

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
December 7, 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, Rolf Mahlberg, Jim Mc Gowan, Jeff Rogers and Jeff Williamson. Also present were: Gene Foth, County Commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Daily Globe Reporter; Scott Rall, Pheasants Forever President; Mark Hiles, BWSR Conservationist; Dawn Madison, NRCS Technician; Al Langseth, district resident; 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, 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. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

Cost-share payments to **D&S Hilltop Farms, Tim Blume, Leo Stugelmeyer and Thomas Zishka** were approved with the Treasurer's report.

Madison explained Paul Busse's proposed project to install a terrace and a diversion on his property in section 20, Worthington Township. Busse will also sign up for a CRP filter strip contract after cost-share funding is encumbered for the diversion. Mahlberg moved to approve the following cost-share contract

Paul Busse – Terrace and Diversion Project - 75% Up to a Maximum of \$8500.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Erosion control permit compliance was discussed. A letter of violation will be mailed to Paul Fishel setting a deadline of March 1, 2011 to install erosion control practices on the perimeter of his construction site.

The Bella Park reseeded project was discussed. Quotes for seed mixes and planting operations were requested from Tom Bauman at LeSueur River Seeding and Conservation, and Ron Koopman at LaCrosse Forage and Turf. A quote was received from Bauman. Mahlberg moved to accept the quote from Bauman, sign the authorization document, and make up to a 10 percent deposit for the seed. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Kirk Corson was contacted about when a payment can be expected from MN/DOT for the St. John property right-of-way purchase. Mr. Corson said the state is working on easement releases or quitclaim deeds for natural gas pipeline easements from two companies, a water main easement from Worthington and a flowage easement from the DNR.

The partnership to purchase the Siefert property was discussed. Rall stated that some judgments against the property need to be settled by the seller before closing. He hopes the closing will occur during the next month.

Land transaction costs for the Gordon Wiertsema and Adams properties trade and the Virgil Wiertsema property

purchase total \$12,742.09. Pheasants Forever will be reimbursed for these costs before the end of the year.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Larson Crane will remove sediment from the W9 basin forebay soon if the weather cooperates.

The RIM program is now accepting applications for permanent easements in high priority wellhead protection areas. The district has added incentive payments to get landowners to sign up for easements in the past.

The Board of Water and Soil resources approved a grant for \$162,000 for the Langseth's shoreline stabilization project.

The managers should complete their per diem and expense forms so payments can be made before the end of December.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Hiles presented a plaque from BWSR recognizing the district for 50 years of bringing water management and conservation to the people and lands of the district. Julie Buntjer took pictures of the presentation and will interview a few managers for a Daily Globe story after the meeting. A 50 year anniversary plaque was also awarded to the district at the MAWD annual meeting.

The amount of the technical services agreement with Nobles SWCD needs to be set before finalizing the budget. Mahlberg moved to pay \$5000 for technical services in 2011. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers. Opposed: Williamson. Motion carried. Rogers moved to approve the 2011 budget. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to take the MN/DOT Highway 60 reconstruction permit application from the table for discussion. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit applications.

Minnesota Department of Transportation – to perform erosion control, replace culverts, install drainage structures and fill wetlands during reconstruction of TH 60 between Paul Avenue and 1100 feet north of CSAH 35.

Paul Ager – to repair slumped shoreline by regarding the slope, install a rock stairway and install riprap according to DNR specifications.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on January 4, 2011 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.