

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
May 4, 2010

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were Managers Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jim Mc Gowan and Jeff Williamson. Also present were: Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; Scott Rall, Nobles County Pheasants Forever President, and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the April board meeting were reviewed. Mahlberg moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Williamson. 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 \$6000 for operating expenses into the checking account. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Rall reported that there is a problem with title to Virgil Wiertsema's property that may require quite title action to clear. The process will take up to five months and will cost up to \$5000. Rall suggested that the District spend from \$1000 to \$1500 of the money set aside for property acquisition costs to help pay for the quite title action costs. Mahlberg moved to spend up to \$1000 toward clearing the title. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The rules committee met on April 29th to consider state agency and public comments to the draft amended rules document. A draft of the rules incorporating many of the comments was recommended by the committee to the board for adoption. Mahlberg moved to adopt the rules. Williamson seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Johnson, Mahlberg and Livdahl met with DNR Fisheries staff, Ryan Doorenbus and Brian Schultz, on April 13th to discuss Lake Ocheda water level drawdown options, rough fish control, vegetation management, lake restocking, aeration and fish barriers. They agreed to restock the lake after a drawdown.

Paul Langseth said the Lake Ocheda landowners will likely have a gathering to tour the lake and discuss management options in July.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mahlberg helped install the dock at the Bella Park boat landing. A few willow fascines were installed on the Lake Bella shoreline and along a slumped bank on the Ochedan River. They will be monitored to see if they grow and stabilize the banks.

Livdahl will be inspecting large construction sites for stormwater pollution prevention plan compliance this construction season. Worthington will reimburse the district for his time. Sod should be installed on the Meadows construction site in the next week.

The W9 project dam was inspected by the DNR last week. Tom Kresko reported that the structure looks good, but some willows near the outlet structure should be removed. Livdahl cut them and applied herbicide to the stumps today.

Water was pumped out of the manhole at the W9 dam to allow access to the low flow pipe valve.

Norm Gallagher's retirement party is on May 7th. Livdahl will purchase a card for the managers to sign.

Livdahl said he has time for projects this summer. Johnson said he should contact Von Holtum, Busse and Gordon about CRP contracts.

NEW BUSINESS

The schedule for the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant project at Bella Park was discussed. The land will be prepared for seeding this year and planted during spring 2011. John Ahlers agreed to do tillage and herbicide application starting in June. A controlled burn may need to be done this fall to remove excess dead vegetation.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit applications:

Hy-Vee, Inc. – to perform erosion control during construction of a retail facility in Worthington and to build stormwater facilities.

Wayne and Dea Klumper – to perform erosion control during construction of a new home in the SW ¼, section 34, Worthington Township.

City of Worthington – to perform erosion control during concrete surface restoration projects on First Avenue, Clary Street, Lake Avenue and Strait Avenue.

Kelvin Vande Kamp – to install approximately 5000 feet of 4 and 5 inch diameter tile and install approximately 1200 feet of non-perforated tile to create and outlet to Lake Ocheda in the SE ¼, section 32, Lorain Township.

James Langseth – to install approximately 4500 feet of 5 inch diameter tile and replace approximately 1200 feet of tile in the SE ¼, section 8, Indian Lake Township.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on June 1, 2010 at the Nobles County Public Works Facility, 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.