

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
August 3, 2010

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were Managers Les Johnson, Jim Mc Gowan, Jeff Rogers and Jeff Williamson. Also present were: Gene Foth, County Commissioner; Stephanie McLain, District Conservationist; Ed Lenz, SWCD Manager; Al Langseth, District resident; and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the July board meeting were reviewed. Williamson moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Williamson moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

A cost-share payment of \$900 was approved with the bills payable for the Hospice Cottage rain garden project.

OLD BUSINESS

Erosion control permit compliance was discussed. Joe Bigner submitted a revised landscaping plan to install ornamental shrubs and wood chips on a bench between his two retaining walls. The plan approved with the permit stated that grasses would be planted in the area. Livdahl will inform Bigner that grasses must be planted to remain in compliance with the permit.

The Bella Park reseeding project was discussed. Livdahl will use Johnson's ATV to spray roundup on areas that were missed during the initial application.

The Lake Ocheda landowners picnic and meeting was rescheduled to August 10th due to rain.

A letter written by Johnson and Livdahl in response to Craig Clark's letter about using hospital sales proceeds for water quality projects was reviewed. Johnson will sign the letter.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Johnson, Livdahl and Brad Wehr helped the Ocheda Beavers 4-H Club build wood duck and bluebird houses on July 17th. Marv Rall cut the lumber for the project. Two bluebird houses and one wood duck house were installed in Bella Park. The other houses will be installed sometime this fall.

Lucas Haak volunteered to trap gophers at Bella Park. Livdahl met with Lucas and his father Doug on July 24th to show them where to work.

Bob Seifert called to see if the OOWD is still interested in buying his land along the Ocheyedan River. It was the consensus of the board that they are interested in working with other organizations to buy the land if the price is right.

NEW BUSINESS

McLain said a CRP General Signup will from August 2nd through August 27th. The average rental rates rose to \$155 per acre. One farmer in the district has signed up for the Conservation Stewardship program. McLain stated

that construction will begin this month on the Rusty Miller waterway and suggested that board members or students may like to tour the site.

Ed Lenz requested that the board consider a match of \$10,000 for a Clean Water Legacy Grant application to repair the Langseth Shoreline. Rogers moved to provide a \$5000 match for the grant. The motion died for a lack of a second.

The board was asked to consider raising the contribution to the SWCD for technical services from \$3000 to \$5000 per year.

The 2009 financial audit report was given to the managers to review at the July board meeting. Williamson moved to accept the audit. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Johnson and Livdahl review the offer from the Minnesota Department of Transportation to purchase 15.42 acres of the St. John property for \$64,100. Rogers moved to accept the offer. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

A draft of the 2011 budget was discussed. The public hearing for budget will occur on September 7th. Williamson moved to publish public hearing notice budget showing the District will levy \$130,000 in 2011. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Mc Gowan discussed an article from the Explore Okaboji publication stating zebra mussels are present in Clear Lake, Iowa. The article urged Iowa Great Lakes residents to report anything that looks out of the ordinary.

PERMITS

Seven tiling project notifications were received since the July board meeting. Project notifications will be reviewed at board meetings only if staff believe they are controversial.

ADJOURNMENT

The 2011 budget hearing will be at 4:00 p.m. on September 7, 2010 at the Nobles County Public Works Facility, 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. The next regular board meeting will follow the hearing beginning at about 4:20 p.m.

Rogers moved to adjourn the meeting. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.