

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**August 6, 2013**

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, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Doug Anton, advisory board member; Bob Demuth, Jr., Nobles County Commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Daily Globe reporter; Ed Lenz, SWCD manager and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the July regular board meeting were reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the minutes. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Mahlberg moved to approve the Treasurer's report and approve payment of the bills listed in the report. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**COST-SHARE**

Mahlberg moved to approve the following cost-share agreement.

**Doug Anton** – Grassed Waterway Reconstruction – 75% of approved costs, up to a maximum of \$3540.00.

Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

A letter was received from Ken Meyerdirk's attorney denying the district's letter requesting a meeting to reach a compromise. Livdahl suggested hiring Mike Tow of Wollschlager, Tow and Ringquist to advise the board on steps to take next. Mahlberg moved to retain Mike Tow for an initial consultation and authorize Johnson and Milbrandt to review and sign a retention agreement. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust stated that there would be a minimal liability insurance adjustment if a hiking and mountain biking trail is created at Bella Park. The board has only received comments from people opposed to creating a trail. It was decided to not create build a trail at this time.

Managing the agricultural land on the St. John property was discussed. Rogers moved to prepare the wetter land for a fall seeding with a wet CRP mix, plant a perennial crop on the land now growing wheat, and install grass filter strips along the ditch and highway right-of-way. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

It was decided to install a rock ditch plug, costing up to \$1000, to retain more water on the St. John property. Johnson will talk to a contractor and obtain the rocks.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The county is installing a culvert extension at the intersection of Whiskey Ditch and Oxford Street as a part of the new bicycle trail. The county requested the diversion gates between Whiskey Ditch and Ditch 12 be opened for up to three weeks during construction. Worthington manages the gates and is opposed to opening them.

Livdahl has done some research on accounting policies for greater separation of financial duties.

The Olson Regional Stormwater Pond cost less than expected. Minnesota West issued a \$3688.44 refund check payable to Nobles County that should have been made payable to the district. Gordy Heitkamp will get the check issued to the correct party. Livdahl suggested using the refund to install more floating island wetlands on the site.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The managers discussed the 2014 budget. A draft budget notice to be published in the Daily Globe was reviewed. The 2014 budget public hearing will be held immediately before the September board meeting.

Milbrandt, Mahlberg and Livdahl will travel to Schmidt Lake in Plymouth tomorrow to see a demonstration of the total lake aeration system installed there and an Eco Harvester.

### **PERMITS**

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit application:

**Bill Wetering** – to install tile with two drop box intakes for surface drainage and repair or replace tile for home foundation drainage at 703 West Lake, Worthington

Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on September 10, 2013 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.