

MINUTES
2019 Budget Hearing
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
September 4, 2018

The Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District 2019 budget hearing 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; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; Keith Schroeder advisory committee member; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; Tom Langer, Wenck Associates aquatic biologist and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The budget hearing notice was published on August 25th and 29th in the Globe. No written comments were received before the hearing.

The purpose of the hearing and published budget were briefly reviewed. No comments or questions were received from meeting attendees.

Mahlberg moved to close the hearing. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Hearing closed.

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
September 4, 2018

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:05 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr, county commissioner; Al Oberloh, Worthington council member; Mark Thier, lake committee member; Brad Harberts, county ditch inspector; Paul Langseth, SWCD Supervisor; Keith Schroeder advisory committee member; Julie Buntjer, Globe reporter; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the August 2018 regular board meeting were reviewed. Ingenthron moved to approve the minutes. Rogers 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 and pay the bills. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Langer presented the results of July's Lake Okabena and Sunset Bay carp population assessment. Carp populations are estimated to be approximately three times higher than the threshold for sustaining water quality. Langer discussed possible next steps for understanding where carp reproduce and prescribing population control activities. Oberloh suggested talking to the city council about forming a partnership to control carp when costs are better known. Mark Thier was thanked for lifting the survey boat into, and out of, Sunset Bay.

A bid from Duininck Inc. for fixing the Prairie View sand filter benches and spillway was discussed. The district's costs for fixing the spillway may be reimbursed by FEMA if the regional disaster declaration is approved. Mahlberg moved to approve \$22,000 to fix the spillway and to authorize Milbrandt and Johnson to review a liability waiver and review and approve an agreement with Duininck to do the work. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Jay Milbrandt and Steve Bousema were appointed to three year terms on the district board. The process the county board used to review the applicants and select the managers was discussed.

Mahlberg moved to certify the 2019 levy at \$253,000. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Lake Ocheda dam and fish barrier plans are complete. Josh Kavanagh said in an email that he will complete the Army Corps of Engineers and DNR permit applications soon.

Livdahl will do soils presentations at the Elementary Field Day event in Lambertton on September 11-13.

The Prairie Wetland Learning Area 5th grade tours will take place on September 17-19. Livdahl will lead tours as needed. The district will pay for the Prairie Ecology Bus and restroom rental fees.

NEW BUSINESS

Bella park maintenance was discussed. Johnson stated that he is willing to help do maintenance of the prairie areas after his board term expires if his expenses are paid. Johnson will mow fire breaks this fall to prepare for needed 2019 prairie burning.

The district's policies handbook will need to be updated in the future. The Heron Lake Watershed District's policies will be used as a model.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit application:

Rail to Road – to implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan during construction of a rail to road facility and manage the constructed stormwater pond in the SE ¼, section 32, Worthington Township.

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

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit application:

Bedford Industries – to perform sediment and erosion control during construction of a building addition at 1659 Rowe Avenue, Worthington.

Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Rogers. Opposed: none. Abstained: Milbrants. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on October 2, 2018 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road.

Meeting adjourned.