

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
March 26, 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.

Present: Managers: Gene Tiedemann, Tom Anderson, Brian Dwight, Grant Nelson, LeRoy Ose, and Allan Page; Terry Sorenson participated via Zoom. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Melissa Bushy, Elaine Rychlock, Nate Koland, Tony Olson, Corey Hanson, Lindsey Deselich, 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 March 12, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Page, to approve the March 12, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the March 16, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Page, to approve the March 16, 2026, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report as of March 25, 2026. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ose, to approve the Financial Report as of March 25, 2026. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed the recent meeting that was held with landowners upstream of the Brandt Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60D. Ron Salentine, landowner, appeared before the Board to request the District's assistance with removing brush upstream of the impoundment to 110th Street SW. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ose, seconded by Nelson to approve hiring of a contractor help clean and remove upstream brushing along the channel. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed a bank stabilization site on the Red Lake/Polk County line northeast of Gentilly that enters the Red Lake River. Staff member Corey Hanson participated in a meeting with staff from the Red Lake County SWCD, highway department and local landowners to discuss the potential project. Audette requested that the District take the lead on the project through the Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149 process. Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Red Lake/Polk County Outlet Grade Stabilization Project, Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149. Motion carried.

Tony Nordby, HEI, discussed the Clearwater Riverbank Stabilization, Clearwater River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149B, stating that the USCOE has indicated that the District will be notified by late April, early May on the permit requirements. Nordby stated that he does not foresee any major concerns with the permit, therefore, requesting that the Board authorize him to complete the Plans and Specifications, prepare for advertisement for bids once the final notice is received from the USCOE. It was the consensus of the Board, for Nordby to proceed with preparation of the final plans and specifications.

Administrator Audette discussed the PIFR (Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report) for the City of Grygla Flood Control Project, RLWD Project No. 183. The group was informed that the NRCS has established an Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) agreement with the private consulting firm Baird Stantec. Baird Stantec will handle the data collection and preparation of the PIFR.

Administrator Audette recommended that Mitch Stanley be appointed to the RLWD Advisory Board. Motion by Ose, seconded by Nelson to appoint Mitch Stanley to the RLWD Advisory Board. Motion carried.

Administrator Audette discussed spring flooding near the Black River Impoundment. Discussion was held on the clearing of snow from ditches to prevent flooding of homes, etc.

Administrator Audette provided an update on Houston Avenue in Crookston.

The Board reviewed the following permits for approval. Motion by Ose, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permit: No. 26001, Red Lake County Highway Department, Poplar River Township, Red Lake County; No. 26002, Mn DNR, Whiteford Township, Marshall County; and No. 26005, Craig Schmitz, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County.

Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach will be in Ada at the RRWMB office on Monday, March 30 to discuss flood mitigation funding. Administrator Audette plans to attend, along with Manager Tiedemann and Manager Page.

Administrator Audette discussed the upcoming BWSR Assessment. Audette reviewed the surveys that will be sent out. There will be three groups: Partner, Resident, and Staff/Board. Moriya Rufer, HEI, will be facilitating the process.

Administrator's Update:

- **Red Lake County All Township Meeting:** Audette and Board Member Page plan to attend the Red Lake County Township Association meeting on March 24, in Brooks.
- **RRWMB/FDRWG Joint Conference:** Audette, Ose, Tiedemann and Page attend the conference on March 17-18, in Moorhead.
- **Vacation:** Administrator Audette will be on vacation March 31-April 3.
- **RLWD Audit:** District staff completed the 2025 Audit.

Motion by Dwight, seconded by Nelson, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary