Minutes of Regular Meeting # 644 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers
Thursday, June 14, 2001

MANAGERS PRESENT: Dave Bucheck, President; Dale Borash, Vice President; Don Scheel, Secretary; Lincoln Fetcher, Treasurer; and Duane Johnson, Manager

STAFF PRESENT: John Hanson, Barr Engineering; Ray Marshall, Attorney, and Karen Schultz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Berg, Washington SWCD; Jim Almendinger, St. Croix Research Center; Chuck Taylor, CAC; and Stu Grubb, Emmons and Olivier Resources

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by President Bucheck at 7:08 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the May 24, 2001 meeting, motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Fetcher, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS Items added to the agenda: Silver Lake in North St. Paul; Washington County BWSR Grant; Woodbury Infiltration; Logos for Lower St. Croix Valley Watershed District; Sunnybrook Lake Discussion of Engineers.

PUBLIC FORUM No discussion in Public Forum.

SECRETARY’S REPORT Secretary Scheel said the mail has been picked up and distributed.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT Inspector Roemmich reported on inspections he has made since the last meeting.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT CAMP Program Attorney Marshall reported that the agreement with the Metropolitan Council to monitor six lakes in the District is in order, and he recommended that the managers pay the invoice. Motion made by Borash and seconded by Scheel to pay $2,750 to the Metropolitan Council for the 2001 CAMP program. Motion carried unanimously.

Appeal to BWSR Order Attorney Marshall said that he has copies of the Appeal Briefs and Memorandum in connection with the Appeal to the Board of Water and Soil Resources Order enlarging the Valley Branch Watershed District and changing its name. Attorney Marshall said that the Appeals Court has until December 2001 to issue its decision on the Appeal. He suggested that when the managers need to inform Washington County of its budget and levy
for 2002, they should fix a levy and budget as if the extended area is in the District, and to inform Washington County that the amount of the levy and budget may change when the Appeal has been settled.

TREASURER’s REPORT Treasurer Fetcher distributed copies of the income and expenses for the period 05/11/01 through 06/14/01. He said he will be meeting with Barr Engineering, the auditor, and the District’s accountant on June 19, 2001 to review the account numbers and the chart of accounts that Washington County is proposing, to see whether it impacts the District. Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS At this time President Bucheck authorized a change in the order of agenda items.

ENGINEER’s REPORT Carriage Station Professional Center, Lake Elmo - Permit Request Engineer Hanson described a project located between 55th Street North and 50th Street North and west of Highway 5 in Lake Elmo. It is in the southwest quarter of Section 6, Township 29 North, Range 20 West. The District issued a permit for this project in June 2000. At that time the details of the commercial area within the development were unclear. Now the details are known and small grading revisions to the ponds are proposed.

After discussion of the wetland management concerns, the water management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Borash to approve Permit # 2000-08 with the engineer’s suggested conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Woodbury AUAR - Update Engineer Hanson said the City of Woodbury is planning a system of 13 new wells to accommodate new development in the next few years. He said the wells will very likely impact Valley Branch Creek. Stu Grubb from Emmons & Olivier, and Jim Almendinger, with the St. Croix Research Station, explained the location of the wells and the potential groundwater impacts. The MnDNR is also very interested in the situation. The managers discussed the situation and said they want to be kept informed. Secretary Scheel and Engineer Hanson will be going to the June 21st meeting of the City of Woodbury and the MnDNR.

Tower Asphalt Earthen Berm, West Lakeland Township, Permit 2001-13 Engineer Hanson presented information on a project located on the existing Tower Asphalt site, which is about half a mile west of the County Road 21 (Stagecoach) and Hudson Road intersection. The site is on the north side of Hudson Road and south of Interstate 94. Specifically, the project is located in the south half of the southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 29 North, Range 21 West.

The applicant is proposing to construct a berm for visual screening from Interstate 94 and for stormwater retention. The berm is proposed to be about 1300 feet long, 10 feet wide at the top, and about eight feet higher than Interstate 94. Side slopes of the berm are proposed to be 2.5 feet horizontal to 1 foot vertical. No storm sewer or bituminous surfaces are proposed.

After discussion of the wetland management concerns, the water management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve Permit # 2001-13 with the engineer’s suggested conditions, and also changes made by the managers to certain conditions. Motion carried unanimously.
Basin O=Sullivan Fill on Lake Jane, Lake Elmo - Permit Request Engineer Hanson described a project located at 9133 Jane Road North in Lake Elmo. Specifically, the project is located in the northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 29 North, Range 21 West. The applicant is proposing to do some landscaping within the waters and floodplain of the District.

Fill volumes in lakes, ponds, and storage sites are limited so that the cumulative effect of all possible filling will not raise the 100-year flood level more than 0.1 foot. Over the life of the property, the District limits the amount of fill on Lake Jane to 2.5 cubic feet per linear foot of shoreline to conform to this District rule. The District has permitted no fill in the past at this site. Therefore, the proposed 200 cubic yards of fill is within the allowable limit of 312.5 cubic yards for this property. The applicant is requesting that the Managers waive the permit application fee for this project. This has typically been done for individual homeowners requesting a District permit.

