Minutes of Regular Meeting # 800 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers
Thursday, August 14, 2008

MANAGERS PRESENT: Lincoln Fetcher, President; Don Scheel, Secretary; Dale Borash, Treasurer; Ray Lucksinger, Manager

MANAGERS ABSENT: Dave Bucheck, Vice President

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

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Walter Pechan, Tapestry at Charlotte’s Grove Pond Drainage

CALL TO ORDER President Fetcher called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the July 24, 2008 meeting, motion was made by Scheel and seconded by Fetcher to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.


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 inspections that he has made since the last meeting. He reported that he has visited the farm in Afton owned by Jeff Walker, after Engineer Hanson had received a complaint from two Afton Council members. Inspector Roemmich reported that he found the Walker site in compliance with the VBWD permit.

ATTORNEY=S REPORT Attorney Marshall provided President Fetcher and Secretary Scheel with the Polacek Temporary Easement and Project Agreement for Upstream Valley Creek Stabilization Project; and the EMWREP Contract for their signatures. President Fetcher and Secretary Scheel signed the documents.

TREASURER=S REPORT Treasurer Borash distributed draft copies of the VBWD Study/Project Budget for discussion later in the meeting. Treasurer Borash also reported that a Certificate of Deposit has matured, and the managers agreed to let it renew automatically.

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT No one was present representing the Washington Conservation District. President Fetcher reported that he had received more information on the Washington Conservation District=s plans to have a new building constructed for their office space. The managers agreed that since the VBWD will not be affected financially, or in any way, they need not respond. President Fetcher will keep the managers updated as he learns more.

CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS At this time President Fetcher authorized a change in the order of agenda items.
Walter Pechan Property near Tapestry at Charlotte=s Grove Walter Pechan was present to discuss the issue of his trees dying because of the drainage problem caused by the stormwater pond at the Tapestry at Charlotte=s Grove development. In the discussion, Mr. Pechan stated he would not want a drainage easement through his property over the swale, and as he had stated at the last meeting, he said he would like to be reimbursed $5,000 for the 200 lost trees ($25) each. He said he would grade the existing swale through his property to improve the drainage at a cost of $3500, and if he continues to have water issues after this work, he would not pursue any further action with the VBWD. President Fetcher thanked Mr. Pechan for attending the meeting and said the managers would relay this information to Vice President Bucheck, and the issue will be discussed at a future meeting.

ENGINEER= REPORT 29 Pines Ditch Cleaning, Oakdale Engineer Hanson had mailed to the managers, photographs of a ditch filled with junk, near the 29 Pines Mobile Home Park. He said the City of Oakdale has had the junk removed, at an expense of almost $20,000. Engineer Hanson reported to the managers that Brian Bachmeier, City of Oakdale Engineer, and who is on vacation at this time, has asked if VBWD is interested in helping with that expense. The managers agreed to discuss this issue after Brian Bachmeier returns to work and provides a specific cost and request.

Acorn Lake President Fetcher reported that he had discussed the water levels and aquatic plants of Acorn Lake in Oakdale with a Washington County fair visitor. President Fetcher requested and had received copies of historical aerial photographs from Engineer Hanson. President Fetcher asked if the VBWD should try to make the wetland into a lake. He said he would continue to investigate the lake by reviewing previous VBWD reports.

MANAGERS= REPORT Next Meeting - August 28, 2008 The managers expect to have a quorum at the next meeting.

Volunteer Recognition/Anniversary Event The managers discussed the list of possible guests to be invited to attend the VBWD Volunteer Recognition/ Anniversary event. They agreed that it will be better to hold the event inside, rather than on a river boat, and directed Engineer Hanson to check with the Lake Elmo Events Center for available dates in November. Engineer Hanson will keep the managers informed as he gets information.

MAWD Awards The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc., is again asking for nominations for the MAWD Awards Program to recognize watershed districts throughout the state for their achievements. The managers agreed that VBWD will not apply for any awards.

Discussion of 2009 Budget Engineer Hanson and Treasurer Borash had distributed draft study/project budget papers for the managers to view and discuss. After they reviewed the administrative budget items, the managers agreed to hold the public hearing on the 2009 budget on September 11, 2008, at 8:00 pm during the managers= regular meeting. Attorney Marshall will place the public hearing notice in the Ramsey County/Oakdale newspapers.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) The managers briefly discussed the Citizens Advisory Committee issue. The managers agreed to discuss it at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel at 9:13 pm to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Don Scheel, Secretary

Don Scheel, Secretary
EXECUTIVE SESSION  After the 800th VBWD meeting was adjourned, the managers went into Executive Session for 15 minutes.