VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 852 Held in the
Lake Elmo City Council Chambers  APPROVED
Thursday, February 10, 2011    MINUTES

MANAGERS PRESENT:  David Bucheck, President; Lincoln Fetcher, Vice President; Dale Borash, Treasurer; Jill Lucas, Secretary, and Ed Marchan, Manager

MANAGER ABSENT:  None

STAFF PRESENT:  John Hanson, Engineer, Barr Engineering; Ray Marshall, Attorney, Lawson Marshall McDonald Galowitz and Wolle; Ray Roemmich, Inspector; Melissa Imse, Recording Secretary

STAFF ABSENT:  None

OTHERS PRESENT:  Ginny Gaynor, City of Maplewood; Ron Leaf, SEH; Joshua Leonard, St. Paul Public Schools Valley Branch Environmental Learning Center at Belwin Conservancy

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS  President Bucheck announced that Chuck Taylor's wife had passed away.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  After discussion of the January 27, 2011 meeting minutes, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Lucas to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS  Under the engineers report: Item#4 Friends of Long Lake Homeowners Association.

PUBLIC FORUM  Ginny Gaynor and Ron Leaf  Mr. Ron Leaf gave a presentation on the Joy Park improvements and Silver Lake shoreline stabilization. Phase I of the project is complete and Phase II is anticipated to start in June 2011. The City of Maplewood is requesting VBWD funding for the Silver Lake shoreline stabilization portion of the project. The VBWD managers are receptive to contributing to the shoreline restoration, and requested a cost estimate for the project to make a decision.

Joshua Leonard  Joshua Leonard, a teacher at the Valley Branch Environmental Learning Center, gave a brief presentation to the managers about the weather station outside the education building at the Belwin Conservancy. He explained that the weather station equipment is in good condition, but updating the software and hardware of the weather station is needed to obtain educational data for the students to use. He is requesting funding with the VBWD to help with the cost of the software and hardware upgrades. A motion was made by Fetcher to provide $1500.00 to support the weather station upgrade. No manager seconded the motion. After discussion, the managers requested a more detailed cost estimate for the equipment and information regarding the software before making a decision.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  Chuck Taylor's precipitation report was included in the meeting packet.

SECRETARY’S REPORT  President Bucheck distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT  None
ATTORNEY’S REPORT   None

TREASURER’S REPORT   None

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT   None

ENGINEER’S REPORT
Lake Outlet Operating Plans for Spring Snowmelt   VBWD has operating plans for the outlets of the lakes of Project 1007 (Long Lake, Lake Olson, Lake Jane, Crombie Pond, Lake Elmo, and Horseshoe Lake) and Downs Lake. The operating plan calls for temporarily lowering the outlets of each lake when the water content of snow exceeds four inches. Barr Engineering recommends VBWD measure the water content of the snowpack in the Long Lake watershed and to measure the water level of Crombie Pond. The managers authorized Barr Engineering to complete the measurements and report back to them, before proceeding with the additional recommendations.

Plan Amendment   In an order dated September 22, 2010, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) required that the VBWD Watershed Management Plan be amended within one year to include the area of the former Lower St. Croix WMO (LSCWMO). The managers reviewed the scope and budget from Barr Engineering to complete the plan amendment. The managers directed Engineer Hanson to contact Karen Chandler with Barr to see whether a separate section in the existing VBWD plan can be added to include the LSCWMO area, instead of a several edits to the entire existing VBWD plan.

Oakdale Street Sweeper Request   The City of Oakdale is requesting from VBWD a cost participation if they were to consider purchasing a vacuum/regenerative air type street sweeper. After discussion, the managers decided not to fund the possible purchase of a new street sweeper.

Friends of Long Lake Homeowners Association   Brian Buchmayer from the Friends of Long Lake Homeowners Association contacted President Bucheck to discuss the treatment for the lake and liability of the Association. Attorney Marshall suggested the Association work with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for proper treatment of lake.

MANAGERS’ REPORT
Tri-Lakes Improvement Association Annual Meeting   Vice President Fetcher attended and presented at the Tri-Lakes Improvement Association Annual meeting.

2011 Budget Update   President Bucheck reviewed the 2011 budget with the managers and staff. After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Fetcher to approve the 2011 budget. Motion carried unanimously. President Bucheck finalized the 2011 VBWD goals. After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Lucas to approve the 2011 VBWD goals. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting - February 24, 2011   President Bucheck and Vice President Fetcher will be absent, the remaining managers plan to attend the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS
None.

NEW BUSINESS
None.

FUTURE ITEMS
None.
ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan at 9:53 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jill Lucas

Jill Lucas, Secretary

Minutes approved by Managers on 3/10/2011