After discussion of the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to approve Permit # 2001-14 with the engineer=s suggested conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Afton - Permit Request Engineer Hanson described a proposed project located directly south of the I-94 frontage road (Hudson Road), about a third of a mile west of Stagecoach Trail, in the City of Afton. Specifically, the project is located in the northwest quarter of Section 4, Township 28 North, Range 21 West. The applicant is proposing to construct a church and associated parking lots. Several infiltration islands are proposed within the parking lot and three large infiltration basins are proposed.

According to the rules of the District, the City of Afton is responsible for the maintenance of all drainage easements for projects in the City of Afton. In this particular project, the City of Afton has said that it will not accept the responsibility for the maintenance of the drainage and access easements. After much discussion, the managers decided that the suggested condition in the permit will not be changed. Motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Johnson to approve Permit # 2001-15 with the engineer=s suggested conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

James Palecek Property - Update Engineer Hanson said he has asked Jim Palecek to attend the managers= meeting on June 28th, since the agenda for tonight=s meeting is lengthy. The managers agreed with this.

LSCVWD-BCWD Boundary Petitions Engineer Hanson had mailed a map of the proposed boundary of the expanded District, drawn by Washington County. The managers discussed the proposed boundary and took no action.

Permitting Issues in Expansion Areas Engineer Hanson said he has received calls from residents living in the expansion area of the District, asking whether a permit is required from the Valley Branch Watershed District. Attorney Marshall said at this time the District is not in a position to issue permits in that area, because the BWSR decision is currently under appeal.

Downs Lake - Update Engineer Hanson said the analysis of Downs Lake for the purposes of recommending an operations plan for the lake=s proposed outlet, is completed. The managers commented that the budget for 2002 will soon be finalized, and told Engineer Hanson that the dollar amount for the Downs Lake project will be needed.
Sunnybrook Lake As directed by the managers at the last meeting, Engineer Hanson prepared a summary of different methods of dealing with landlocked lakes and flooding problems and he reviewed what has transpired with Sunnybrook Lake, in a report titled A Sunnybrook Lake - Flood Management Strategies Review. He had mailed the report and the managers discussed it at this meeting. The managers decided that they should meet on June 28th for a workshop to further discuss the Sunnybrook Lake flooding issue. They will hold a workshop at 5:00 p.m. on June 28, 2001 in the Lake Elmo City Hall.

District 2000 Annual Report Engineer Hanson said he has completed his portion of the 2000 Annual Report, and he has given it to the recording secretary. Karen Schultz said she has completed the first draft of the managers’ portion, and will distribute it to the managers next week. The Audit portion has not yet been received from the District’s Auditor.

Afton Natural Resources Inventory In the Fall of 2000 the City of Afton requested some in-kind services from the District to complete the natural resource inventory for the entire city of Afton. The managers gave their approval to Engineer Hanson to provide these services to the City of Afton. Engineer Hanson said he has been working with Jeff Berg, Washington Soil and Water Conservation District, in completing the report, and there will be a presentation of the report to the Afton Planning Commission on June 27th at a meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Afton City Hall. Engineer Hanson will be a participant in the meeting.

Weber Pond Project - Payment to Contractor Engineer Hanson informed the managers that the Weber Pond Outlet Project has been completed, and he recommended payment be made to F.F. Jedlicki for the work. Motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Borash to make payment of $21,664.00 to F.F. Jedlicki, Inc., Contractor for the project. Motion carried unanimously.

Silver Lake Project Update Engineer Hanson reported that the work plan for the bioretention project on Silver Lake is not yet in place. Additional construction activities will probably be necessary, increasing the original estimate by $8,000. The City of North St. Paul has not committed to any activities in the project. The City Engineer has indicated that the City may provide some labor in some of the plantings. Treasurer Fetcher said he will contact the City Council about this.

Washington County BWSR Grant Engineer Hanson informed the managers that Washington County has received the $125,000 BWSR Challenge Grant titled Integrating Groundwater and Surface Water Management—Northern Washington County, that was applied for in the Fall of 2000. At that time, Jon Michels of Washington County, approached the managers for support of the project, and a financial commitment of $20,000, which would be matched by BWSR. The managers had indicated their willingness to support the concept of the project, which would specifically address the water management in the Sunnybrook Lake area. In a memorandum dated June 14, 2001, Jon Michels asked the managers for their commitment.

After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Fetcher, that in reference to a memorandum of June 14, 2001 from Jon Michels of Washington County, the managers wish to participate with Washington County in the program regarding the $125,000 BWSR Challenge Grant, and that the managers are at the present time trying to determine the direction of the kind of work to be accomplished. Motion carried unanimously.

MANAGERS’ REPORT Next Meeting - June 28, 2001 The managers said they do expect to have a quorum at the next meeting.
New District Logo Engineer Hanson had mailed copies of the six different logos designed by the students at Century College. The managers couldn’t decide on which logo to select, so they will bring their decision to the next managers’ meeting and vote on it.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash at 10:01 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Scheel,

Secretary

Minutes Approved by Managers 06/28/01