

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
August 2, 2011

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: Bob Demuth, Jr., County Commissioner; Stephanie, McLain, NRCS DC; Scott Rall, Nobles County Pheasants Forever Chapter President; Paul Ager, cost-share applicant; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor, and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the July 2011 regular 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. Rogers moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

Rogers moved to approve the following cost-share application:

Doug Anton – waterway reconstruction – 75% not to exceed \$1217.25.

Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Williamson moved to approve the following cost-share application:

Doug Anton – conservation use acres - \$100 per acre not to exceed \$1000.

Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Paul Ager was present to request cost-share for repair of a lake shore bank failure. The project cost approximately \$39,500 to complete.

OLD BUSINESS

Scott Rall explained Pheasants Forever's land transaction costs for the Gordon Wiertsema property trade and the Virgil Wiertsema property purchase. Williamson moved to reimburse Pheasants Forever \$22,716 for the costs of the property trade and purchase. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Williamson moved to reimburse Pheasants Forever \$238.50 for the title insurance required for the Seifert land purchase. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The managers discussed whether to create future incentive programs for repair or stabilization of lakeshore. Since no program currently exists for lakeshore stabilization, Paul Ager will be informed that cost-share isn't available for his project.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Lake Ocheda landowners met for a picnic at Langseth's retreat center on July 19th. Scott Des Laurier talked at the meeting about seining carp, buffalo and bullheads from the lake. He hopes to do it this fall. Scott told the group that he felt water quality was improved on Twin Lake after he recently seined it. After hearing the presentation, many of the landowners feel that seining carp will be the "silver bullet" for improving Lake Ocheda.

A fish barrier built by Marv Rall was installed in one of the stoplog bays on the Lake Ocheda Dam last year. It seems to work well at excluding fish without collecting trash. The barrier cost about \$400 to build. Tom Kresko, Area Hydrologist, said that detailed drawings of the barrier are needed before a permit could be considered for installing barriers in the remaining stoplog bays. Marv Rall agreed to do the drawings.

Lake levels and structures were monitored closely after the large rain event on July 14th. The structures seem to be working as designed.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2011 budget was discussed. A hearing for the budget will be held on September 6th at 4:00 p.m. A public notice will be published twice before the meeting.

The managers discussed whether no wake zones on Lake Okabena should be in effect during high water periods. Livdahl will talk to the Worthington's shoreland ordinance administrator about the idea.

PERMITS

Williamson moved to approve the following permit applications:

Ecumen – to perform erosion and sediment control during replacement of the Meadows facility parking lot at 1601 College Way.

Schafer Contracting Company – to implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan during the operation of a portable concrete production plant for the Highway 60 project in Worthington.

Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The 2012 budget public hearing will be at 4:00 p.m. on September 6, 2011 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. The next regular board meeting will begin immediately after the hearing.

Meeting adjourned.