

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
December 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., county commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Daily Globe reporter; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; John Shea, SWCD manager; Wayne Smith, Nobles County environmental service director; Al Langseth, county feedlot officer; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Mahlberg moved to approve the Treasurer's report, pay the bills and transfer \$6000 from savings into the checking account. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

Septic system replacement cost-share payments for Cynthia Palm and Matt Feldman were approved with the Treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS

The DNR will create preliminary maps of the waters of the state and ditches requiring buffers by late spring. The SWCD will review the maps for accuracy during the summer. People signing up for new or renewed CRP filter strip contracts will likely need to make a decision sometime before the middle of August. Ingenthron moved to suspend any and all new or renewed buffer incentive agreements until clear direction is received from the state showing where buffers will be required under the new buffer law and the district updates its buffer agreement policy, or July 15, 2015. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Rogers and Mahlberg completed Livdahl's annual performance evaluation earlier today. The managers discussed 2016 wages and benefits. Rogers moved to give Livdahl a 2% annual salary increase, pay the premium for a Blue Cross/Blue Shield Bronze HSA one person group plan, and make a contribution of \$150 per month to the health savings account. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The 2016 budget was discussed. Ingenthron moved to approve the budget. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Water level graphs for Okabena, Ocheda and Bella lakes were viewed by the managers. Water began running out the Lake Bella spillway for the first time this year around November 21st.

The Prairie View Golf Course will be closed in 2016. The Okabena-Ocheda-Bella Clean Water Partnership Joint Powers Board will meet next week to discuss getting bids to design a water quality basin on the south side of the property. Designs need to be as complete as possible and the local money in place to successfully apply for a state legacy grant sometime in the future.

Ingenthron and Livdahl will attend the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts annual meeting later this week.

Livdahl completed 98 inspections on nine construction sites with district and state stormwater permits in 2015.

Worthington will be billed for a portion of the inspection expenses before the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Wayne Smith explained that the Nobles County feedlot ordinance is being updated. He summarized the proposed language changes to bring the ordinance setback distances into better conformance with the neighboring counties and proposed state rules.

The 2016 annual plan was briefly discussed. The managers were encouraged to think about projects that should be added to the in the plan. Further discussion will occur at the January meeting.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit application:

Doug Nau Construction - to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a new home at 620 Lake Street, Worthington.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on January 5, 2016 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.