

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**June 5, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg and Jim Mc Gowan. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., County Commissioner; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; Julie Buntjer, Globe Reporter and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Mahlberg moved to approve the Treasurer's report, pay the bills and transfer \$7000 from the Worthington Federal money market account into the checking account at Wells Fargo. Ingenthron seconded the motion.

**COST-SHARE**

A cost-share payment totaling \$941.88 for a waterway reconstruction will be issued to Doug Anton on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Livdahl surveyed the property line between the St. John and the Klaustermeier property. The St. John property is about 6 inches lower, so water can flow onto the property from the Klaustermeier land under some circumstances. Creating an area to store water in the SW corner of the St. John property was discussed. Managers will look at the site before the next board meeting. Roger and Larry Doeden were unable to farm the area this year due to wet weather and construction activities. R&G Construction will likely finish hauling in fill and complete the final grading of the St. John property in late July or August.

An attempt was made to contact Scott Des Lauriers this spring about seining carp from Lake Ocheda.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Purchasing a trailer for the district was discussed. Mahlberg moved to spend up to \$1200 for a trailer. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Conrad Schmidt re-enrolled his wetland area in the CRP. The incentive payment for this site will be about \$900 per year for the length of the contract.

The hospice cottage board has planted shrubs and flowers in both rain garden basins.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Enforcing the district's rules for filter strips along streams and ditches was discussed. Modifying the districts rules to better address filter strips requirements, manure application, soil erosion and feedlots was discussed. The managers will bring a list to the next meeting of issues that should be addressed in the district's long term plan or by rules changes.

The new vegetation at Bella Park is growing well. Johnson and Livdahl toured the area to come up with a management plan for this year. Livdahl will continue to spot spray thistles as time permits.

Copies of the 2011 audit report were given to the managers.

## **PERMITS**

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit applications:

**City of Worthington** – to perform erosion and sediment control during storm sewer and street reconstruction on Collegeway.

**City of Worthington** – to perform erosion and sediment control during storm sewer, street and sidewalk reconstruction at various places in Worthington.

**Harlan Handevitd** – to perform erosion control during the removal and replacement of retaining walls in the shoreland impact zone at 220 Lake Avenue.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on July 10, 2012 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.

**MINUTES**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**June 28, 2012**

The special meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 8:00 a.m. to discuss the placement of fill from the Highway 60 project onto the St. John property. Present were managers Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg Jim Mc Gowan and Jeff Rogers. Manager Casey Ingenthron attended the meeting by telephone. Also present were: Scott Mathiowetz, R and G Construction Company; Wayne Smith, County Environmental Services Director; Doug Anton and Keith Schroeder, Advisory Board members; Richard Fellows and Al Langseth, district residents; and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

Wayne Smith explained that the St. John property is in a designated floodplain. According to the Nobles County ordinance, placement of fill in the area is a permitted use. A permit application is required for the site.

Scott Mathiowetz explained that about 150,000 yards of muck have been placed on the site and up to 250,000 may be deposited there before the project is complete. He said he hoped the muck excavation would be done in the next two weeks. The area would then be graded to return it to farmable conditions.

Richard Fellows stated that he farms the Klaustermeier property that borders the district's property on the east. He believes that the placement of fill on the district's property caused the land he farms to flood during the last two seasons.

Storing stormwater on the district's property, while reducing impacts on the neighboring property, was discussed. Creating a stormwater basin was rejected since it would soon fill with cottonwood trees and other undesirable vegetation. Ingenthron moved adoption of the following written motion:

