Minutes of Regular Meeting # 658 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers
Thursday, February 14, 2002.

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

MANAGER ABSENT: Duane Johnson, Manager

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Berg, Washington SWCD; Dave DuPay of Folz, Freeman and DuPay

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by President Bucheck at 7:02 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the January 24, 2002 meeting, motion was made by Fetcher, seconded by Borash, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.


PUBLIC FORUM Dave Dupay, of Folz, Freeman and Dupay, asked the managers if they would consider amending the District’s rules and regulations so that it would not be necessary to ask for a variance in certain instances of permit applications. He stated that variances are not always preferred by developers and builders. Treasurer Fetcher asked if there is a specific example to discuss. Dave Dupay said he will put together some drawings for the managers in the near future. President Bucheck said that the managers have never been opposed to issuing a variance, and that it isn’t often that a variance is requested. He said that if it became necessary to issue variances often, it would mean that the District’s rules should be reviewed.

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

INSPECTOR’S REPORT Inspector Roemmich had nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT Attorney Wolle had no new business to report.

TREASURER’S REPORT Treasurer Fetcher distributed copies of the Treasurer’s Report dated February 14, 2002. After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve the treasurer’s report dated February 14, 2002. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Fetcher asked the managers to support his position that the firm of Tautges Redpath take over the accounting duties for the District, since Accountant Vicki Helms has resigned the job of Accountant. Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to transfer the District’s accounting services to Tautges Redpath Ltd. beginning in 2002, which will include accounting, check writing,
reporting, and auditing, for an annual increase of approximately $3,500 beyond the current amount now paid Tautges Redpath, Ltd. for the annual audit. 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 Baytown Woods 3rd Addition, Block 3, Lot 1, Permit 94-10 Engineer Hanson presented information on a revision to Permit # 94-10, regarding the minimum floor elevation requirement for Lot 1, Block 3. Because several lowlands surround Lot 1, Block 3, the minimum floor elevation set by the VBWD was based on the lowland with the highest 100-year flood level. The property owner is now proposing to construct a home that will be adjacent to a lowland with a lower 100-year flood level, and he is requesting a lower minimum floor elevation than what was permitted by the District. The current minimum floor elevation requirement is Elevation 942.1. The owner is requesting a minimum floor elevation around Elevation 938. The minimum floor elevation of the requested Elevation 938.5 at the proposed home location will conform to the VBWD rules.

After discussion, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Scheel to approve the permit revision to Permit # 94-10 for a minimum floor elevation of 938.5 on Lot 1, Block 3, of Baytown Woods 3rd Addition with the engineer's suggested special conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Downs Lake Engineer Hanson presented to the managers a sketch of one of the alternatives at 20th Street and Manning Trail in the Down Lake project. He asked the managers for direction on whether to pursue a diversion structure upstream of the golf course pond, or a lower pipeline from the golf course pond to Horseshoe Lake. After much discussion of the options, motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Fetcher to put the new diversion pipe on the north side of 20th Street. Motion carried unanimously.

Sunnybrook Lake Engineer Hanson had mailed a memorandum updating the managers on the progress of the analysis being completed by the engineer of the Sunnybrook Lake area. Engineer Hanson said he will be meeting with the manager of the Indian Hills Golf Course to discuss the size of a pond that would be allowed.

Fahlstrom Pond President Bucheck said he and Engineer Hanson and Secretary Scheel attended the initial meeting on February 12th in the Woodbury City Hall to discuss the Fahlstrom Pond project with officials from the City of Afton and the City of Woodbury. He said that Engineer Hanson did a nice job of presenting different options. He also said that the two cities stated their position, and requested the VBWD to completely finance the study. After discussion, the managers agreed that they need to recommend the scope of the study and get a financial commitment from the cities.

Woodbury East AUAR Engineer Hanson had mailed a draft letter of comments regarding the Woodbury East Alternative Urban Areawide Review Report. He said the biggest issue is the potential groundwater impacts to Valley Creek. After discussion, the managers approved of the draft letter, and directed Engineer Hanson to finalize the letter and mail it.

Indian Hills Golf Course EAW Engineer Hanson had mailed a draft letter of comments regarding the EAW for Indian Hills Country Club in Grant, Minnesota. The managers approved the letter with few changes, and directed Engineer Hanson to finalize the letter and mail it.

Valley Creek Engineer Hanson said that the residents of the City of Afton have approved the draft Plan for Valley Creek. Minor changes were requested. The Plan consists of approximately 100 actions to be carried out by various state, county, and city agencies. The Valley Creek Advisory Committee will probably meet in March to receive comments.
Engineer Hanson attended a meeting on January 30th to discuss a work plan for a groundwater-surface water study. He said that it isn’t clear whether the county will get funding for the study, because of all the tax cuts at the state level.

The managers said they do expect to have a quorum at the next meeting.

President Buchec called for nominations for officers. Dale Borash was nominated for President; Dave Bucheck was nominated for Vice President; Don Scheel was nominated for Secretary; and Lincoln Fetcher was nominate for Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations, President Bucheck declared the slate of officers for 2002, as follows:

- President: Dale Borash
- Vice President: Dave Bucheck
- Secretary: Don Scheel
- Treasurer: Lincoln Fetcher

After a unanimous vote in favor of the above nominations for 2002, President Bucheck declared the above officers to be the official slate of officers for 2002.

Motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel that the Oakdale-Lake Elmo Review and the Ramsey County Review, of the Lillie Suburban Newspapers, continue as the legal newspapers for the District. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Borash that the Lake Elmo Bank continue as the official bank for the District in 2002. Motion carried unanimously.

As requested by the Tri-Lakes Association President, Engineer Hanson and President Bucheck attended the annual meeting of the Tri-Lakes Association on February 4th, at the North St. Paul American Legion. Jeff Berg, Washington SWCD, also attended as requested. Engineer Hanson made a presentation on the past development in the area, and Jeff Berg explained how the residents could keep pollution out of their lakes.

Jeff Berg said he has been contacted by residents who would like to do some stabilization work on their shoreline. He also said that the MnDNR is looking for demonstration sites in the area of the Tri-Lakes. Engineer Hanson said that a resident approached him after the meeting, also, and suggested that the VBWD do a demonstration project at a public access point. The managers agreed to support the idea monetarily, and to ask the Tri-Lakes Association to contribute money, and also assistance in the planting.

Vice President Borash asked if the managers think that they should consider an "incentive" program where permit fees would be waived if applicants include stormwater volume controls in their plans. Attorney Wolle suggested that the managers hold off exploring this idea until she completes her research.
ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel at 9:40 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Scheel, Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY MANAGERS 03/28/02