



## BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT RECEIVES RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION PROJECT AWARD FOR NORTH OTTAWA IMPOUNDMENT PROJECT

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District was awarded the Red River Basin Commission's (RRBC) 2010 Project Award. The RRBC annually recognizes outstanding Red River Basin water management projects. The award was presented at the 27th Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conference held in Grand Forks, ND on January 19-21.

The North Ottawa Impoundment is found just north and east of Charlesville in Grant County. The impoundment is roughly 1.5 miles wide (east to west) and 2 miles long (north to south). The primary purpose of the project is to provide flood control. Secondary purposes are wildlife habitat enhancement, water quality improvement, and stream flow maintenance.

"This is a great example of an integrated project that addresses several Red River Basin Natural Resources Framework Plan (NRFP) goals – flood damage reduction, water quality, habitat and wildlife" said Lance

Yohe, RRBC Executive Director.

The North Ottawa Impoundment Project is located within a subwatershed of the Rabbit River. Agricultural

lands in the lower part of this subwatershed are severely affected by flooding, with crop loss occurring frequently on a biannual basis.

The project will store a

large percentage of the flood water generated within the subwatershed. It will, thereby, reduce flooding of agricultural lands in the area

*Continued on Next Page*

### BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT RECEIVES THE RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION'S 2010 PROJECT AWARD



*The Bois de Sioux Watershed District was recognized by the Red River Basin Commission for the North Ottawa Impoundment Project. From left to right, Charlie Anderson – District Engineer (JOR Engineering, Inc.); Monica Wilson – Asst. Administrator; Don Davenport – Board Manager; and Jon Roeschlein – Administrator.*

## RRWMB MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At its regularly scheduled March meeting, the RRWMB:

- Received a report from Jerome Deal, Chair of the Finance Committee.
- Received a report from Dan Thul, Red River Coordinator.
- Discussed the 2010 Plan of Work for the Pembina Trail Resource Conservation & Development Association with Shawnn Balstad, RC&D Coordinator.
- Received a report from Naomi Erickson, Administrator.
- Authorized forwarding a letter to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) requesting them to continue full funding support for the stream gages in the Red River basin.
- Received an update from Julie Goehring, Communications Coordinator, Red River Basin Commission (RRBC).
- Discussed developing a compact between the RRWMB and the Red River Joint Water Resource Board of North Dakota relative to the establishment of a federal authority in the Red River basin.
- Received a report from Ron Harnack, Project Coordinator.
- Approved a resolution for a funding advance to the Wild Rice WD for the Upper Becker Dam Enhancement Project.

and diminish the threat to Tintah and Campbell, while reducing the Rabbit River's contribution to flood flows at Breckenridge and downstream on the Red River of the North.

In addition to flood control, the impoundment will provide erosion and sediment control, stream flow maintenance, improved water quality, wildlife

habitat, and recreational opportunities.

"Finding balances between multiple interest groups and promoting cooperation across boundaries and between groups is necessary in order to make decisions that will have the greatest benefit for those who live here," Yohe said.

The primary sponsors of the project are the Bois de Sioux Watershed District,

## EVENTS COMING UP

The next meeting of the RRWMB will be on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District, 1000 Pennington Ave. S, Thief River Falls, MN.

Please note that the Finance Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. prior to the RRWMB meeting on April 20, 2010 at the Red Lake Watershed District.

the Red River Watershed Management Board, and the State of Minnesota. Contributing sponsors include the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Ducks Unlimited.

The mission of the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) is to develop a Red River Basin integrated natural resources framework plan; to achieve commitment to implement the framework plan; and to work toward a unified voice for the Red River Basin. For more information on the RRBC, visit their website at [www.redriverbasincommission.org](http://www.redriverbasincommission.org).

PERMITTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Grand Forks, ND  
PERMIT NO. 317

NEWS & VIEWS  
c/o RRWMB  
P.O. Box 763  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0763

Your comments and contributions are always welcome. If you are receiving this newsletter and are not currently a member of a governing unit in the Red River Basin, please notify us and provide the name of the appropriate person to be added to our mailing list. News & Views, c/o RRWMB, P.O. Box 763, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0763; Phone: (218) 844-6166; Fax: (218) 844-6167.