

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
October 5, 2010

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were Managers Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jim Mc Gowan, Jeff Rogers and Jeff Williamson. Also present were: Scott Rall, Pheasant Forever President and Advisory Board member; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; and Dan Livdahl, Administrator.

The minutes of the September regular board meeting and the 2011 budget hearing were reviewed. Mahlberg moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Money needs to be transferred from savings into checking to cover filter strip incentive payments, CWP Joint Powers Board expenses, payroll liabilities and monthly expenses. Mahlberg moved to approve the Treasurer's report, pay the bills and transfer \$42,000 from the money market account into the checking account. Mc Gowan seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE AND INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

A cost-share payment for sealing Esther Sheepstra's well was approved with the Treasurer's Report. Livdahl will inspect the CRP filter strip sites before payments are made. Mahlberg moved to make the filter strip incentive payments for eligible sites. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A revised offer was received from the Minnesota Department of Transportation for purchase of right-of-way for the Highway 60 project. The new offer includes an additional payment of \$9550 for damages to approximately 4 acres of the St. John property. The total offer is \$73,650. A plat map showing access to the remaining land south of the new highway right-of-way was received. Mahlberg moved to authorize Johnson to sign the document accepting the offer. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Johnson, Mahlberg, Mc Gowan, Rogers, Williamson. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Erosion control permit compliance was discussed.

The Bella Park reseeded project was discussed. A portion of the site was disked. If weather conditions permit, as much of the site as possible will be burned this fall.

Williamson will work on the employee performance evaluation before the November board meeting.

Rall explained the Nobles County Pheasants Forever Chapter's plan to make an offer to Cathy and Bob Seifert for 27.8 acres in the wellhead protection area along the Ocheyedon River. Worthington Public Utilities and the District will make contributions to the chapter to make the purchase possible.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Lake staff gauges were monitored regularly after the large rainfall event in late September. Graphs of the lake levels for 2010 were viewed by the board.

Fifth grade classes from Prairie Elementary and St. Mary's toured the Prairie Wetland Learning Area on September

28th and 30th. NRCS and SWCD staff did a great job of organizing the event. Students toured the wetland area and attended sessions on the Prairie Ecology Bus. High School Ag. Students, US Fish and Wildlife staff, DNR staff and Livdahl helped lead the tours.

Marv Rall completed a model fish barrier for one of the ten bays of the Lake Ocheda dam. The barrier will be installed after permission is received and when lake levels permit.

Livdahl met with Paul Ager to view his shoreline damaged during the September 22-23 rain event. A large portion of his yard slumped toward the lake. Ager was given the names and phone numbers of engineers to consult about repairing the lakeshore. Livdahl also met with Cathy Janssen about how the slumped bank may affect her yard next door.

Roger Doeden said that he and Larry are interested in renting the St. John property next year. Details will be worked out later.

NEW BUSINESS

The advantages and disadvantages of writing policies for the District's BMP cost-share and incentive programs were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on November 2, 2010 in Room 207 of the Minnesota West Worthington Campus Administration and Classroom building.

Meeting adjourned.