

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
October 1, 2024

The regular meeting of the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Present were managers Casey Ingenthron, Rolf Mahlberg and Jay Milbrandt. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., county commissioner; Al Langseth, district landowner; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

The 2025 budget hearing minutes and September meeting minutes were discussed. Ingenthron moved to approve the minutes. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. A CD matures at First State Bank SW on October 5th. The CD will likely be renewed there for a shorter duration. Mahlberg, Milbrandt and Livdahl are authorized signatories. Ingenthron moved to approve the report, pay the bills, and reinvest the money from the maturing CD. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Kresko, Area Hydrologist, has scheduled a Teams meeting with the OOWD, Houston Engineering, BWSR and DNR staff to discuss the Crailsheim Pond permit application on October 7th. John Landgaard, District 518 Superintendent, was also invited to participate. The board discussed whether the Legacy Grant money could be spent on the site to build a low hazard structure that removes less phosphorus than promised in the grant application.

The deadline for comments on the proposed Lake Ocheda Management Plan addendum was yesterday. The comments, compiled by Maggie Gross today, were discussed. Approximately half of them supported the plan addendum's longer drawdown period. It is likely that comments will continue to be received and considered up to the date of the plan advisory team's meeting later in October. After considering the comments and discussion the long-term water quality goals for the lake, Ingenthron moved to support adopting the plan addendum. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The fire in Bella Park on September 16th started at the bee hives. The \$650 bill from the Bigelow Fire Department was forwarded to the hives owner. She said she will pay it.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Managers' terms were discussed. Milbrandt's and Bousema's terms expire on October 31st. Milbrandt will not apply for another. Bousema has applied for reappointment. Tom Ahlberg submitted an appointment application to take Milbrandt's place on the board. Ingenthron moved to recommend to the county commissioners that they reappoint Bousema and appoint Ahlberg to the board. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Minnesota Watersheds annual meeting is December 4-6 at Grand View Lodge in Nisswa this year. Managers were encouraged to register and attend.

Livdahl will write filter strip incentives checks this month. They will be mailed after conducting drive by inspections of the sites.

PERMITS

Ingenthron moved to approve the following permit application.

City of Worthington – to perform erosion and sediment control during repair to the Olson Park trail.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held on November 5, 2024, in the Nobles County Public Works Department building conference room at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington. Ingenthron moved to adjourn the meeting. Milbrandt seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Mahlberg, Milbrandt. Opposed: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Administrator's Report
November 5, 2024

Designate Voting Delegates for Minnesota Watersheds Annual Meeting

Casey and Tom are registered for the Minnesota Watersheds Conference at Grand View Lodge. I suggest that they be designated as voting delegates.

Ocheda Plan Advisory Team Meeting

Maggie Gross has not scheduled a meeting of the Ocheda Plan Advisory Team yet. Things got complicated when Marge Fogelman was contacted and asked for information. That got the DNR commissioner's legislative staff involved. I think it is possible that more public meetings will need to occur before the addendum is incorporated into the plan and longer drawdowns can occur.