

MINUTES
Public Input Meeting for Bridge Replacement Affecting Bella Park
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
February 6, 2018

The public meeting of the bridge replacement easements at Lake Bella Park was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were watershed district managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg and Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; John Ahlers and Scott Rall advisory committee members; John Shea, SWCD manager; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; Jeff Strom and Tom Langer, Wenck Associates employees; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

A map of the project area, the proposed road right-of-way easement and temporary construction easement were briefly discussed. No payment is expected for granting either the R.O.W. or construction easements.

No written comments were received about the project and no one in attendance made any comments.

The public meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
February 6, 2018

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:05 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg and Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; John Ahlers and Scott Rall advisory committee members; John Shea, SWCD manager; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; Jeff Strom and Tom Langer, Wenck Associates employees; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the January 2018 regular board meeting were reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the minutes. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. 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. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

Well sealing cost-share payments to Amy and Dana Oberloh and Lucia Loza were approved with the bills payable.

OLD BUSINESS

Jeff Strom gave a presentation on Best Management Practices feasibility for treating urban runoff from downtown Worthington and agricultural runoff in the Sunset Bay sub-watershed. Tom Langer explained the carp population assessment completed last fall and potential next steps for further study. Wenck Associates will continue the BMP assessment after talking to Dwayne Haffield about existing city infrastructure. The board will discuss what to do next about carp populations at a future meeting.

A draft of the 2017 annual report was emailed to the managers before the meeting. After discussion, Mahlberg moved to approve the plan. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

A draft of the 2018 annual plan was emailed to the managers before the meeting. Mahlberg moved to approve the plan. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Livdahl attended a county commissioners' work session last week to participate in a discussion on the Herlein-Boote WMA wetland and dam. Kurt Deter recommended that they hold an obstruction hearing for the existing dam to force the DNR to the table to talk about water level management. Changing watershed district boundaries to transfer the Herlein-Boote sub-watershed to the Kanaranzi-Little Rock WD was also discussed.

Livdahl spoke with Joe Bischoff, of Wenck Associates, today to about getting an accelerated implementation grant from BWSR to address in-lake phosphorus loading in Okabena. Bischoff will send a the board a memo describing his vision of the project and next steps.

NEW BUSINESS

Osceloa County Engineer, Aaron Holbeck, needs the board to sign a letter making a de minimis impact finding for the bridge replacement project at Bella Park to access funding for the project. Ingenthron moved to sign the letter. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Changing the district boundary transferring the Herlein-Boote sub-watershed to the Kanaranzi-Little Rock Watershed District was discussed. Two sites in the sub-watershed are have existing OOWD filter strip incentive agreements covering them until their CRP contracts expire. Honoring these agreements is important for the district's future credibility when working with landowners. Since the LiDAR conditioning project will soon be complete, Shea recommended reviewing the whole boundary between the two watershed districts to assess whether more changes should be made.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on March 6, 2018 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road.

Meeting adjourned.