

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District Board of Managers
January 5, 2016

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, Les Johnson, Rolf Mahlberg, Jay Milbrandt and Jeff Rogers. Also present were: Bob Demuth, Jr., county commissioner; Paul Langseth, SWCD supervisor; John Shea, SWCD manager; Ed Lenz, BWSR Conservationist; and Dan Livdahl, administrator.

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

The Treasurer's report and bills payable were discussed. Ingenthron moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Rogers seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

COST-SHARE

A well sealing cost-share payment to Rolf Mahlberg was approved with the Treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS

The timeline for implementing the state buffer law was discussed. A preliminary map of state waters was viewed by the board. Counties and watershed districts will be asked soon to provide information to the DNR on public ditches and benefited areas. A map of public waters, public ditches and private ditches in benefited areas will be available for review in late July. A final map will be completed by July 2017.

A list of CRP filter strip sites receiving district incentive payments was reviewed. CRP contracts expire on twenty-two of the sites in 2016 or 2017. Livdahl is creating a map to show whether buffers will be required under state law on sites now receiving district filter strip incentive payments.

A list of potential projects to be included in the 2016 annual plan was discussed. A draft of the plan will be review at the February meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Prairie View golf course will not be open next year. The Okabena-Ocheda-Bella CWP board will meet next week to discuss getting bids to build a large basin on the site. Some engineering needs to be completed and local money pledged before applying for a state legacy grant to build it.

The managers were reminded that they must certify statements of economic interest with the Campaign Finance and Disclosure Board by January 25th.

Ingenthron and Livdahl attended the MAWD annual meeting in Alexandria in December.

NEW BUSINESS

Electing board officers was discussed. Rolf Mahlberg moved to approve the same slate of officers. Ingenthron seconded the motion. Affirmative: Ingenthron, Johnson, Mahlberg, Milbrandt, Rogers. Opposed: none. Motion carried. The 2016 officers are:

Les Johnson - President
Rolf Mahlberg - Vice President
Jeff Rogers - Secretary
Casey Ingenthron - Treasurer

Dennis Rick, Ltd will complete the 2015 financial audit. Johnson signed the audit engagement letter.

Johnson discussed working with Mary Von Holtum to place some of her property into the CRP program and create a pond on her property to store and treat runoff. Engineering and sources of funding for the pond were discussed. Brian Nyborg will be contacted to see if water could be diverted from the protected watercourse into the basin.

PERMITS

Mahlberg moved to approve the following permit application:

Dan Wagner - to perform sediment and erosion control during construction of a new home at 886 Sterling Avenue, Worthington.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on February 2, 2016 in the Nobles County Public Works Building at 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington.

Meeting adjourned.

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