Minutes of Regular Meeting # 672 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers Thursday, September 12, 2002

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

STAFF PRESENT: John Hanson, Barr Engineering; Barb Wolle Attorney; Ray Roemmich, Inspector; Karen Schultz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Freeman, with Folz, Freeman, and Dupay, and Todd Erickson, Erickson Engineering, for Permit Applications; Chuck Taylor, CAC; and Jeff Berg, Washington Conservation District

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by President Borash at 7:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the August 22, 2002 meeting, motion was made by Bucheck, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS Additional agenda items are as follows: F.10. Barton Gravel Pit; G.2. Resolutions for MAWD Convention in December 2002.

PUBLIC FORUM There were no comments in the Public Forum segment of the meeting.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE Chuck Taylor had mailed the lake level reports to the managers and discussed them at this meeting.

SECRETARY’S REPORT Secretary Scheel said the mail had been distributed.

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

ATTORNEY’S REPORT Attorney Wolle said there was nothing new to report.

TREASURER’S REPORT Treasurer Fetcher distributed copies of the 2003 Proposed Budget, and the Capital Improvements and Plan Implementation Budget, for discussion during the public hearing beginning at 8:00 p.m.

ENGINEER’S REPORT Permit Request: Sunfish Ponds, Lake Elmo Engineer Hanson presented information on a project located in the SE 1/4 of Section 11, Township 29 North, Range 21 West, south of 43rd Street between Lake Elmo and Kimbro Avenues, in Lake Elmo.

The purpose of the project is to develop 16 single-family housing lots, 1700 feet of roadway, 3100 feet of paved path, and three stormwater ponds.
After discussion of the water management concerns, the wetland concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Johnson to approve Permit #2002-18 with the engineer’s suggested site specific conditions, as well as the standard conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Permit Request: Bluestem at the Fields of St. Croix, Lake Elmo Engineer Hanson presented information on a project located in the SE 1/4 of Section 12, Township 29 North, Range 21 West, northwest of the Manning-T.H. 5 Intersection, Lake Elmo.

The development received a permit from the VBWD on September 9, 1999. A permit amendment was issued on February 24, 2000. The current proposal was included in the original site design at a conceptual level. However, the current proposal eliminates a commercial area, adds another duplex, eliminates a rainwater garden within the cul-de-sac island, and adds an infiltration basin. Because the current proposal is different than the originally designed project, the developer was asked to submit a permit amendment request.

After discussion of the water management concerns, the wetland concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Johnson to approve the amendment to Permit #99-12 with the engineer’s suggested site specific conditions, as well as the standard conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Sunnybrook Lake Update Engineer Hanson said as of last Tuesday, the water was about to go over Jocelyn Road, but no roads were under water yet. He said he is working with the attorneys to get better estimates for the needed drainage easements between Doerr’s Pond and Keats Pond. The Indian Hills Golf Course employees are continuing to pump water from Keats Pond. The pump broke down on September 7 and they were working to repair the pump on September 10.

Downs Lake Update Engineer Hanson said that Dave Dupay of Folz, Freeman, and Dupay, are working with the District’s attorneys to describe the needed easement regarding Manning Trail.

Fahlstrom Pond Engineer Hanson said that the computer model is set up and they are now trying to calibrate the model with observed water levels.

Valley Creek WOMP Report Engineer Hanson had mailed copies of the progress report on the stream monitoring of Valley Creek. The St. Croix Watershed Research Station provided the report, which summarizes the data collected near the mouth of Valley Creek. The St. Croix Watershed Research Station is under contract with the VBWD for the stream monitoring. The managers discussed the report at the meeting.

Tri-Lakes Fish Barrier Engineer Hanson reported to the managers that the fish barrier on the Project 1007 outlet from the Tri-Lakes has become a maintenance problem. It gets plugged with weeds and Barr Engineering has cleaned the barrier several times this year. Engineer Hanson asked the managers for authorization to look at potential alternatives, one of which might be to move the barrier downstream, and to also change the design of the barrier so that it would be self-cleaning. The barrier is required by the MnDNR, and cannot be removed.

After discussion, the managers directed Engineer Hanson to provide them some options and costs for a new fish barrier.
At 8:16 p.m. motion was made by Borash and seconded by Fetcher to recess the meeting in order to hold the public hearing on the budget for 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET FOR 2003 At 8:17 p.m. President Borash opened the public hearing on the proposed budget for 2003.

After discussion of the line items in the administrative budget, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve a proposed administrative budget of $242,650 for the year 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Bucheck and seconded by Borash to close the public hearing at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

At 8:35 p.m. motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Borash to resume the managers’ meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

District Tour The managers discussed touring the District in the late summer or early fall. The managers decided that it would be more comfortable after the first frost occurred, and agreed on a tentative date of November 2nd.

Groundwater Forum Engineer Hanson had mailed a flier on the Groundwater Resources Informational Forum to be held on the evening of Thursday, September 19th at the Woodbury Lutheran Church. At the last meeting, the managers agreed that Engineer Hanson should participate in the Forum. The managers were invited to attend the Forum.

Barton Gravel Pit Engineer Hanson informed the managers that the crew at the Barton Gravel Pit has changed their operation, and are now mining a lot of sand. The sand is located near one of the manhole structures, and if they mine the sand as they would like, the manhole will stick 25 feet out of the ground. Engineer Hanson said that the Barton Gravel Company is willing to pay 50% of the cost to remove the sections of manhole if the VBWD would pay the other half. The total cost would be about $2,000. After discussion, motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Johnson to approve the payment of 50% of the total cost, or $1,000, to remove the sections of the manhole. Motion carried unanimously.

MANAGERS’ REPORT Next Meeting - September 26, 2002 The managers said they do expect to have a quorum at the next meeting. Vice President Bucheck said he will be absent from the next two meetings.

Resolutions for MAWD Convention President Borash had received a notice that watershed districts should submit resolutions to the Resolution Committee for the MAWD Convention in December. The managers at this time, did not have any resolutions to submit.

OLD BUSINESS Lake DeMontreville Public Access Jeff Berg, Washington Conservation District, informed the managers that on Tuesday the 17th, volunteers from the Tri-Lakes area will be doing the planting on the shoreline at the public access, and invited the managers to the site to observe in the late afternoon and early evening.

FUTURE ITEMS St. Mary’s Cemetery Treasurer Fetcher said the North St. Paul permitted work is just about finished. Inspector Ray Roemmich said he will check the site on the following Monday.
ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel at 9:10 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Scheel, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Managers 09/26/02