

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
November 4, 2008

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in Room 207 of the Minnesota West Community and Technical College Administration and Classroom Building. Present were Managers Les Johnson, Jim Mc Gowan, Jeff Rogers and Jeff Williamson. Also present were Norm Gallagher, County Commissioner and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the October regular board meeting were reviewed. Williamson moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Williamson moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

A cost-share application was mailed to Paul Standafer to replace a failed septic system. He will be paid when the cost-share application and a copy of the project bills are received.

OLD BUSINESS

A summary of the status of erosion control permits was discussed.

Livdahl and Mc Gowan attended the public hearing for the Nobles County Comprehensive Water Plan/Watershed District Management Plan today. The County Commissioners passed a motion to submit the plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for review. The plan will be mailed to the DNR Division of Waters soon for their comments.

Letters were written to six people stating that the OOWD needs a copy of the current CRP contract before 2008 filter strip incentive payments are issued. So far, copies of new or renewed contracts were received from five people.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Ocheda Beavers 4-H Club volunteered to help with water sampling on Lake Ocheda this year. Livdahl presented a summary of the testing results to the club on November 3rd. The Club passed a motion to help with water sampling on Lake Bella in 2009. Johnson will see if a dock can be found for the Bella Park boat landing.

Trash was removed from the St. John property. Controlling cottonwood trees growing on the site was discussed. Livdahl will cut the trees this fall and spray them in the spring.

A letter was received from Mel Ruppert notifying the board about the 2008 and 2009 office rental rate.

Livdahl met with Jim Laffrenzen at Buss Field to establish a snow storage setback from Ditch 6. Worthington may need to use the swimming pool parking lot for snow storage next spring. If so, measures will be installed to keep the silt out of the storm sewers.

NEW BUSINESS

Leonard Ruesch is working with NRCS staff to repair the gully on his property in section 16, Worthington Township. It is unknown whether the site has enough fall to build a grassed waterway. If a waterway can be built that meets NRCS specifications, the land would be eligible for enrollment in the CRP program and could receive an OOWD incentive payment.

Pheasants Forever will soon be negotiating with two landowners to purchase land near the Wachter Slough WMA. Since this area is in the Bella Wellhead Protection Area, Pheasants Forever will likely ask the board to contribute to the land purchases.

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts meeting will occur on December 4-6 at Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria. Williamson moved to authorize the Administrator and one Manager to attend the meeting. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

PERMITS

Rogers moved to approve the following permit application:

Minnesota West Community and Technical College – to perform erosion control during the installation of a 0.94 acre parking lot.

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

Williamson moved to approve the following permit applications:

Ecumen – to perform erosion control during construction of an addition to the Meadows Facility at 1801 Collegeway.

Fareway Stores, Inc. – to perform erosion control and construct stormwater facilities during the extension of Stower Drive and construction of a Fareway store in the Fareway First Addition, Worthington.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. on December 2, 2008 at the Nobles County Public Works Facility, 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.