

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers**  
**October 1, 2019**

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. and Matt Widboom, county commissioners; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the September regular board meeting and 2020 budget hearing were reviewed. Rogers moved to approve the minutes. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Rogers. 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 \$90,000 from savings into checking. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Regular rains have slowed the Lake Ocheda water level drawdown. According to Land Pride Construction owner, Troy Soine, construction of the dam modification will begin in early November.

Henning Construction completed the repairs of the Prairie View spillway on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Mulching and seeding of native prairie mix and quick grow construction mix were completed on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Grass is already beginning to grow on the site. The payment of \$146,000 was approved today with the Treasurer's report. The cost was \$26,000 less than expected. With the seeding completed, the final payment to Duinick can be issued when the request is received.

Manager's per diem rates were discussed. Ingenthron moved to raise the per diem rate from \$50 to \$75. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Rogers moved to amend the motion, setting regular board meeting per diem rate at \$75, and setting a rate of \$125.00 for meetings of three hours or more. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion passed as amended.

Mahlberg signed an amended scope of service document with Wenck Associates to install radio frequency ID tags in up to 200 Lake Okabena carp. The new agreement did not change the total amount of money to be spent on the project in 2019. The fish will be tagged later this week.

Ingenthron reported that Randy Graham agreed to install approximately 95 yards of riprap around the Lake Bella dam spillway pool for \$12,000. Work will likely begin there next week. Some trees will be removed to open the access driveway to the east side of the dam.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The USFWS offered to burn native prairie on the district's property adjoining the Lake Bella Waterfowl Production Area in 2020. The site will be added to their burn plan.

There will be a stakeholders meeting for a potential regional park at Prairie View tomorrow at City Hall beginning at 3:30 p.m.

The BWSR Southern Regional Committee passed a motion on September 26<sup>th</sup> recommending that the Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan be approved by the BWSR board at their meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The plan's Policy Committee is working on a joint powers agreement for implementing the plan. BWSR has allocated \$1.32 million for the first grant period. The Planning Work Group is creating cost-share policies and a process for taking applications and prioritizing projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

CRP filter strip incentive payments will be issued in October. A list of potential payments was reviewed by the board. Verification of CRP enrollment is needed for four sites. Livdahl will do drive-by inspections before checks are mailed.

The BWSR Wellhead Protection Partners Grant agreement for an addition to the Wachter WMA was discussed. Rogers moved to sign the grant agreement when it is received. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

## **PERMITS**

Rogers moved to approve the following permit applications.

**City of Worthington** – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a sanitary sewer extension along East Avenue.

**Robert Ludlow** – to perform erosion and sediment control during repair of a retaining wall on Lake Okabena's shoreline at 807 West Shore Drive, Worthington.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on November 5, 2019 in the Nobles County Public Works Building meeting room at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. Meeting adjourned.