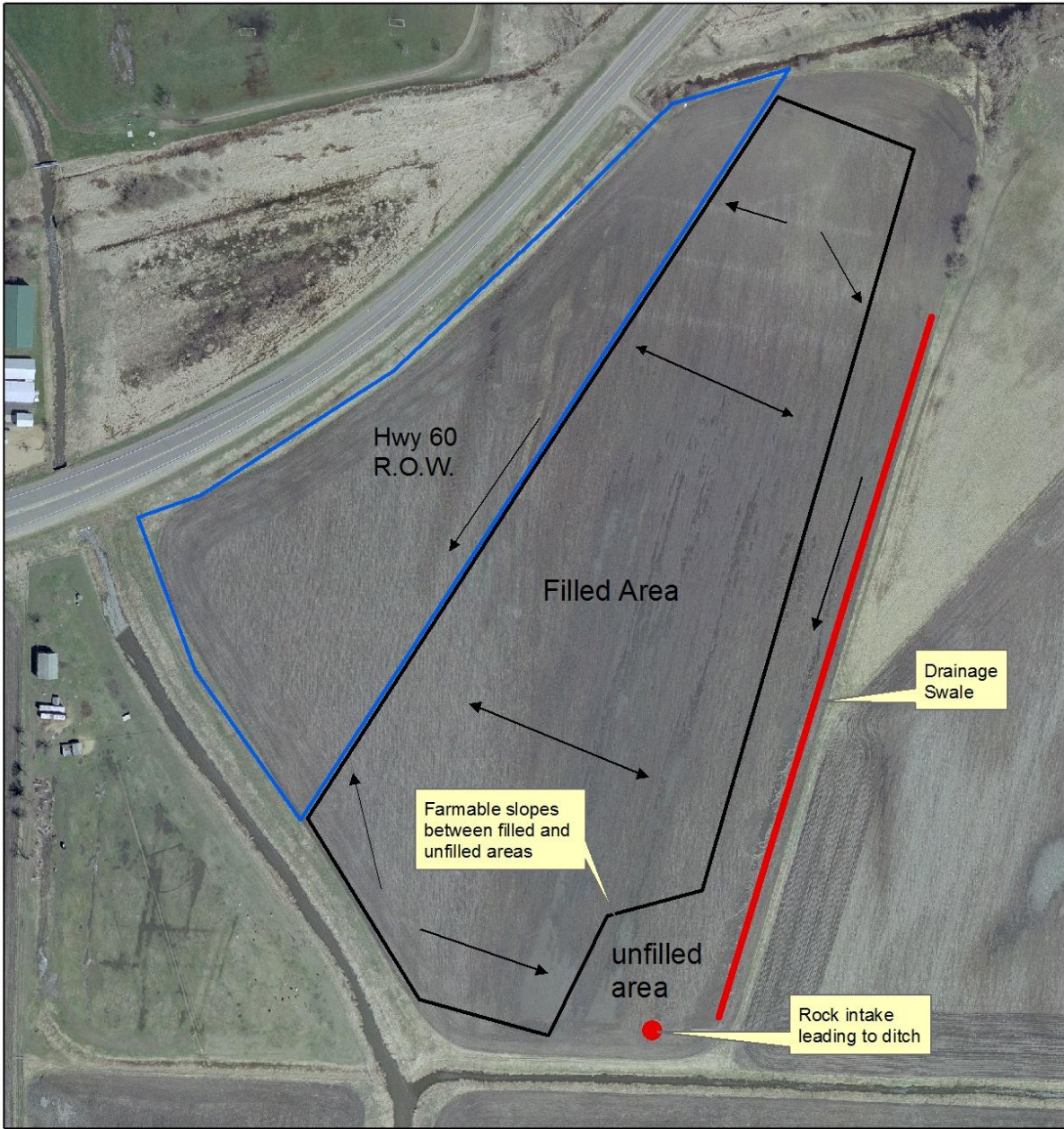
In an effort to contain surface runoff, the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District will, on their own property, construct a farmable berm of sufficient height, extending northerly along the easterly property boundary. The intent of the berm is to keep and hold all surface water that originates on the district's property and retain it on this property.

Rogers seconded the motion. Extensive discussion followed on the motion. Ingenthron explained that his motion furthers the goals of the watershed district while allowing the best use from the farming perspective in addition to helping the adjoining property owner. The watershed district can then dispose of this property for its highest and best value and use the proceeds in the most beneficial manner for the watershed and its efforts. Johnson called the question. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mc Gowan. Opposed: Rogers, Mahlberg, Johnson. Motion failed.

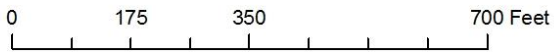
Mahlberg moved to create a swale on the eastern boundary of the St. John property with a rock outlet to the ditch, and after making the slopes farmable, leave an unfilled area in the south eastern portion of the property. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative : Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers. Opposed: none. Abstained: Ingenthron.

Discussion about the final grade of the property continued. The property will be graded as shown on the drawing below.

St. John Property Fill Site, 2012



→ Arrows point downhill



Meeting adjourned.