David Miller, Chairman, called the meeting to order on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 8:00 A.M., at the MN Wheat Growers Building in Red Lake Falls.

Red Lake County SWCD Board Members and Staff Present:

David Miller, Chairman
Mark LaCrosse, Vice-Chairman
Linda Mickelson, Secretary
David Bachand, Treasurer
Kevin Reich, Reporter

Also, Present:
Allen Remick, Red Lake County Commissioner
Luther Newton, NRCS District Conservationist
Bob Guetter, NRCS Team Leader

Mark LaCrosse motioned to approve the September Board agenda with the following addition: approval of District Manager approving JCD 60 Bid. David Bachand seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

Kevin Reich motioned to approve the August 12th board meeting minutes. David Bachand seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

In August, there were $16,112.92 total payments and $27,653.18 total deposits, leaving a cash checking balance of $719,848.83. Linda Mickelson motioned to approve the August Treasurer’s Report. Mark LaCrosse seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

Board Member Reports:
There were no board member reports.

Waldo’s Report:
Feedlot Program:
Attended a MACFO Board Meeting on August 15th.
Attended a County Programs Team Web-ex on September 4th.
Tanya is currently working on a Construction Short Form permit for Wayra Dairy who is looking at expanding their existing earthen basin.

District:
The SWCD Draft Audit was received from Peterson Company and reviewed. It will be sent to the MN State Auditor’s Office for final approval.
Continued working on a 2020 Clean Water Fund Grant Application for the Lower Clearwater River Subwatershed throughout the month of August. Comments were received from Matt Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist and Corey Hanson, RLWD Water Quality Coordinator. Those comments were addressed in the application. Tanya submitted the application on August 22nd. Red Lake County SWCD will be notified in December or January if the grant application will be funded.
Submitted two engineering requests to the Red River Valley Conservation Service Area Technicians for M. Seeger and R. Myrhe.
Tanya is working on a 2020 Cooperative Weed Management Program grant application. The application should be completed this week and submitted to BWSR for consideration.

“Paint Your Own Rain Barrel” Activity:
The first annual “Paint Your Own Rain Barrel” activity was held on August 8th. There were 8 in attendance. A second activity is planned for September 11th from 4:00-8:00. There is 8 that are planning to attend. The remaining 5 individuals agreed that they would like to wait until next Spring to do their Rain Barrel activity. We will request additional interested participants next spring.

2016 JCD 60 – MDM Project:
The SWCD staff is continuing to work with Kurt Casavan, Ditch Authority and Erik Hove, RLC Highway Engineer on the JCD 60 project. There are 9-10 sites that have been surveyed and designed. Construction is planned for this fall.

Water Plan Program:
Tanya has been organizing the 2019 NW MN Water Festival. The dates for the Water Festival this year is September 24th (Warren) and September 26th (Fertile). School numbers are starting to come in... the two schools in Red Lake County have been invited.
Tanya attended the State Envirothon Meeting in St. Cloud on August 20th.

Cover Crop Incentive Program:
Jeremy Huot and Leonard Huot have both signed Cover Crop Incentive Program contracts. These contracts will need to be approved at today’s board meeting.

SWCD Website and Facebook:
Continue to update information on the Districts website and the District Facebook page.
Upcoming Meetings:
September 16th – CPT Webinar Meeting
September 24th – NW MN Water Festival – Warren
September 26th – NW MN Water Festival – Fertile.

19-09-08  Bohland’s Report

WCA:
Followed up with wetlands complaints with BWSR Wetlands staff and NRCS
Gave information to landowners on how to enroll in wetland banking

Buffer Program:
Sent out NONs to landowners that are not compliant
Updated Buffcat and GIS for compliance
Conducted on-site inspections of “Needs Review” parcels
Talked with landowners regarding questions pertaining to the Buffer Law
Spoke with landowners about Alternative Practices allowed under the Buffer Law

District Capacity:
Assembled rain barrels for the second painting event
Worked with Red Lake County Engineer Erik Hove to complete CD-60 designs
Worked with Zach Foley on surveying and designing SWIs for JCD-60
Designed and ordered signs for the Pollinator Program
Watched Ag-Learn webinars for Conservation Planning JAA

19-09-09  Simonson’s Report

On August 15th, Joyce and Tanya attended the MACFO Board meeting in St. Cloud.

