

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
January 4, 2011

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: Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; Al Langseth, district resident, and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the December 2010 regular board meeting were reviewed. Mahlberg moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Rogers 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

A waterway cost-share payment for **Russell Miller** and well sealing cost-share payments for **Hector Andrade, Comunidad Cristiana de Worthington** and **Linden Olson** were approved with the Treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS

Due to the difficulty of acquiring easement releases on the St. John property, a payment for the land sale will likely be made after the property is condemned.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Larson Crane was scheduled to remove sediment from the W9 project forebay on January 9th. The ground was not frozen around the pond so it will be rescheduled for later this winter.

Nobles County is considering the old Worthington swimming pool site for a new library. The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act and Army Corps of Engineers wetland rules may protect the fish rearing ponds on the site. The board feels that ponds should remain in place to capture and store storm water. Livdahl will communicate this to Nobles County at a meeting of interested parties on January 13th.

The letter of engagement will be signed authorizing Dennis Rick, LTD to conduct the 2010 financial audit.

RIM and RIM-WRP Partnership perpetual easement rates were reviewed. Potential sites for wellhead protection easements were discussed. The payment rates are probably not high enough to attract landowner interest without additional incentives.

Paul Fishel called to state that he was not happy to receive the letter of permit violation for his construction site.

Software was purchased to update the district's website.

NEW BUSINESS

Mahlberg moved to keep the same slate of board officers in 2011. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Mahlberg moved to designate Bank of the West and Worthington Federal Savings Bank as depositories in 2011. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

A Lake Ocheda Landowners meeting is scheduled for February 3rd in the Farmers Room. University of Minnesota carp control researchers will be invited to speak at the meeting.

It is the opinion of Worthington staff and Livdahl that the water quality and flow monitoring planned for the Missouri River Basin TMDL is not adequate to answer outstanding questions about Lake Okabena's watershed or set TMDL's for the lake. Haffied and Livdahl plan to meet with MPCA staff in February to discuss developing a monitoring plan for Lake Okabena. The additional monitoring would likely be paid for by the city and watershed district.

Developing the 2011 annual plan will be on the agenda for the February meeting. Managers were encouraged to think about potential projects for the coming year.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on February 1, 2011 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.