

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
May 1, 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; Scott Hain, Worthington Public Utilities General Manager and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the April regular board meeting were reviewed. Mahlberg moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Mc Gowan 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 \$5000 from the Worthington Federal money market account into the checking account at Wells Fargo. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

A cost-share application from Jerald Toussaint for a waterway in section 33, Worthington Township was discussed. Mahlberg moved to approve cost-share of 75% of the actual cost of the practice, up to a maximum of \$5,890.00, with a requirement that the practice be maintained for a minimum of 15 years. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A meeting occurred today between Minnesota DNR, Iowa DNR, Worthington Public Utilities, City of Worthington, Heron Lake Watershed District, Kanaranzi-Little Rock Watershed District and OOWD staff to discuss options for keeping carp from using the Herlein-Boote diversion ditch to migrate into the OOWD and the Des Moines River watershed. Some modeling will be done on the effects of closing the diversion ditch on Worthington's water supply and lake levels.

Placement of fill on the St. John property from the Highway 60 project is ongoing. Richard Fellows has expressed concerns that raising a portion of the property will impede drainage of the adjacent land that he farms. R & G Construction will do the final grading of the property sometime before the end of the construction season. Options will be discussed with them for grading the property to maintain drainage.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Lake water levels have been low this spring. No flow has been observed over the spillways of the dams at lakes Okabena, Ocheda or Bella. Some water has been flowing through the water control structure at the Herlein-Boote wetland.

The fish barrier was installed at the Lake Ocheda dam on April 17th.

Mahlberg and Livdahl led sustainable agriculture workshops for students at Worthington, Slayton, Fulda and Lamberton high schools this spring. They will teach sessions in Ivanhoe, Slayton and Fulda next week.

Trees were planted and coir logs installed for the Langseth shoreline stabilization project. Construction should begin in May after the riprap is delivered to the site.

The MAWD summer tour will be in the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District from June 21 to 23.

NEW BUSINESS

Demuth reported that the Olson Trust fund board would like to spend money on stabilizing the banks of Okabena Creek as it enters Worthington. The board has approximately \$50,000 that can be spent on projects. A survey of the eroding area would be helpful to understand the scope of the work needed and complete a cost estimate.

Mahlberg moved to support the trust board's proposal to do a study on the ditch. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Demuth handed out aquatic invasive species boat stickers and explained that more are available at the Chamber of Commerce office.

Compliance of construction sites with watershed district erosion control rules was discussed.

Mowing and spraying the new prairie planting at Bella Park was discussed. State grant money for establishing the vegetation must be spent before the end of June.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit applications:

Mark Holden – to perform erosion control during construction and install riprap within the shoreland area of Lake Ocheda at 31175 297th Street, Worthington.

Robert Ludlow – to perform erosion control during the removal and replacement of a retaining wall within the shoreland area at 807 West Shore Drive, Worthington.

Johnson Builders and Realtors – to perform erosion control during construction of a home for Mike and Peggy Walters at 1722 Pinewood Avenue, Worthington.

David Copperud – to perform erosion control during construction of a home at 1945 Woodland Court, Worthington.

Mc Gowan 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 June 5, 2012 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.