Minutes of Regular Meeting # 685 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers Thursday, May 8, 2003

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

MANAGER ABSENT: None

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

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Chuck Taylor, CAC; Jeff Berg, Washington Conservation District; Mr. and Mrs. William Roth, Wetland Excavation Permit; William McCully, Whistling Valley Development, Lake Elmo

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by President Bucheck at 7:07 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the April 24, 2003 meeting, motion was made by Scheel, seconded by Borash, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS There were no additional agenda items.

PUBLIC FORUM Mr. Johnson commented on the easement for a bridge across a driveway on his property. He said that Washington County mapping shows an easement line is in a different place than where the surveyor put the line. After discussion, the managers suggested that Mr. Johnson return to the county's land management office and have the map redrawn to match the certified survey.

SECRETARY’S REPORT Secretary Scheel reported that he had distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT Inspector Roemmich reported that some building activity has begun.

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

TREASURER’S REPORT Treasurer Borash had a draft of the Auditor's annual report for the managers to review. Vice President Fetcher also had a copy, and had reviewed it and said he approved the draft.

ENGINEER’S REPORT Permit Request: William Roth Wetland Excavation, Foxfire Estates, Lake Elmo Engineer Hanson presented a permit request for wetland excavation located northwest of the intersection of 53rd Street and Jamaica Boulevard, Lake Elmo, Block 3, Lots 10-12, Foxfire Estates, in the SW 1/4 of Section 3, Township 29 North, Range 21 West. The purpose of the project is to excavate about 750 cubic yards of material from a wetland. Mr. And Mrs. William Roth were present to explain to the managers that three property owners wish to excavate material from a small wetland that exists at the corner of their properties, which are within the Foxfire Estates development. The wetland typically does not overflow, but in larger runoff events, the wetland drains to the east, into a larger, MnDNR public water wetland. Another wetland exists west of the wetland proposed to be excavated, and it drains into this wetland in larger runoff events. Under wet conditions, the whole area eventually drains to Lake Jane. The project will not significantly change the water quality leaving the site.
After discussion of the wetland concerns and erosion control concerns, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Johnson to approve Permit # 2003-05 with the engineer's suggested site specific conditions and the standard conditions, as well as the managers' suggestions to waive the surety and permit fee, and to add the condition that the three landowners sign an agreement for the project to ensure that no problems arise in the future, and also that the exemption form be completed and turned in before any work is started. Motion carried unanimously.

Request: Lower 1% Probability Flood Level for Bay Lake, Baytown Township Engineer Hanson said that the project engineer has not completed the computer model. There was no discussion of this item.

Permit Request: Whistling Valley, Lake Elmo Engineer Hanson described a project located directly north of County Road 10 (10th Street North) and about 1/3 mile west of Keats Avenue, City of Lake Elmo, in the W 2 of the SE 1/4, Section 27, Township 29 North, Range 21 West. The purpose of the project is to construct 19 residential lots, about three-fourths of a mile of roadway, about 1.1 miles of trail, and several stormwater management facilities.

William McCully, one of the engineers for the project, was present to discuss the project with the managers. The site lies adjacent to the north lobe of Goose Lake. The southern third of the site drains to the north lobe of Goose Lake. Goose Lake and the northern two-thirds drains eventually drain to Eagle Point Lake. Goose Lake is considered semi-landlocked. Typically, the lake does not overflow, but it does overflow in the 100-year annual event. The 100-year flood level of Goose Lake was established by the District at an elevation slightly above the lake's overflow.

After discussion of the water management concerns, the wetland concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to approve Permit # 2003-02 with the engineer=s suggested site specific conditions and the standard conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Downs Lake Project Update Engineer Hanson said that not a lot of work has been done in the past week on the Downs Lake project. The contract expires June 15th, and he said that the contractor expects to be finished by then.

Engineer Hanson had mailed copies of Payment Application # 3 for review by the managers. Motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to approve Payment Application # 3 for the Downs Lake Flood Reduction Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District WaterFest Engineer Hanson reminded the managers of the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD) WaterFest to be held on May 17th at the Lake Phalen Pavilion. As directed by the managers at the last meeting, he has posted an advertisement of the WaterFest on the VBWD Website, and he informed the RWMWD to bill the VBWD for $500 for the donation as agreed upon at the last meeting.

Permit 97-15: Tamarack Farms, Lake Elmo - Escrow Return Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers information on the request from the developer of Tamarack Farm Estates for a refund of the remaining funds in the escrow account, in the amount of $4,503.95. He explained to the managers that there appears to be a berm between the main pond in the project, and the outlet. Representatives from the City of Lake Elmo said the pond and outlet are adequate, but Engineer Hanson said if the District is eventually going to be responsible for maintenance of the pond, the berm should be removed now while it is still the developer=s responsibility. The managers did not approve returning the remaining escrow to the developer, and they directed the engineer to work with the developer and city to solve the berm issue.

Washington County Fair Engineer Hanson said the Washington County Fair will be held from July 30th to August 3rd. The managers will need to decide on the size of the space to rent for the VBWD exhibit. After discussion of the space that the managers had at the 2002 county fair, Secretary Scheel said he will contact the Washington County Fair manager, to ask for two spaces. Motion was made by Bucheck, and seconded by
Fetcher to indicate the managers' intent to support the Washington County Fair with an exhibition booth at the Washington County Fair. Motion carried unanimously.

2005-2015 Watershed Management Plan President Bucheck had electronically mailed a draft of "The Vision of the Valley Branch Watershed District" and "The Mission of the Valley Branch Watershed District". The managers and engineer discussed the draft and made suggestions and changes to the draft. The managers will forward any other suggestions and changes to President Bucheck and he will revise the draft for the next meeting.

The managers discussed the Nominal Group Workshop planned for the end of July 2003. The goal of the workshop is to identify the public's issues that should be addressed in the VBWD's 2005 Watershed Management Plan. Engineer Hanson provided the managers with a list of names of agency representatives that could be invited to identify the issues. The managers discussed several different locations for the workshop. Engineer Hanson will check on locations before the next meeting.

MANAGERS' REPORT Next Meeting - May 22, 2003 The managers expect to have a quorum at the next meeting. Vice President Fetcher said it is possible that he will not be present.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash at 8:46 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Scheel, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Managers 05/22/03