

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
June 4, 2013

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 Jeff Rogers. Jay Milbrandt arrived at the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., County Commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Daily Globe reporter and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Mahlberg moved to approve the Treasurer's report, approve payment of the bills listed in the report, and transfer \$6000 from the money market account into checking. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Livdahl contacted Mike Morrison, Indian Lake Township supervisor, by phone about the replacement a culvert under Sundberg Avenue. Mr. Morrison said that the township gave Ken Meyerdirk permission to replace the culvert at a lower elevation. He said the township board was unaware that a watershed district permit was needed for the work. Copies of the township board minutes and letters of support for Meyerdirk's project were mailed to the district by the township clerk.

A draft notice of violation for the Meyerdirk project was reviewed by the managers. Mahlberg moved to send the notice of violation to Ken Meyerdirk. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The SWCD engineering staff from Slayton will be contacted to see if it is feasible to hold more stormwater on the St. John property by installing a ditch block. There may be a fee for their services.

Examples of other watershed districts' accounting and financial transaction polices were reviewed. Milbrant and Livdahl will do some research and recommend policy changes for improving the district's internal controls.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Livdahl will attend the Association of District Administrators meeting and Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Summer Tour in New Ulm on June 19 – 21.

Many patches of thistles need to be sprayed at Bella Park in the areas seeded to grasses and forbs in 2011. Cottonwood trees are also colonizing some of the newly seeded areas.

Worthington received its MS4 stormwater permit recently. The permit will likely require some new policies, procedures and paperwork for construction site inspections.

A dissolved oxygen meter, cable and sensor were purchased about two weeks ago. Livdahl intends to collect DO information from three locations in Lake Okabena, as close to weekly as possible, from now through September.

NEW BUSINESS

Creating a recreational trail for hikers and mountain bikers at Bella Park was discussed. Milbrandt recommended mowing a trail and measuring its use. Livdahl will walk the property to see whether mowing a trail around the lake is possible and what obstacles would need to be crossed.

Livdahl met with Connie Schmidt and Glen Thuringer to discuss a strategy for the use of Bioverse products on Whiskey Ditch in 2013. Bioverse interns will monitor vegetation growth and algae in the ditch this summer. Efforts will focus on controlling the buildup and smell of rotting algae between Lake Okabena and the Tenth Avenue bridge.

Livdahl and Haffield are still working with MPCA staff and Wenck Engineering to create a monitoring proposal for Lake Okabena.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit applications:

C.S. McCrossan Construction, Inc. – to implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan during the construction, operation and removal of a temporary concrete paving plant in Worthington.

Dan Wagner – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a new home at 1950 Willow Avenue in Worthington.

Worthington Public Utilities – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a water main in the Nobles County Highway 35 right-of-way.

City of Worthington – to perform erosion control during a bituminous overlay project on First Avenue Southwest and a bituminous overlay project on Tenth Street that includes sidewalk, curb and gutter removal and replacement.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on July 9, 2013 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.