

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
December 1, 2009

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 and Rolf Mahlberg. Also present were Norm Gallagher, Nobles County Commissioner; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; Ed Lenz, SWCD Manager and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

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

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

COST-SHARE

At the September board meeting, the board agreed to pay 50% cost-share to reconstruct Rusty Miller's waterway in section 28, Worthington Township. Lenz said that **Rusty Miller** will repair the waterway unless he gets 75% cost-share. The NRCS staff would like to begin design of the project now to be ready for spring construction. Lenz said it is unknown whether an EQIP signup will occur before spring. He asked the board to consider increasing the cost-share amount to 75%. Mahlberg moved to cost-share on Rusty Miller's waterway project at 75% of the actual cost, not to exceed \$6117 - on the condition that he applies for EQIP funding, if the opportunity arises, to replace the watershed district funding. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Photos of erosion control permit site practices were viewed by the board. Worthington street sweepers cleaned up mud tracked onto Sutherland Drive from the Lawrence Dugdale Trust property. Livdahl will send a letter to the trustees stating that dumping mud on streets is a violation of Worthington's ordinance and watershed district rules, and that the City will charge them for cleanup if it needs to be done in the future. A letter will be written to Johnson Builders and Realtors thanking them for doing a good job with construction site erosion control in 2009.

Draft copies of the rules were distributed to the Managers. The proposed rule changes will be discussed in detail at the January meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Livdahl will attend the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting and Trade Show later this week.

The Ocheda Beavers 4-H Club leaders are planning to write a Community Pride Project grant application to build more bird houses and grow native prairie plants. Some of the wood duck and bluebird houses would be placed in Bella Park. The club will be asking the OOWD and Pheasants Forever for volunteer

labor and financial help if they get the grant.

Livdahl is working on factsheets for Worthington's storm water website. The City will be billed for the work when it is completed.

The Lake Okabena Improvement Association plans to hire Wenck engineering to give them advice on improving water quality in Lake Okabena. The consultants will look at the Clean Water Partnership study, recent water quality data and conservation practices installed in the Lake Okabena sub-watershed before making recommendations. The study will be partially funded by the Chamber of Commerce and the Nobles County Water Plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Lenz presented the 2010 contract for SWCD technical services to the board. Mahlberg moved to approve the contract for services. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Bioengineering techniques for lakeshore stabilization were discussed.

A draft of the 2010 budget was discussed by the board. It will be reviewed in more detail at the January meeting.

Johnson reported that the Von Holtum family may be interested enrolling more land in the CRP program. It is unknown whether there will be CRP general signup in 2010.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit applications:

Ridley Block – to perform erosion control during construction of a cold storage building and additional gravel parking lot.

Southwest Mental Health Center – to perform erosion control during construction of the Unity House facility at 1215 4th Avenue, Worthington – on the condition that proof of a state stormwater permit application and an adequate stormwater pollution prevention plan are submitted.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on January 5, 2010 at the Nobles County Public Works Facility, 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.