

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
October 6, 2020

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was hosted from the Nobles County Public Works facility meeting room using Zoom video conferencing software. Present on-site was Dan Livdahl, administrator. Attending remotely were managers Steve Bousema, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present from offsite locations were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner and Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Rogers 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 Lake Ocheda water elevation was level with the dam sill yesterday. Water levels change by a few inches at the dam gauge depending on the wind speed and direction. Livdahl is removing beaver dams from the culverts under 310th Street daily. Ingenthron removed the dams twice last week. The DNR recently hired Randy Erwin to trap the beaver.

Radio telemetry tags will be surgically implanted in twenty carp on October 13th.

Jeff Meinders Construction will build and install the carp barrier at the Minnesota West Community and Technical College stormwater pond for \$4271.00. A 50% down payment was made to cover the costs of fabrication.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mahlberg, Milbrandt and Livdahl will meet with the District 518 Operations Committee on October 13th to discuss hiring a consultant to propose water quality improvement and floodwater retention projects on the Crailsheim property. They will meet later this week to look at the site before meeting with the committee.

Mahlberg, Ingenthron and Livdahl will do an inspection of the W9 project ponds later this week. Sediment will likely need to be removed from the northern forebay.

It took approximately 100 hours to remove the sediment by hand from the Prairie View sand filter benches.

Portions of the Prairie View property were aerial sprayed for thistles in September. A map of areas planted to native prairie was given to the city so those areas could be avoided. Mahlberg and Livdahl will look at the volunteer cottonwood and willow trees growing around the pond to decide on a strategy for cutting them. Bousema offered the use of his mower if it will work.

Improving the Bella Park trails for walking and biking was discussed. Horse manure is present on the eastern trail.

NEW BUSINESS

A list of expected filter strip incentive payments were reviewed. Sites need to be verified by a drive by inspection before checks are written. Updated CRP contract information is needed for three sites to determine continued eligibility and the incentive amount. Ingenthron moved to issue filter strip incentive payments to landowners with eligible sites. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

PERMITS

Bousema moved to approve the following permit applications.

Johnson Builders and Realty – to implement the stormwater pollution prevention plan during construction of a two unit condominium in the Cherrywood Addition.

Todd Heironimus – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a patio area near the lakeshore at 625 West Shore Drive.

Al Oberloh – to perform erosion and sediment control during building demolition and concrete removal at 1833 East Avenue.

ISD #518 – to implement the stormwater pollution prevention plan during construction of an intermediate school at 823 Crailsheim Road.

Arnold Waldner – to perform erosion and sediment control during construction of a storage facility at 503 Oxford Street.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held on November 10, 2020 in the Nobles County Public Works Building meeting room. Ingenthron moved to adjourn the meeting, Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.