

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**February 4, 2014**

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 and Jeff Rogers. Jay Milbrandt attended the meeting electronically. Also present were Dennis Rick, district resident; Bob Demuth, Jr., Nobles County commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Daily Globe reporter; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the January regular board meeting were reviewed. They will be corrected to show that Paul Langseth was present. Mahlberg moved to approve the minutes with the correction. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: 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 presented and transfer \$9000 from savings into checking. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The report from Bioverse on the use of the company's products in Whiskey Ditch and the Glenwood Heights stormwater pond last year was discussed. Dennis Rick said that water quality seemed to be better in the pond early in the season. He urged the board to continue treating it during 2014. Livdahl will review last year's bills and contact Bioverse about the cost of treating the pond for another year. The report recommended moving the boom that captures floating algae from the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridge closer to the mouth of Whiskey Ditch. The Worthington Public Works Department will be contacted about moving the boom.

The draft 2013 annual report was discussed. Demuth recommended spelling out acronyms to make it easier to understand. Mahlberg moved to approve the annual report with the acronyms spelled out. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. The report will be posted on the district website soon.

A draft of the 2014 annual plan was discussed. Managers were asked to review the highlighted portions of plan before the March Board meeting.

The draft 2014 budget was reviewed. Mahlberg moved to approve the budget. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Johnson recommended working with DNR staff to write a Lake Ocheda restoration plan that can be presented to the riparian landowners. Livdahl will arrange a meeting between DNR Wildlife and Fisheries staff and the Lake Ocheda plan committee members soon.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

A winter kill of rough fish in Lake Ocheda seems unlikely this season. The deepest parts of Lake Ocheda still had 12 to 14 inches of water under the ice on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Dissolved oxygen levels were between 7 and 8 parts per million on that day. Livdahl will continue to monitor ice depth and DO conditions during the next month.

Johnson and Mahlberg volunteered to get local prices for a side-by-side ATV.

Lake level and stream flow monitoring equipment was ordered last week. The cost of the equipment was approximately \$8000. A portion of the cost will be paid through Worthington's clean water account.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mahlberg moved to adopt the same slate of board officers for 2014. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. The 2014 officers are:

Les Johnson – President  
Rolf Mahlberg – Vice President  
Jeff Rogers – Secretary  
Casey Ingenthron – Treasurer

The managers discussed installing a demonstration woodchip bioreactor to remove nitrogen and dissolved phosphorus from tile water. Ed Lenz contacted the Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area engineers about the feasibility of building a bioreactor uphill of Mahlberg's sediment removal pond. More information will be available after the engineers view the site.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on March 4, 2014 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.  
will cost about \$200 more.