Minutes of Regular Meeting # 701 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council
Chambers
Thursday, January 22, 2004

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

MANAGERS ABSENT: None

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

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Berg, Washington Conservation District

CALL TO ORDER President Bucheck called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the January 8, 2004 meeting, motion was made by Scheel, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS Items added to the agenda: Under Managers: Watershed District Educator Plans; Sunnybrook Lake Project and under Engineer: 2004 CAMP.

PUBLIC FORUM There was no discussion in the Public Forum segment of the meeting.

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

INSPECTOR=S REPORT Inspector Roemmich said there was nothing new to report.

ATTORNEY=S REPORT Attorney Wolle presented the Fahlstrom Pond Phase 2 agreement for President Bucheck=s signature.

She requested authorization to renew the Indian Hills pumping agreement. Motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Fetcher to direct Attorney Wolle to draw up another contract with Indian Hills Golf Course to continue pumping if necessary, for the next year. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Wolle reported that she had received the signed grant from the Metropolitan Council for the Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP), which is the water quantity and quality monitoring of Valley Creek that the Managers contract with Jim Almendinger of the Science Museum of Minnesota=s St. Croix Watershed Research Station to operate.

Attorney Wolle also reported that her firm has been researching into the ability of watershed districts to issue cease and desist orders. While watershed districts do not appear to have this authority, there might be some procedures that could be put in place that would have the same effect. She suggested that the managers consider adding a standard condition to their permits giving the managers the right to stop a project that is not in conformance with their approved permit. By being part of the permit, the condition would be part of the contract agreement between the permit holder and the managers. This approach would take care of some of the problems the managers have experienced, but it would not solve the problem of people doing work without VBWD permits.
TREASURER'S REPORT Treasurer Borash distributed copies of the Administrative and Program Budgets for Fiscal Year 2003 dated 12-31-03, and the Treasurer’s Report dated January 22, 2004. After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion was withdrawn when Manager Johnson discovered an error in the figures in the administrative and program budgets. Treasurer Borash was directed to discuss the issue with the District’s auditor, HLB Tautges Redpath, Ltd.

Motion was made by Borash and seconded by Fetcher that the bills get paid immediately, even though the treasurer’s report was not approved. Motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEER’S REPORT Update on Capital Improvement Maintenance As directed by the managers at the last meeting to request a contractor to make a bid on the needed maintenance repairs in Project 1007, Engineer Hanson sent a list of needed maintenance repairs to Contractor F.F. Jedlicki, Inc. He said he will have more information at the next meeting.

2005-2015 Watershed Management Plan Engineer Hanson had mailed a rough draft of the Plan to the managers for their review before the workshop on the 29th of January. The managers discussed the draft with Engineer Hanson at this meeting.

2004 CAMP President Bucheck said he had received a letter from the Metropolitan Council, asking the managers to choose the lakes in the District that could be monitored for water quality in 2004 through the Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). The cost is $700 per lake to be monitored. President Bucheck requested that Engineer Hanson prepare a list of lakes that he would recommend for monitoring.

MANAGERS' REPORT Next Meeting - February 12, 2004 The managers expect to have a quorum at the next meeting. Manager Johnson said he will be out of the state in February and March.

Watershed District Educator Vice President Fetcher said he had electronically mailed his comments to the managers, regarding the proposal to hire a watershed district educator. He described the changes he would like made to the proposal, and asked the managers to review the paper. At the last meeting, the managers had agreed to table the discussion of a watershed district educator until the watershed management plan preparation is further along. But the managers at this meeting felt that a watershed district educator could be very beneficial to the VBWD, and agreed to place the issue on the agenda for the next meeting.

Sunnybrook Lake President Bucheck distributed copies of a paper he had written, titled Sunnybrook Plan of Action. Included in the paper were descriptions of the three phases of the project. At the last meeting Vice President Fetcher volunteered to meet with the Browns Creek Watershed District group and/or the City of Grant for that part of the project, and President Bucheck and Secretary Scheel said they would meet with Mike Regan, Manager of the Indian Hills Golf Course, to continue discussions they have had previously with him. The managers discussed the responsibilities and decided that they would attempt to complete the initial duties in time for the first meeting in March.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Borash and seconded by Scheel at 8:37 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Scheel, Secretary