

RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
August 20, 1996
CONFERENCE CENTER, U of M, CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA

The RRWMB met on Tuesday, August 20, 1996, at the Conference Center, U of M, Crookston, Minnesota.

Chairman Ron Osowski called the meeting to order.

Members present were:

Russell Sander	Ralph Christensen
Sanford Moen	Ron Osowski
Curtis Nelson	Harley Younggren
Farrell Erickson	

Other present were:

Don Ogaard, Executive Director
Dan Thul, Red River Coordinator
Naomi Jagol, Administrative Assistant, Sand Hill WD
Charles Anderson, Engineer, JOR Engineering
Steve Mikkelson, PCA
Julie Goehring, TIC
Rena Petersen, TIC
Rick St. Germain, Engineer, Houston Engineering
Jon Roeschlien, Administrator, Bois de Sioux WD
Jeff Lewis, MPCA
Ray Ecklund, City Administrator-Crookston
Mike McDonald, Project Engineer, City of Crookston
Ron Lindberg, Public Works, Thief River Falls
Councilman Hammerlink, Thief River Falls City Council

Minutes of the July 16, 1996, meeting were read and approved with minor corrections. **Motion** by Manager Erickson, **Seconded** by Manager Christensen, **Carried**.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Naomi Jagol and it was approved as read. **Motion** by Manager Nelson, **Seconded** by Manager Moen, **Carried**.

A **Motion** to approve and pay bills by Manager Moen, **Seconded** by Manager Christensen, **Carried**.

District Reports:

- The Wild Rice WD reported that the Managers received notice from the COE of completion of the Clearing and Snagging Project on the Wild Rice River in Hendrum and Lee Townships. The Board of Managers reviewed the findings of levee inspections along the Wild Rice River completed by the COE that documents those sections of levees eligible for future assistance pursuant to the PL 84-99 Levee Rehabilitation Program.

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- The Buffalo-Red River WD reported the District has forwarded plans and specifications to the Economic Development Administration for approval of the Moorhead, Dilworth and Hawley Projects. Right-of-way easements are being negotiated with the landowners along the Hawley diversion project.
- The Roseau River WD held a ditch inspection on August 8, 1996; and held a flood control meeting on August 12, 1996, the attendance was poor.
- The Red Lake WD reported the land acquisition on the Parnell Impoundment Project continues to progress.
- The Bois de Sioux WD reported there is still an effort to introduce legislation at the Federal level to hold Lake Traverse at maximum pool level 977 M.S.L. The District closed on the land purchase for the North Ottawa Project on July 31, 1996. A plan of action is being developed. Discussion includes funding and design options. Plans are to involve the Advisory Committee as well as a subcommittee of board members to lay out a plan.
- The Middle River-Snake River WD reported that there has been no change in the status of the Angus Oslo Site #4 Project. The Soils investigations have been completed. A land purchase/land exchange is underway for approximately 160 acres and a land purchase is in the process for approximately 320 acres.
- The Two Rivers WD reported that they are looking for a contractor to rebuild the outlet structure on the Nereson Project. Surveying flood damage on County Ditch #10.

TIC Report - Julie Goehring

Handed out Fargo Forum and Grand Forks Herald articles on Water Planning Group.

Dan Thul handed out a table which shows the Red River Watershed Management Board financial commitments to date. It included approximately \$4.7 million for impoundment projects released from abeyance by the COE; approximately \$857,000 for non-impoundment projects and studies; and approximately \$4.0 million for projects which may move forward after the EIS is finalized.

Ogaard Report -

Don reported on the "Interim Planning Group." The Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Operating Procedures, and Work Group Structure is all under development. The proposal is for 19 members including one from the RRWMB. Don has received an invitation to present the drainage video to the MPCA in St. Paul on October 14. Don passed out a letter from Mark Deutschman on HDR's Review of the Final EIS. In the letter Mark reported that 24% comments submitted resulted in text revisions, however, conclusions changed little. One major change resulted in the determination of potential significant adverse impact for all sub-basins for Mercury except the Wild Rice and the Two Rivers sub-basins.

Jeff Lewis from MPCA reported on the LCMR grant that was approved. It included \$ 100,000 to TIC; \$150,000 match to USGS for a Sediment Study; and \$125,000 to fund a PCA Coordination position.

On **Motion** by Manager Erickson, **Seconded** by Manager Nelson, named Don Ogaard as our official Delegate to the TIC Conference, **Carried.**

A draft letter to the COE from Attorney Rebecca Comstock on behalf of the RRWMB was reviewed. The letter stated that the EIS failed to utilize data made available to them and in many areas reached conclusions inconsistent with the data. On **Motion** by Manager Nelson, **Seconded** by Manager Christensen, accepted the formal response prepared to the COE on the EIS, **Carried.**

A possible legal challenge of the FEIS under the State of Minnesota rules was discussed. Wild Rice WD volunteered Project #11, Site #6. On **Motion** by Manager Erickson, **Seconded** by Manager Nelson, to file a petition in District Court and to fund the challenge if it arises, **Carried.**

Ray Ecklund, City Administrator and Mike McDonald, Project Engineer of Crookston, presented a flood control project for the City of Crookston. Projected cost is \$7.1 million with the city bearing 25% of the cost. Costs to date are Federal \$1,140,000 and the City of Crookston \$460,000. City total at \$2,700,000 and the Red Lake WD for the design stage at \$235,000.

Ron Lindberg, Public Works, and Councilman Hammerlink, of Thief River Falls, presented a fact sheet for restoration/dredging of the Thief River Falls Reservoir.

Proposed Funding:

City of Thief River Falls	\$	250,000
Red Lake WD		250,000
RRWMB		250,000
State of Minnesota		<u>500,000</u>
	\$	1,250,000

No action was taken on either proposed project.

The next meeting will be held on September 17, 1996, at 9:30 a.m. at the Wild Rice WD office, Ada, Minnesota.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

E. Harley Younggren