Joyce continues to enter precipitation data and send to the State Climatology Office.

Joyce continues to measure the DNR Observation Wells and report data to the State DNR Office.

Joyce has been working on the MN Geological Well Database for Red Lake County. This will be a three to four year process.

On Wednesday, September 11th we are planning the second Rain Barrel Painting Activity from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Joyce will be assisting with the NW MN Water Festival…planning, preparations, and at the events.

19-09-10  NRCS Report
Luther provided the board with an update to the NRCS programs.

19-09-11 **Old Business:**
Discussion was held on the New Cover Crop Incentive Program, the New Fishing Line Recycling Program, and Habitat Pollinator Program for Red Lake County SWCD. There were two contracts that have been completed for the Cover Crop Incentive Program that will need to be approved at the meeting today.

Tanya provided a brief 2019 Construction Project update. Tanya informed the board that the JCD 66 Multi-purpose Drainage Management Project have been completed. Tanya informed the board that there have been eleven additional sites that have been surveyed and designed for JCD 60. The SWCD is hopeful that the projects will be constructed in September/October of 2019.

The “Paint Your Own Rain Barrel” activity was held on August 8th in the SWCD garage. There were 8 in attendance. Tanya showed the board members photos from the activity day. There is a second “Paint Your Own Rain Barrel” activity planned for September 11th. The remaining five individuals who were interested in the Rain Barrel Activity are willing to wait till next spring.

Tanya informed the board that the 2019 NW MN Water Festival has been scheduled for September 24th (Warren) and September 26th (Fertile). Both schools in Red Lake County have been invited to attend.

19-09-12 **New Business:**
Tanya informed the board that she completed a 2020 Clean Water Fund “Project & Practices” grant for the Lower Clearwater subwatershed. There have been at least ten projects identified. Tanya met with Matt Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist and Corey Hanson, Red Lake Watershed District Water Quality Coordinator and went over the application. Both individuals made comments to the application which was very helpful and appreciated.

19-09-13 Discussion was held on the 2020 MCIT Estimated Premiums. Tanya informed the board that the premium for Property/Casualty is $2992.00 and the premium for Workers’ Compensation is $1364.00.

19-09-14 Tanya informed the Board that both Bob and Tanya will be attending the 2019 BWSR Academy training on October 29th-31st at Breezing Point.

19-09-15 Discussion was held on the 2020 Proposed Budget. David Bachand motioned to approve the 2020 Proposed Budget for Red Lake County SWCD. Linda Mickelson seconded the motion and the motion passed.
Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

Discussion was held on Jeremy Huot’s Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract. David Bachand motioned to approve Jeremy Huot’s Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract (Cover Crop 2019-1) in the amount of $2,500.00. 100% of the cost-share assistance contract will be paid once there is a field check completed by Luther Newton, NRCS District Conservationist. The field check will need to be approved in accordance with NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Linda Mickelson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

Discussion was held on Leonard Huot’s Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract. David Bachand motioned to approve Leonard Huot’s Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract (Cover Crop 2019-2) in the amount of $1,909.50. 100% of the cost-share assistance contract will be paid once there is a field check completed by Luther Newton, NRCS District Conservationist. The field check will need to be approved in accordance with NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Linda Mickelson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

Discussion was held on the board giving the District Manager authority to approve the JCD-60 Bid, as long as the bid is within the Engineer’s cost bid estimate. Kevin Reich motioned to authorize the District Manager to approve the JCD-60 Bid, as long as the bid is within the Engineer’s project cost estimate. Linda Mickelson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

David Bachand motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 am. Mark LaCrosse seconded the motion and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Linda Mickelson, David Bachand, and Kevin Reich.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Mickelson, Secretary
Red Lake County SWCD

Date approved