Minutes of Regular Meeting # 751 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers
Thursday, May 25, 2006

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

MANAGERS ABSENT: Duane Johnson, Manager

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

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Lynn Keller, Master Gardeners; Wendy Griffin and Jay Riggs, Washington Conservation District; Dr. Ray Swanson, Citizens Advisory Committee; Teacher and Students from Stillwater Area High School, Stream Monitoring; Mike Berggren, Permit Request; Christopher and Julia Tollafield, Permit Request; Mark Kersey, Permit Request

CALL TO ORDER President Fetcher called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the April 27, 2006 meeting, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Scheel to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS No additional agenda items were added.

PUBLIC FORUM Stillwater Area High School Volunteer Stream Monitoring Students of Stillwater Area High School, and their teacher, Ms. Sandy Pederson, made a presentation to the managers on their progress in monitoring sections of Valley Creek. They answered questions of the managers, and thanked the managers for funding the project. The managers thanked the students for their work.

Master Gardeners - Rainwater Gardens at Washington County Fairgrounds Lynn Keller, with the Master Gardeners, was present to request $5,000 from VBWD for expenses such as printed brochures, signage, advertising, etc., for the Washington County Fair Grounds Rain Gardens. Ms. Keller explained to the managers that four rain gardens are being installed at the Washington County Fair Grounds outside the newly-constructed Exhibit Hall D. These rain gardens will be used to educate the public on the best practices in consumer horticulture and environmental stewardship during the Washington County Fair. After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Bucheck to support this effort up to $5,000. Motion carried. Secretary Scheel abstained from voting on this issue.

SECRETARY=S REPORT Secretary Scheel reported that the mail has been distributed.

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

ATTORNEY=S REPORT Attorney Wolle presented the letter of agreement that she had prepared, as directed by the managers at the last meeting, to be sent to Mr. Jim Almendinger, with the St. Croix Watershed Research Station, concerning payment for the on-going monitoring program on Valley Creek. President Fetcher signed the letter of agreement.
TREASURER’S REPORT Treasurer Borash distributed copies of the Administrative and Program Budgets for Fiscal Year 2006 dated 4/30/2006, and the Treasurer’s Report dated May 25, 2006. After discussion, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Scheel to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Washington Conservation District Jay Riggs reported that on Tuesday, May 30, 2006, seven candidates will be interviewed for the Watershed District Educator position. Vice President Bucheck will be one of the interviewers, representing VBWD.

Jay also reported that Andrea Wedul has completed much of the land cover mapping.

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

ENGINEER’S REPORT Permit Request: Meyer’s Pineridge, Lake Elmo Christopher and Julia Tollafield have attended VBWD meetings previously to discuss with the managers a drainage easement needed on their property so that they would be able to make their backyard more useful to them, by filling the depression in their backyard and grading the existing swale.

At this meeting, the Tollafields decided to withdraw their permit application to make their backyard drier, because they have not been able to get signatures from all of their neighbors on the drainage easement documents. The Tollafields have decided to only fill in the depression on their property, which would not require a permit from VBWD. Permit Application # 2006-11 will be withdrawn.

Permit Request: Valley Creek Headwater Erosion Control, Afton Engineer Hanson presented information on a permit request for a project located at 13695 Valley Creek Trail South, Afton, in the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 17, Township 18 North, Range 20 West. The purpose of the project is to repair rotted timbers with boulders to stabilize stream banks.

After discussion of the water management concerns, wetland management concerns, and erosion control concerns, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Bucheck, to approve Permit # 2006-13 with the engineer’s standard conditions and suggested site-specific conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Permit Request: Kersey Culvert Repair, Grant Engineer Hanson presented information on a permit request for a project located northeast of Highway 36 and Inwood Court North, Grant, in the E 2 of the W 2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 33, Township 30 North, Range 21 West. The purpose of the project is to restore culverts along wetland chain to stabilize channel and prevent erosion.

