

MINUTES
2023 Budget Public Hearing
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
September 6, 2022

The public hearing for the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District 2023 budget 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., County Commissioner; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; Tom Prins, property owner; Kari Lucin, Globe reporter and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The public hearing notice with the proposed 2023 budget was published in the Globe on August 24th and 31st.

No written comments were received before or during the hearing. Mahlberg asked if attendees had comments. None were made.

Ingenthron moved to close the hearing. Rogers seconded the meeting. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
September 6, 2022

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:06 p.m. Present were managers Steve Bousema, Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., County Commissioner; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor, Tom Prins, district landowner and school board member; Kari Lucin, Globe reporter and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The minutes of the August regular board were reviewed. The budget hearing date listed is wrong in the final paragraph and will be fixed. Rogers moved to approve the corrected minutes. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. The Wells Fargo checking account is still open due to the expected automatic deposit of a payment from MCIT. Rogers moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The Clean Water Legacy Grant application for the Crailsheim pond project was submitted on August 22nd. The application requested \$970,312 from the state for the project. If funded, the local match will be \$242,548.

The agreement renting the 14 acres of cropland on the St. John property to the University of Minnesota for 2023 was signed in August. Hay was recently cut and removed from the property to control weeds.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

After getting reports of bicycle crashes at a hard to see trail ditch crossing in Bella Park, caution signs were installed last week.

Beavers are building dams again at the 310th street culverts. Randy Erwin was contacted and offered a \$75 per beaver reward for animals trapped there.

The DNR's Lake Ocheda submerged vegetation survey, scheduled for the middle of August, was cancelled due to lack of plants.

Capturing trash from Worthington's storm sewers before it enters Lake Okabena was discussed. Livdahl and Milbrandt contacted StormX about the price of installing their culvert outlet trash collection nets at two locations where storm sewers enter the lake. StormX products are designed to fit only round concrete pipes, so wouldn't work at either location. Further research will be done.

NEW BUSINESS

Removing sediment from the Prairie View Pond sand filter benches was discussed. About two inches of sand and sediment needs to be removed from each filter. Ingenthron talked to a contractor who estimated the job could be completed for about \$1000 using a tracked skid loader at \$250 per hour. Bousema moved to spend no more than \$1500 to clean sediment from the filters. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Rogers moved to approve the budget published in the Globe and certify the 2023 levy at \$253,000. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

PERMITS

Rogers moved to approve the following permit application.

Nobles County Public Works Department– to perform erosion and sediment control during replacement of the County Road 57/Lake Ocheda bridge with box culverts.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on October 4, 2022, in the Nobles County Public Works Department building conference room at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. Ingenthron moved to adjourn the meeting. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.