

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
November 2, 2021

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, Rolf Mahlberg and Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; John Ahlers, advisory committee member; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; Kari Lucin, Globe reporter and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Milbrandt moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Lake Ocheda's level is approximately the same today as before the drawdown began. Drone footage was viewed showing vegetation slowing water flow through Peterson Slough, the Ochedan River channel and Lake Bella.

Rogers, Mahlberg, Livdahl and Chris Otterness met with the Worthington School Board on October 19th to discuss building a water quality pond on the District 518 Crailsheim property. The school board will discuss the project sometime in the future and decide whether they are supportive enough of the project to justify spending the money needed for the next phase of engineering.

The list of 2021 filter strip incentive payments was discussed. At least one more landowner needs to provide proof of eligibility before the last payment is issued.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Scott Deslauriers plans to sein Lake Okabena this fall when the water temperature is low enough to assure gamefish survival. He said he is having trouble hiring a fishing crew. Scott is aware that money is available if needed to subsidize the carp removal.

Matt Widboom sent an email to the OOWD and SWCD offering to run public service announcements on the Radio Works stations. Running urban stormwater PSAs was recommended.

The water is approximately six inches deep today on the Prairie View pond filter benches. Most of the water leaving the pond is still flowing out through the open manhole.

NEW BUSINESS

Paying for a drone pilot certification class and testing was discussed. Milbrandt moved to pay for Livdahl to get trained and take the test.. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The MAWD conference and annual meeting is virtual again this year. Ingenthron and Livdahl will register. Ingenthron was designated as the district's voting delegate during the association business meeting.

The 2022 budget will be discussed at the December board meeting. Mahlberg and Rogers will conduct an evaluation of Livdahl's job performance and discuss pay and benefits with him before then.

PERMITS

Ingenthron moved to approve the following permit application.

Palma Custom Auto – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a storage building at 1506 Oxford Street, Worthington.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on December 7, 2021 in the Nobles County Public Works Building meeting room. Milbrandt moved to adjourn the meeting. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.