MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
March 6, 2018

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, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; Scott Rall advisory committee member; John Shea, SWCD manager; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the February 2018 regular board meeting and the Bella Park bridge public input hearing were reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the minutes. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s report and bills payable were discussed. Ingenthron moved to approve the Treasurer’s report, pay the bills and transfer $8000 from the savings account into checking. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS
Controlling carp populations in Okabena and Ocheda lakes was discussed. Hiring Wenck Associates to do an additional transect estimating Okabena’s carp population would cost about $3500. Milbrandt moved to ask the Olson Trust to pay $3500 for the Okabena carp population survey. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. The Olson Trust normally meets in April. Mahlberg moved to pursue Olson Trust participation in the Lake Ocheda fish barrier scheduled for construction in 2018. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Johnson explained that the Walk-In-Access agreement for Bella Park was cancelled by the DNR after a request from Senator Weber. The district will receive a prorated payment for the time the land was covered by the agreement.

Both a DNR waters and an Army Corps of Engineers permit will be needed before construction occurs to modify the Lake Ocheda dam and install a fish barrier. Obtaining the Corps permit may delay construction until 2019. An email from Kassondra Hendricks states that preliminary designs for the project will be completed during late spring or early summer.

Conditioned LiDAR maps will be used to check the entire boundary between the OOWD and Kanaranzi-Little Rock WD during boundary change discussions. The district has three filter strip incentive agreements in place in the Herlein-Boote sub-watershed.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
A draft sign for the Prairie View project site was delivered to Behrends Sign Works. Design work will be done sometime soon. Livdahl requested a bid for the sign and installation.

Livdahl will attend the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts legislative event this week.

NEW BUSINESS
The One Watershed, One Plan Policy Committee met to discuss organizational structures for implementing the plan. The managers reviewed possible agreements between the participating local governmental units.

ADJOURNMENT
The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on April 3, 2018 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road.

Meeting adjourned.