MINUTES
2018 Budget Hearing
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
September 5, 2017

The hearing for the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District 2018 budget was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Keith Schroeder and Jim McGowan advisory committee members and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

A budget notice was printed twice in the Worthington Globe. No public comments were made at the meeting. No written comments were received.

Mahlberg moved to close the budget hearing. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Hearing closed at 4:03 p.m.
The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:03 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Keith Schroeder, Doug Anton and Jim McGowan, advisory committee members; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the August 15, 2017 regular board meeting were reviewed. Mahlberg moved to approve the minutes. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s report and bills payable were discussed. Mahlberg moved to approve the Treasurer’s report, pay the bills and transfer $8,000 from savings to checking. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS
Construction is proceeding as planned on the Prairie View Ponds project. There were some weather delays, but it is hoped that construction will be complete by the middle of September. No bills have been received from the contractor yet, but the process of reviewing and paying the bills was discussed.

Options for obtaining ownership of the Prairie View property were discussed. Milbrandt met with Worthington High School coaches about future use the site for cross country events. Milbrandt also spoke with a mountain biking association about developing trails there. District managers and staff will request the opportunity to attend a city council work session to discuss ownership and recreational opportunities.

The managers reviewed a list of potential Lake Okabena water quality improvement studies created by Wenck Associates. Mahlberg moved to get a more detailed proposal and approve the urban water quality best management practices feasibility study items listed in Task 1a. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Rogers moved to amend the motion to include approval of the carp population study and the carp control feasibility study listed in Tasks 2b and 2c. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion amended. Johnson called for a vote on amended motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Money levied for surveys and data acquisition will be used for these studies.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
The last Lake Ocheda management plan public information meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 11th in the Hickory Lodge meeting room. The plan’s public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at the same meeting location. A starting time has not been set, but the meeting will likely begin at 7:00 p.m.

One Watershed, One Plan kickoff meetings were held on August 22nd and 23rd. Forty-six people signed the attendance sheet at the Worthington meeting and 30 signed in at Pipestone.

Complaints have been received about the lack of construction site erosion control during the Nobles County Administration Building foundation waterproofing project. Livdahl reminded the contractor about the requirements of the district permit. Catch basin protection and coir logs have been added to control sediment from the site. Worthington has talked to the contractor about using the street to unload and store gravel for the project.

Mahlberg and Livdahl conducted a watershed district tour for 20 participants from the Center for Active Living on August 31st.
NEW BUSINESS
Mahlberg moved to certify the 2018 levy at $253,000. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

PERMITS
A permit application from Bedford Industries to build an addition was received. It will be reviewed at the October meeting after changes are made to the project’s stormwater pollution prevention plan.

ADJOURNMENT
The next regular board meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. on October 3, 2017 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road.

Meeting adjourned.