

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**May 2, 2017**

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 Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Keith Schroeder and Doug Anton, advisory committee members; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; John Shea, SWCD Manager; Julie Buntjer, Daily Globe reporter and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the April regular board meeting were reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the minutes. Mahlberg seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. 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 \$11,000 from savings to checking. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Replacing open tile intakes in public road ditches with rock intakes was discussed. John Shea will ask Kurt Deter whether there is a state law, rule or court precedent that restricts installing open tile intakes in public road right-of-ways. Paul Langseth will research how townships and SWCDs may become involved in replacing open intakes with rock intakes.

The Prairie View project construction phase engineering contract with Wenck Associates, Inc. was discussed. Ingenthron moved to sign the contract as presented. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Nobles County conditional use permit hearing for the Prairie View project was continued until May 17, 2017. The Planning and Zoning Board members wants to know whether raising the level of the ponds will affect tile draining Mike and Steve Bousema's property. The tile flow lines will be surveyed. Exposing one tile so it can be surveyed was discussed. An excavator will be hired if necessary.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Jesse Drost will meet with the Nobles County commissioners on June 6th to ask for permission to install tile draining property located in one drainage district into another. The project would also install tile from the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District into the Kanaranzi-Little Rock Watershed District. District rules require a permit for the proposed project.

Johnson and Livdahl installed plastic and fabric on the St. John property ditch plug on April 6th. It appears that the plug is now holding more water in the wetland area.

Livdahl will pick up three floating islands in St. Paul and plant plugs in Otsego later this week. The islands will be installed by 4-H members on May 20th.

The 1W1P Policy Committee met yesterday and approved a contract to hire Houston Engineering to work on the plan. Nobles County passed a motion today to sign the consulting contract after the County Attorney makes a few changes to the language.

The Olson Trust board met on April 9th. They decided to contribute \$26,000 to cover contingencies during construction on the Prairie View project. The trust board will hold a special meeting to consider contributing more to project construction if the bids are higher than expected.

BWSR staff will be in Worthington on May 8th to train Livdahl on Clean Water Fund grant administration.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bids for the Prairie View Project will be opened at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 5, 2017 in the Public Works Facility meeting room. Johnson and Ingenthron will be present.

A special meeting is needed to award the Prairie View project contract to the lowest bidder. Mahlberg moved to hold a special meeting on May 10, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the board meeting room. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

A Minnesota Walk-In Access program agreement for the district's property around Lake Bella was discussed. The property is already open to public hunting, but enrolling it in the program will allow the state to put it on the map, install signs and make an annual payment to the district. Mahlberg moved to approve and sign the Walk-In Access agreement. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

## **PERMITS**

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit application:

**City of Worthington** - to modify the Prairie View ponds and install sand filters in the SE 1/4, section 9, Worthington Township.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on June 6, 2017 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road.

Mahlberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.