Manager Wilkens to authorize the approval of the Contribution Agreement, **Seconded** by Manager Carriere, **Carried**.

Legislative Activities

Correspondence received from the BdSWD to the RRWMB was distributed. The BdSWD Board of Managers requested to engage in a conversation regarding improved communication between the RRWMB, its member watershed districts and the RRWMB lobbyist.

Legislative activities to be addressed included amendments to the 2016 Buffer Law, redetermination of benefits for legal ditch systems, and the BdSWD's Big Lake Project.

Following discussion, the board directed R. Harnack to meet with the BdSWD Board of Managers to address the above-mentioned issues.

Project Coordinator Report

R. Harnack distributed the Project Coordinator Report. As no bonding bill was passed during the regular legislative session, the following appropriations from the General Fund include: \$178,000 to the MDNR for a grant to the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers WD for modeling along the ag levee reach along the Red River of the North and south of Oslo; \$828,000 to the Sand Hill River WD to restore and enhance fish passage and habitat; and, \$2,763,000 to the Roseau River WD for restoration of the Roseau Lake Bottom. An additional appropriation of \$65,000 from LCCMR was approved for the Roseau River WD to utilize the IWI's Prioritize, Target & Measure Application (PTMApp) to target water quality implementation options for the WD.

Red River Coordinator/TAC Report

D. Thul reported that discussion continues between the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers WD, MNDOT and the Border Township Associative Group (BTAG) regarding replacing a highway bridge near Oslo. The second phase of modeling will consider bridge capacities from East Grand Forks to Hwy No. 317.

A revised Project Management Plan (PMP) for the Red River Watershed Feasibility Study (WFS) of the USACE was distributed. **Motion** by Manager Money to authorize the revisions to the Red River WFS PMP, **Seconded** by Manager Ose, **Carried**.

District Reports

- The Roseau River WD reported that an open house kick-off meeting is scheduled for July 11th for the Roseau River Beltrami Island State Forest Area Project.
- The Two Rivers WD reported on Klondike Clean Water Retention Project No. 11. Project planning and RCPP/PL566 Environmental Assessment is underway. The District and the MDNR are jointly undertaking a management plan for the rich fen that exists adjacent to the project. Surface and groundwater monitoring sites are being established.
- The Red Lake WD reported that the District is presently moving forward with three potential ring dikes to be constructed this fall. Surveying and plan development are progressing with plans to begin construction on the first ring dike by the end of July.
- The Wild Rice WD reported that the District is developing flowage easement language along with completing an application to be submitted to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council for funding for land acquisition and construction.

District's Funding Requests

1. Roseau River WD / Step III Submittal / Roseau River Wildlife Management Area (RRWMA) Project

The information required for a Step III submittal was distributed at the previous monthly meeting. The current estimated cost of the project is \$3,000,000 with the following cost-share requested: State of Minnesota \$2,250,000 (75%), RRWMB \$500,000 (2/3 of 25%) and RRWD \$250,000 (1/3 of 25%).

Motion by Manager Wilkens to approve the Step III submittal for the RRWMA Project for 2/3 of 25% (\$500,000 - \$70,000 funding advance) of the total project cost (\$3,000,000), **Seconded** by Manager Ose, **Carried**.

The next meeting will be on July 19, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at the Sand Hill River Watershed District, Fertile, Minnesota.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 12:00 p.m. following lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Deal
Secretary

Naomi L. Goral
Administrator