

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**June 1, 2021**

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 meeting software. Present on-site was Dan Livdahl, administrator. Attending remotely were managers Steve Bousema, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg and Jay Milbrandt. Also present from offsite locations were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor and Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Milbrandt moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The draft ISD 518 Crailsheim Property Alternatives Report was reviewed. The consultant will be directed to further develop alternatives 2 and 4 and work with the School District as authorized by the services agreement on site development alternatives.

Okabena's radio telemetry tagged carp have been tracked at least weekly during April and May. Carp have been primarily located in Sunset Bay during the spawning season.

Lake Ocheda's water level remains about 0.8 feet below the spillway elevation. Low water levels have allowed the resuspension of sediment during high winds. The water is also colored an unusual brown color, probably by algae. Monthly water quality sampling will begin in June.

Trail cameras were not installed at Bella Park. They are reasonably priced, but difficult to place where they will provide surveillance of roads the boat landing and shelters but not be stolen or vandalized. Privacy concerns were briefly discussed.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

An algae bloom is occurring in Lake Okabena today. The predominant algae species seems to be the same as during the bloom in early June 2020. Bousema moved to spend up to \$1000 to purchase algae bloom toxin test kits. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Mahlberg mowed the Bella Park trails for the first time this year on May 21<sup>st</sup>. He will continue to mow as needed throughout the year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Livdahl will contact the Worthington Administration and Public Works departments about scheduling a public meeting for the landowners around Sunset Bay to discuss alternatives for using the bay to control Lake Okabena's carp population. The meeting will likely take place in June or July.

**PERMITS**

Ingenthron moved to approve the following permit applications.

**City of Worthington** – to perform erosion and sediment control during the removal of concrete and site restoration at 707 South Shore Drive, Worthington

**Highland Manufacturing** – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of approximately 12,000 square feet of concrete to create improved access to Rowe Avenue, Worthington.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on July 6, 2021 in the Nobles County Public Works Building meeting room. Ingenthron moved to adjourn the meeting. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Meeting adjourned.