Minutes of Regular Meeting # 740 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers
Thursday, November 10, 2005

MANAGERS PRESENT:  Dave Bucheck, President; Lincoln Fetcher, Vice President; Don Scheel, Secretary; Dale Borash, Treasurer (8:15 p.m.); Duane Johnson, Manager

MANAGERS ABSENT: None

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

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jay Riggs, Washington Conservation District; Chuck Taylor, Citizens Advisory Committee; Joel Stiras, MnDNR; Landowner of Lot 2, Block 3, Meyer's Pineridge - Drainage Swale in Meyer's Pineridge

CALL TO ORDER President Bucheck called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS President Bucheck announced that he and Secretary Scheel have been reappointed to three-year terms by the Washington County Board of Commissioners.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the October 27, 2005 meeting, motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Borash to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS There were no additional agenda items.

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 reported on his activities since the last meeting.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT Attorney Marshall said he had nothing new to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT The Treasurer’s Report will be presented at the second meeting of the month.

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT Water Resources Educator Jay Riggs was present to ask the managers for support for a full-time shared Washington County Water Resource educator. He explained that the approximate cost would be between $63,000 and $83,000 per year (including benefits) to hire an experienced education specialist. The position’s commitment would be three years. The VBWD portion of the cost would be $15,000 per year.

Jay Riggs said that he will be making this same presentation to other Washington County entities, including watershed districts and watershed management organizations, and he said that he does not have a commitment yet from any government entity.
After questions and discussion, **motion** was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel that VBWD will support this water resource educator position in an amount of $15,000 a year for three years. Motion carried with the following vote: Fetcher, Yes; Scheel, Yes; Bucheck, Yes; Borash, No; Johnson, No.

**Land Cover Mapping** Jay Riggs explained to the managers that funding for the Minnesota Land Cover Classification System (MLCCS) has come from municipal, county, and state agencies in the past, as well as the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR). He said, that although the Legislature approved LCMR funding for the mapping, the governor line-item vetoed the project. Jay Riggs asked the managers to consider financial help in any amount possible. The managers agreed to discuss this issue at future meetings.

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

**ENGINEER’S REPORT Permit Request: Drainage Swale in Block 3, Meyer’s Pineridge, Lake Elmo** The managers approved a permit for the Meyer’s Pineridge subdivision in Lake Elmo in 1999. Now, the owner of Lot 2 of Block 3 would like to improve the drainage out of a low area on the property. Engineer Hanson said it appears that the VBWD-required drainage easement was not recorded, and that the permit holder of the Meyer’s Pineridge development, is no longer in business.

The managers directed Attorney Marshall to perform a search to find out if the easement has been recorded, and if he finds that the document does not exist, Attorney Marshall should prepare a short term construction easement. Attorney Marshall said he can get the information needed within a few days.

The property owners were present and said they have discussed their plan with the neighboring landowners. President Bucheck asked them to get permission in writing from all the neighbors before they begin the project.

**Eurasian Watermilfoil in Lake Elmo - Joel Stiras, DNR** Engineer Hanson introduced Joel Stiras, an aquatic plant management specialist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The managers had been provided with DNR fact sheets concerning Eurasian watermilfoil.

Joel Stiras explained to the managers that Eurasian watermilfoil in Lake Elmo does not mean the death of the lake. He said the DNR does not see it as a huge problem, because of the lake’s depth. He said it will probably spread throughout the lake, but because of the native plants in the lake, it will not be serious.

**Updates Silver Lake Aquatic Plant Management Plan** Joel Stiras said that Silver Lake in North St. Paul is a very shallow lake, so there is not much of a solution. Engineer Hanson said that he met with the DNR staff to discuss how to manage Silver Lake. It was suggested that a Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) should be prepared, and it should be made clear in the plan that Eurasian watermilfoil cannot be completely eradicated from the lake and that the goal should be to reduce nuisance interference caused by Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed. The managers discussed the issue at Silver Lake. Manager Fetcher indicated that he will be attending a Silver Lake Association meeting on Monday, November 14th, and he would like to postpone the drafting of an LVMP until after that meeting.

**Update Weiss Property, Lake Elmo** Engineer Hanson reported that the restoration work on the Weiss property will begin on November 17th or 18th and should be completed by Thanksgiving Day.

**Update Axelson Property, Mahtomedi** Engineer Hanson said he and Inspector Roemmich met with the contractor of the Wildwood Pines 3rd Addition, and the contractor intends to install additional silt fence and rolls of sod to reduce the erosion and sedimentation on the Axelson property. The contractor has planted 10-foot spruce trees in the sidewalk area.
Update Park Meadows Pond Outlet, Lake Elmo  Engineer Hanson said he has met with the property owners to discuss the situation of modifying the emergency overflow of the ponding area adjacent to Kelvin Avenue. The residents were initially concerned that it could negatively affect their property, but seemed more comfortable with the concept after discussing it with Engineer Hanson. The owners will consider the work and contact Engineer Hanson with their decision.

Washington County Fairgrounds  Engineer Hanson reported that Barr Engineering has started to perform the hydrologic and hydraulic calculations.

Farms of Lake Elmo, Permit 2005-14  Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers copies of letters from landowners near the Farms of Lake Elmo project. The letters were addressed to the City of Lake Elmo, and concerned the alteration of the landscape of the Farms of Lake Elmo Project. The residents are worried that their property will be damaged from the runoff.

2005-2015 Plan  Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers copies of the Board of Water and Soil Resources Order Approving the Valley Branch Watershed District Watershed Management Plan. Along with the Order was a Resolution Approving Watershed Plan for the managers to adopt. President Bucheck signed the Resolution and it was attested by Secretary Scheel.

Motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Scheel to approve Resolution No. 100 to approve the Watershed Management Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

MANAGERS= REPORT Next Meeting - December 8, 2005 The managers expect to have a forum present at the next meeting. President Bucheck and Manager Johnson said they will not be present.

Organization of Board Officers  The managers agreed to postpone the Board officer organization until the first meeting in January 2006, because two managers will be absent from the December meeting.

MAWD Convention  President Bucheck said he may be able to attend the MAWD Convention on December 1 through 3, 2005 in Alexandria. The managers agreed that President Bucheck will be the voting delegate representing VBWD.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash at 10:06 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Don Scheel, Secretary

Don Scheel, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Managers 12/08/05