After discussion of the water management concerns, the wetland management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Borash to approve Permit # 2006-12 with the engineer’s standard conditions and suggested site-specific conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Valley Creek Dam Engineer Hanson and the managers discussed the inspection of the private dam on Valley Creek. They agreed that the first stage of the inspection should be a visual inspection. Motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Scheel to direct Barr Engineering to make a visual inspection of the dam and prepare a report of the inspection, plus an enumeration of future steps. Motion carried unanimously.

Washington County Fair Engineer Hanson said the Washington County Fair will be held August 2-6, 2006. He asked the managers if they would prefer to share a booth with the Washington Conservation District. The managers agreed with this, and also to request that the booth be situated in the new Exhibit Building D instead of Exhibit Building C, so that it is closer to the location of the Rainwater Gardens. Motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Borash to reserve two booths at the Washington County Fair in the new Exhibit
Building D. Motion carried unanimously. The managers agreed that the sign-up sheet to staff the booth during the Fair should again be posted on the VBWD website.

**Permit Request: Tablyn Park/Lake Elmo Heights Watermain, Lake Elmo**  Engineer Hanson presented information on a permit request located in the neighborhoods near Stillwater Boulevard (CSAH 6) and Inwood Avenue (CSAH 13), Lake Elmo, in parts of Sections 16, 21, and 22, Township 29 North, Range 21 West. The purpose of the project is to install watermain and reconstruct roads.

After discussion of the water management concerns, the wetland management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Bucheck to approve Permit # 2006-14, with the engineer's suggested site specific conditions and standard conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

**Eagle Point Lake Dam Sign**  The sign at the Eagle Point Lake Dam has been destroyed, and Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers a draft copy of a sign that could be used to replace the old sign. Engineer Hanson also had mailed a list of prices and pictures of different styles for the sign. After discussion, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Scheel to choose the Aupright @, bullet-proof sign. Motion carried unanimously. Engineer Hanson said he will contact the Washington County Parks to ask them to install the sign.

**Website Update** Engineer Hanson informed the managers that an intern at Barr Engineering has started to scan into the website, grading and erosion plans to be posted on the permit-tracking feature of the website, as directed by the managers earlier in the year.

**Silver Lake Outlet, Bioretention Berm, and Monitoring Update** Engineer Hanson said the Silver Lake outlet and bioretention drain tile outlet has not yet been repaired. He said he will continue to check with the contractor about getting the repairs completed.

Engineer Hanson said the inflow water quality monitoring equipment has been installed. He had mailed to the managers a map showing the monitoring locations.

**Aquatic Plant Survey of Silver Lake** Engineer Hanson reported that the aquatic plant survey is scheduled for June 7 through June 9, and June 12, but might be moved up. Volunteers and interns will be recording the plant survey results. Engineer Hanson will notify President Fetcher of the exact dates.

**FEMA Stream Mapping**  Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers a memorandum dated May 18, 2006, from Scott Sobiech and John Hanson, concerning FEMA’s review comments for the Raleigh and Valley Creek Flood Studies. After the managers discussed FEMA’s two items of concern with the study, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Bucheck to choose Item # 2, ABy addressing FEMA’s comments, the floodplain and floodway boundaries along Raleigh and Valley Creeks will be accurately mapped based on the latest available topographic, survey, and model information. To fully address FEMA’s first round of comments, we estimate that it will cost approximately $7,200. @ Motion carried unanimously.

**MS4 Permit**  Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers a copy of the completed MS4 permit application for their review. After the managers discussed the application, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve the MS4 application. Motion carried unanimously.

**MANAGERS= REPORT Next Meeting - June 8, 2006**  The managers expect to have a quorum present at the next meeting on June 8, 2006.

**Cancellation of June 22, 2006**  Because the managers do not expect to have a quorum on June 22, 2006, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to cancel the June 22, 2006 meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The Recording Secretary will have a notice of meeting cancellation placed in the Ramsey County Review and the Oakdale-Lake Elmo Review.
2005 Annual Report Recording Secretary Karen Schultz said the 2005 Annual Report is ready to go to the printer, except for the Auditor’s page on the Statement of Revenues. Treasurer Borash provided that page, and the 2005 Annual report will be taken to the printer next week.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Scheel and seconded by Bucheck at 10:14 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Don Scheel, Secretary

Don Scheel, Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY MANAGERS 06/08/06