

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**July 12, 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, Jim Mc Gowan and Jeff Williamson. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., County Commissioner; Scott Rall, Nobles County Pheasants Forever Chapter President and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the June 2011 regular board meeting were reviewed. Williamson moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. The first half of the 2011 levy and the payment from MnDOT for the St. John property were received in June. A budget summary for the first half of 2011 was reviewed. Williamson moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Seeding was completed for the Bella park grassland enhancement project by the middle of June. The seeded areas are doing well due to the regular rain. The application for reimbursement of grant expenses was submitted before the state shutdown on July 1<sup>st</sup>. No Conservation Partners Legacy Grant money may be spent during the shutdown.

Reimbursing the Nobles County Pheasants Forever chapter for part of the purchase price for the Siefert property and the whole purchase price of the Virgil Wiertsema property was discussed. The district entered a partnership earlier with Pheasants Forever, Worthington Public Utilities and the Olson Trust to acquire these critical properties in the Lake Bella Wellhead Protection Area. The properties will be donated to the DNR and will become part of the Peterson and Wachter Slough wildlife management areas. Mc Gowan moved to pay the chapter \$71,608 for the Seifert property and \$23,400 for the Virgil Wiertsema property. Williamson seconded the motion.

Managing the tree growth on the St. John property was discussed.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The Vander Koois planted a grass buffer on the east shore of Smith Lake. It ranges from about 30 to 50 feet wide.

The Lake Ocheda landowners group will meet on July 19<sup>th</sup> at the Langseth Retreat Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. Scott Des Laurier, commercial fishing license holder for SW MN, will be present to talk about seining the lake to remove rough fish.

Reimbursement for the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant should occur soon after the state shutdown ends.

A listening session and Local Work Group meeting will be held on July 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The lease for the district office in the Nobles County Public Works Facility expires on January 31, 2012. The current lease gives the option to renew it for five years. Williamson moved to send a letter to Nobles County exercising the lease renewal option. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Two hundred storm sewer markers were purchased to be installed by Livdahl as a part of Worthington's stormwater education program.

The water quality and safety implications of installing docks on the grade between Sunset Bay and Lake Okabena were discussed.

### **PERMITS**

Mc Gowan moved to approve the following permit applications:

**Johnson Builders and Realtors, Inc.** – to perform erosion and sediment control during the installation of a water main on Cherrywood Lane.

**ISD 518** – to implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan during reconstruction of a parking lot at Prairie Elementary.

**City of Worthington** – to perform sediment and erosion control during sanitary sewer, water main and storm sewer reconstruction on Second Avenue and Oslo Street.

Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on August 2, 2011 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Williamson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Meeting adjourned.