

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

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 and Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Bob Demuth, County Commissioner; Kari Lucin, Globe reporter, Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

Bousema moved to approve the November board meeting minutes. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. The Wells Fargo and Bank of the West checking accounts will be closed now that automatic deposits and withdrawals have been transferred to the First State Bank SW account. Ingenthron moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The final report from Carp Solutions on Lake Okabena's carp population density was recently emailed to the managers. Carp densities are below the 100 kg/ha tipping point for maintaining water quality. The managers discussed taking actions keeping the carp density low by using the radio telemetry data collected during past years.

Mahlberg and Ingenthron completed Livdahl's annual performance review this afternoon before the meeting. Salary and health insurance costs adjustments were discussed based on performance and cost of living. Ingenthron moved to accept the pay package proposed granting a 5% salary increase and approximately \$1000 more for health insurance. Bousema seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

A draft budget based on the amounts proposed in the September budget hearing and including the salary and health insurance increases was discussed. Milbrandt moved to adopt the budget as presented. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Bousema, Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

BWSR released its December board meeting information package today that includes a recommendation to approve the district's ISD 518 Crailsheim Pond project grant application. BWSR will act on the list of grant applications on December 15th, so nothing is official until then.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ingenthron and Livdahl attended the MAWD annual meeting in Alexandria last week. Interesting sessions on reducing salt use, street cleaning prioritization and pollution credits, and using low tech water sample testing to discover pollution sources were discussed.

Livdahl completed the online Erosion and Sediment Control Construction Site Manager recertification course in November. The certification will qualify him to inspect state stormwater permit sites for Worthington during the next three years.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2023 annual plan will be discussed at the January and February meetings.

A meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda-Bella Clean Water Partnership Joint Powers Board will be scheduled for December 15th or 16th. The agenda will be emailed to the Clean Water Partnership board members soon.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on January 3, 2023, in the Nobles County Public Works Department building conference room at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. Meeting adjourned.