

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

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was hosted from the Nobles County Public Works facility meeting room using Zoom video conferencing software. Present on-site was Dan Livdahl, administrator. Attending remotely were managers Steve Bousema, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present from offsite locations were: Bob Demuth, Jr. and Matt Widboom, county commissioners and Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. The first half of the district's 2020 levy was deposited into the Bank of the West checking account. Ingenthron moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A meeting is scheduled on July 14th with Todd Hubmer, Wenck Associates Engineer, to discuss Lake Okabena carp management activities. Ingenthron, Mahlberg and Livdahl will attend.

The closing for the Jesse Drost property purchase occurred earlier today. The schedule for the property's prairie restoration and closing out the BWSR wellhead protection grant were discussed.

Mahlberg talked to John Landgaard about working with the school board on water quality projects on the ISD #518 land draining into Sunset Bay. The school district will advertise for bids for the new Middle School there in August. The school board is interested in discussing plans for the next 60 acres of the property in late August or September.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Steve Robinson's culverts washed out again during the rainstorm in June. He is looking at options for repairing them.

Livdahl sprayed thistles at Prairie View and the Bella property this spring. He is also removing sediment from the Prairie View sand filters when water levels permit.

The Bella Park trails are being used by the public. Mahlberg will continue to mow them.

NEW BUSINESS

Milbrandt pointed out the good water clarity and lack of algae blooms in Lake Okabena this year. Submerged plants are growing around the lake and are very abundant in Sunset Bay. Contributing factors for the improved water quality in 2019 and 2020 were discussed.

The 2019 financial audit report was emailed to the board today. Board members will review it and discuss it further at the August board meeting.

PERMITS

Rogers moved to approve the following permit application and authorize Livdahl to sign the permit resolution form.

Golden Horizons – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a memory care addition at 1790 Collegeway in Worthington.

Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on August 4, 2020 in the Nobles County Public Works Building meeting room. Meeting adjourned.