Meeting
"Lower Red River Watershed Management Board
May 17, 1977; 7:30 p.m.; Crookston, MN

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Don Ogaard. The following were present:

Don Ogaard
Arnold Larson
Olaf Soine
Roger Ward
Clifford Trangsrud
Dan Wilkens
Absent:  Harley Younggren

Also present:  Charles Anderson, Lawrence Woodbury, Ron Adrian

The minutes of the March 15, 1977 meeting were read. The following correction was made: "replacement dam for historical mill - 80 acre ft. storage" - instead of 800 acre ft. Minutes were approved.

President Ogaard stated that a letter explaining the 2 mil levy was sent to all county auditors and treasurers in the Red Lake Watershed. The manager gave the following estimates of the amount of revenue the 1 mil levy would raise;

| Wild Rice      | $75,000 |
| Red Lake       | 150,000 |
| Sand Hill      | 16,947  |
| Middle River-Snake River | 36,000 |
| Joe River      | 7,118   |
| Roseau River   | 10,000  |
| Two Rivers     | 20,000  |

$315,065

Don Ogaard stated that the Legislature hasn't clarified the use of the 1 mil that the local watershed will receive.

Olaf Soine said Erling Wieberg had informed him that the upper limit of a project had been raised to $200,000.

Roger Ward gave treasurer's report which is given on the attached sheet.

The Board reviewed the Project Evaluation manual, Section III, Steps 1-9. After a discussion on procedure, President Ogaard called for the presentation of projects.

The Two Rivers Watershed presented the first project which was a proposed retention cell located on D.N.R. land. It is designed for a 6-inch rain with a projected impoundment of 3,000 acre ft. of water. The estimated cost would be under $50,000, soil type is and 75,000 yds would be needed. Possible funding could be D.N.R. Co. Commissioner, A.S.C.S., R.C. & D. and L.R.R. Watershed.

The Roseau River Watershed presented the second project which was a proposed retention dam on D.N.R. land in a severe flooding area. It would be designed for a 6-inch rain and has a drainage area of 32,000 sq. miles with 8,000 acre ft. of storage. The proposed plan calls for 2 miles of dike, 6 ft. in height and 2 1/2 miles of dike, 0-6 ft. in
height. A permanent pool of 18,000 acre ft., 3 ft. deep would be maintained. Soil type is sand, peat and clay. Approximate cost is $75,000. Possible funding L.R.R. Watershed, D.N.R. and County Board. There are 21 sections of commercial blue grass adjacent to the dike outlet. This project is approximately 60 miles from the Red River of the North.

The Red Lake Watershed presented the third preliminary project plan. A report was passed out to each board member giving the details.

This proposed plan consists of two large impoundment areas which would function together with a storage area of 23,000 acre ft. with a permanent pool area of 1,000 acre ft. drainage area is 105 sq. miles. The site is in northwestern Beltrami County and is D.N.R. land. The approximate cost is $1,000,000. Possible funding is R.C. & D., D.N. Lower Red River Watershed Board and benefited area.

The length of dike would be 12 to 13 miles and a two gated structure would control the outlet of water. This project is on the Moose River which flows into Thief Lake Wild Refuge. Discussions with the management of this Refuge indicate that cooperation bet the two organizations could provide an additional 10,000 acre ft. of flood storage.

The Wild Rice Watershed presented the following projects;

Priority 1 - Section 12, Lake Ida Township Detention Dam
Priority 2 - Kenneth Olson Detention Dam
Priority 3 - Felton Creek Detention Dam
Priority 4 - Flood Detention Dams - South Branch, Wild Rice River
Priority 5 - Faith Mill Dam.

Priority 1: Lake Ida is a low level earthen retention dam which would empty into Wild Rice River. It is 24 miles from the Red River. The project has an upland drainage area of 15 miles and a proposed storage of 355 acre ft. Land ownership is the D.N.R. and 2 private farm owners. Soils consist of sand, loams and clay. Benefited area is along the downstream area and along the Wild Rice River. The cost is $35,000. Possible funding is L.R.R. Watershed Board and assessed benefited area.

Priority 2: The purpose of the Kenneth Olson earth detention dam is for flood control and will drain into the Wild Rice River. It will be a dry dam and will control flood waters from a 50 sq. mile drainage area and a storage capacity of 1400 acre ft. It is 30 miles from the Red River. The storage area will be on private land and is pasture land. The benefited area will be downstream from the dam. Estimated cost is $165,00 Source of funds is L.R.R. Watershed District and other sources.

Priority 3: Felton Creek Detention Dam is an earthen (dry) dam which will have a 20 mile drainage area and store 1,655 acre ft. of flood water. Location is 19 miles from the Red River and is a tributary of the Wild Rice River. Present land use is pasture and some small grain. The soils are sandy and alluvial material. The benefited area is along the Felton and Wild Rice Rivers. Estimated cost is $120,000 and source of funds is L.R.R. Watershed Board and assessments.
Priority 4: This project on the Wild Rice and South Branch consist of 2 retention dams located in Becker County. Considerable work has been done on this project. The drainage area is 45 sq. miles and the storage capacity is 24,000 acre ft. in the upper dam and 3,600 acre ft. in the lower dam. The two dams would be operated in a tandem set up. Minor farming is carried on in the area. There is no cooperation of the land owners on the second dam. The total cost of the project is estimated at $486,000.

Priority 5: Faith Mill Dam project has a drainage area of 605 sq. miles which is in private ownership but there is no problem with land easements. This is a multi-purpose dam to control spring ice problems, sediment deposits and provide recreation facility The benefited area would be along the Wild Rice River. The estimated cost is $223,000.

Of the above projects, the Wild Rice Watershed priorities 1,2 and 3 are ready for construction this 1977 season. The Roseau River and Two Rivers projects will be ready in 1978.

After some discussion about methods to use in recommending projects for funding and the fact that only three were ready for construction this 1977 season, a motion was made by Dan Wilkens, seconded by Roger Ward and duly passed that Wild Rice Watershed priority projects 1 and 2 be authorized to proceed to Step 2, page 7 of the "Project Evaluation Manual".

The following bills were presented:

    Houston Engineering, Inc. preparation of "Project Evaluation Manual" ..... $607.01

After some discussion about Attorney Sobolick's bill, Dan Wilkens moved, seconded by Olaf Soine, and duly passed that $5,367.00 be paid at this time. This figure include: $2,025.00 contributed by cities, villages, and townships to help pay Sobolick's bill.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the following projects be referred to Step 1, page 6 "Evaluation Manual" for further development and to be presented at a future date;

    Two Rivers Watershed Project
    Roseau River Watershed Project
    Red Lake Watershed Project

A motion was made, seconded and duly passed that Wild Rice Watershed Felton Creek pro. be moved to Step 1, page 6 of the "Evaluation Manual".

The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 21, 1977 at 7:30 p.m. at Ag Research Center, University of Minnesota, Crookston, MN.

Respectfully submitted,

Olaf C. Soine, Secretary
May 24, 1977