

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
November 13, 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 Steve Bousema, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., county commissioner; Keith Schroeder, advisory committee member; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the October board meeting were reviewed. Rogers moved to approve the minutes. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. A list of buffer strip incentive payments issued after the October meeting was reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The sand layers were replaced in the Prairie View pond filter benches last week. A summary of total expected Prairie View project income and expenses was reviewed. An additional 10 inch diameter pipe and valve costing \$10,900 will be installed to allow better management of the pond water levels. If the weather cooperates and the Flexamat is delivered on time, the spillway will be repaired soon.

The district passed a motion approving a joint powers agreement with the DNR for reconstruction and management of the Lake Ocheda dam. State reviewers decided the agreement needed to be modified before it is executed. The new JPA was emailed to the managers for review before the meeting. Ingenthron moved to sign the agreement. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The board passed a motion earlier this year to rent the St. John property agricultural land to the University of Minnesota for \$100 per acre per year for a pollinator study. Livdahl will sign the three year rental agreement.

Milbrandt and Livdahl attended a Worthington city council work session on October 18th to discuss the results of the Lake Okabena carp population surveys and strategies for carp management. The consultant recommended a multi-year program that includes installing radio telemetry trackers, identifying spawning areas, blocking access to spawning areas and fish removals. The council decided to spend \$52,000 for carp control in 2019 from the city clean water fund if the Okabena-Ocheda-Bella Clean Water Partnership board approves the expenditure. Other partners, including the Olson Trust and Nobles County, will be contacted about paying for future expenses. The managers discussed coming along side of other partners to control carp populations in the lake. Staff time will be used in 2019 to make it happen.

It is unknown whether if repairs to the Prairie View spillway and Bella riprap are eligible for FEMA reimbursement. A phone with the call with FEMA public assistance staff is scheduled for later this week.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ingenthron and Livdahl will attend the MAWD annual meeting on November 29th through December 1st in Alexandria. Registration is open until Friday.

Construction has not begun on the state line road bridge at Bella Park. Precast concrete culverts were being installed today on the next bridge to the west of the Ochedan River.

Les Johnson provided the materials and helped Livdahl replace the broken log gate at Bella Park. Livdahl repaired siding and painted the park restroom last week.

NEW BUSINESS

Corn yields were poor on the St. John property this year. Neugebauer paid the first half to the rent in March. Rogers

moved to forgive the second half of the rent. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Casey Ingenthron was appointed to replace Les Johnson as a representative on the Okabena-Ocheda-Bella Clean Water Partnership Joint Powers Board.

The district has business checking accounts at Wells Fargo and Bank of the West and a money market account at Worthington Federal Savings Bank. Since Steve Bousema was appointed to replace Les Johnson on the board, signature cards for the accounts need to be updated. Jeff Rogers moved to authorize and require Steve Bousema, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt, Jeff Rogers and Dan Livdahl to be on the signature cards for each account. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

It was decided to elect board officers in November of each year. Rogers moved to nominate the following officers.

Rolf Mahlberg – President
Casey Ingenthron – Vice President
Jay Milbrandt – Treasurer
Jeff Rogers – Secretary

Bousema moved that nominations cease. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Rogers moved to approve the board officers as nominated. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Rogers moved to make Ingenthron the voting delegate at the 2018 MAWD Annual Meeting. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The 2019 budget will be discussed at the December 4th board meeting. Ingenthron and Rogers will complete Livdahl's annual performance evaluation and recommend salary and benefits changes before the meeting. Performance review forms will be emailed to the managers soon.

PERMITS

Rogers moved to approve the following permit applications:

First State Bank SW – to perform erosion and sediment control during building demolition, sign construction and landscaping at 1433 Oxford Street, Worthington.

Smith Trucking – to implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan during construction of a building and concrete apron at 609 Kragness Avenue, Worthington.

City of Worthington – to perform erosion and sediment control during repairs of lakeshore, streambank and the bike trail at Olson Park.

City of Worthington – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a splash pad at Centennial Park.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Rogers moved to adjourn the meeting. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Meeting adjourned.