Installing Floating Island Wetlands in Sunset Bay
OKABENA-OCHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT

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OKABENA-OCHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT
2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Clean Water Partnership
1. Provided administrative and technical assistance to the Okabena-Ocheda-Bella Clean Water Partnership Organization (JPO) to manage board affairs and structures.
2. Conducted water quality monitoring of Lake Okabena monthly from May through October.
3. Worked with Worthington, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Wenck Associates to complete an analysis of Lake Okabena’s impairments.
4. In partnership with Worthington, issued incentive payments for 162.3 acres of grass filter strips covering 90 percent of the streams in the Lake Okabena sub-watershed.
5. Worked with Worthington and Wenck Associates to complete a stormwater best management practices feasibility study for the Prairie View Links Golf Course property.
6. Worked with Worthington and Houston Engineering to complete a study of sediment accumulation rates in Sunset Bay.

Conservation Practices
1. Issued 57 CRP filter strip incentive payments totaling $36,882 and covering 336.9 acres throughout the District. These filter strips protect about 13 miles of stream courses and 14 miles of lake and wetland shorelines.
2. Made cost-share payments totaling $1050 to seal three unused wells.
3. Made cost-share payments totaling $1000 to replace two non-compliant septic systems.
4. Made cost-share payments totaling $1256.25 to install cover crops.
5. Made $2422.50 cost-share payment rebuild a grassed waterway.
6. Worked with Minnesota West students and the E.O. Olson trust to install six floating island wetlands in Sunset Bay.
7. In partnership with the Olson Trust, built and installed two floating island wetlands in the Olson Regional Stormwater Pond.
8. In partnership with the Olson Trust and Bioverse, experimented with Bioverse products to control algae in Whiskey Ditch.

County Invasive Species Program
1. Worked with Nobles County and the Minnesota West Community and Technical College to educate boaters about preventing the spread of invasive species to Nobles County lakes.
2. Coordinated Nobles County’s invasive species spread prevention media campaign.
3. Installed and maintained zebra mussel monitoring equipment at public boat landings.

Lake Ocheda Enhancement
1. Worked with Ducks Unlimited to do the survey work needed to complete a water level management feasibility study for Lake Ocheda. Contributed $5700 to Ducks Unlimited to help pay for engineering staff time.

Public Information and Education
1. Installed an educational sign in Olson Park explaining the function of the floating island wetlands installed in Sunset Bay.
2. Installed an educational sign along the recreational trail explaining how the Olson Regional Stormwater Treatment Pond works.
3. Sponsored and led educational tours for 5th grade students using the Prairie Ecology Bus at the Worthington Prairie Wetland Learning Area.
4. Conducted healthy soils sessions for the Elementary Field Day at the Southwest Research and Outreach Center in Lamberton.
5. Led watershed tours for Minnesota West Community and Technical College students.
6. Gave two classroom presentations to Minnesota West students on soils and watershed management.
7. Gave presentations to the Noon Kiwanis clubs on improving water in Lake Okabena.
8. Updated the district website monthly.
9. Worked with Worthington to accomplish educational components of the city’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan including:
   - Distributing three pollution prevention factsheets to Worthington Public Utilities customers.
   - Installing 250 catch basin markers in Worthington.

Construction Site Inspections
Completed biweekly inspections of construction sites with NPDES stormwater permits in Worthington from March through December. Communicated regularly with Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan responsible parties about installation and maintenance of Best Management Practices required by their plans.

District Property Management
1. Planted soybeans on the farmable portion of the St. John property. Planted a cover crop into the standing soybeans in September.
2. Planted native vegetation to establish buffers strips on the edges of the St. John property.
3. Mowed fire breaks at Bella Park to prepare part of the grassland for prescribed burns during 2016.
4. Planted six acres of native grasses and forbs along the Ocheyedan River in Bella Park. Mowed the area twice to control weeds and aid vegetation establishment.
5. Worked with volunteers from the Okabena Bees 4-H club to pick up litter weekly during spring and summer at Bella Park.
6. Picked up litter and mowed around the picnic shelters and restroom as needed at Bella Park.
7. Sprayed to control thistles and unwanted trees on the Ocheda Dam, St. John, and Bella Park properties.
8. Removed barbed fence wire from the boundaries of Lake Bella Park.
9. Cleaned up litter multiple times at the St. John Property.
10. Operated and maintained the fish barrier at the Lake Ocheda dam.
11. Planted 500 willow tree cuttings on western shore of Lake Bella to improve bank stability.

Permits and Drainage Project Notifications
Issued sixteen permits for projects. Monitored erosion and sediment control activities on fifteen construction sites. Received and reviewed notification forms for two agricultural tile drainage projects.
### Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District
### 2015 Income and Expenses

#### Ordinary Income/Expense

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Checking Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>CWP Reimbursements</td>
<td>18,429.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>District Levy</td>
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<td>Insurance Premium Refund</td>
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<td>Local Government Aid</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>Olson Trust</td>
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<td>Permit Inspection Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property Rent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Storm Water Education</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Audits</td>
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<td>Bank Fees</td>
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<td>Bank Transfer</td>
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<td>BMP Cost-Share</td>
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<td>Education Expenses</td>
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<td>Filter Strip Incentives</td>
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<td>Lake Ocheda Enhancement Project</td>
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<td>MAWD Dues</td>
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<td>Office Expenses</td>
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<td>Payroll Expenses</td>
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<td>Property Maintenance</td>
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<td>Storm Water Education Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
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| Net Ordinary Income                    | **68,719.16**|
| Net Income                             | **68,719.16**|
# Balance Sheet
**December 31, 2015**

## ASSETS

### Current Assets

- **Checking/Savings**
  - District Checking: 4,006.51
  - Wells Fargo Checking: 13,833.52
  - Wgtn Federal Money Market Acct.: 169,612.62

- **Total Checking/Savings**: 187,452.65

- **Total Current Assets**: 187,452.65

## TOTAL ASSETS

187,452.65

## LIABILITIES & EQUITY

### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities

- **Other Current Liabilities**
  - Payroll Liabilities: 0.01

- **Total Other Current Liabilities**: 0.01

- **Total Current Liabilities**: 0.01

### Equity

- **Opening Bal Equity**: 193,655.50
- **Retained Earnings**: -74,922.02
- **Net Income**: 68,719.16

- **Total Equity**: 187,452.64

## TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

187,452.65