

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
January 7, 2020

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were managers Steve Bousema, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr and Matt Widboom, county commissioners; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The Lake Ocheda dam modification construction project is nearly complete. The contractor will install the fish barrier screens as soon as they are manufactured. Rogers and Livdahl will review payment requests from the contractor and Ducks Unlimited before issuing final payments.

The Prairie View grant period ended in December. The as-built drawings will be uploaded to eLINK when they are received and the final grant report will be submitted. A payment of \$42,800 will be issued by the state when the report is approved. Livdahl and Rogers will review the final payment request from Wenck before issuing the check.

The draft 2020 budget was discussed. Rogers moved to approve the budget. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Campaign Finance Board requires annual recertification of board members' economic interests by January 27th.

All the counties, SWCDs and WDs in the Missouri River watershed have signed the joint powers agreement to form the Missouri River Watershed Partnership Joint Powers Organization. Local government units need to appoint members to the governing board. Milbrandt moved to appoint Ingenthron to the board. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. The members will likely meet later in January to approve bylaws, form committees, develop a contract for services, etc.

Dissolved oxygen will be monitored in Lake Ocheda beginning in January. The district will purchase an ice auger and drill to power it. The drill will also be used to raise and lower the dam's fish barrier screens.

NEW BUSINESS

Plans for removing carp from Lake Okabena this winter were discussed. Worthington will publish a notice that the aerators will be operated in the lake beginning on January 22nd or later. Scott Delauriers and Livdahl will look for schools carp in the lake with sonar and the radio trackers. If the carp congregate in the lake and ice conditions allow, seining will be attempted before the aerators are turned on.

The BWSR wellhead protection grant agreement was discussed. Milbrandt moved to sign the agreement. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Dennis Rick, LTD proposes to do the 2019 financial audit for \$3700. Milbrandt moved to sign the engagement letter with Dennis Rick to do the audit. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers.

Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on February 4, 2020 in the Nobles County Public Works Building meeting room at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. Milbrandt moved to adjourn the meeting. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Meeting adjourned.