VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 853 Held in the
Lake Elmo City Council Chambers  APPROVED
Thursday, March 10, 2011  MINUTES

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

MANAGER ABSENT: Jill Lucas; Secretary

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: Brian Buchmayer, Friends of Long Lake Homeowners Association; Joshua Leonard and Ned Phillips, 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
None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
After discussion of the February 10, 2011 meeting minutes, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS
Under the engineers report: Item#6 I694 and Highway 36 Interchange.

PUBLIC FORUM
Joshua Leonard and Ned Phillips Joshua Leonard and Ned Phillips from the Valley Branch Environmental Learning Center gave a brief presentation to the managers on pricing for software and hardware needed for the weather station outside the education building at the Belwin Conservancy. They are requesting funding from the VBWD to help with the cost of the software and hardware upgrades. A motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Marchan to provide up to $1800.00 to support the weather station upgrade. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
None

SECRETARY’S REPORT
Engineer Hanson distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT
Inspector Roemmich reported on the 3M disposal site.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT
None

TREASURER’S REPORT
Treasurer Borash distributed copies of the Administrative and Program Budgets Fiscal Year 2011, dated January 2011, and the Treasurer’s Report dated February 24, 2011. After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried unanimously.

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT
None
ENGINEER’S REPORT
28th Street North & Raleigh Creek, Lake Elmo  The City of Lake Elmo and the Lake Elmo City Bank would like to work with the VBWD on a purchase or swapping of land in Raleigh Creek. After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Borash to authorize Barr Engineering and the law firm of Lawson Marshall McDonald Galowitz and Wolle to continue to work with the City and Lake Elmo Bank on swapping land and to request financial support from Lake Elmo bank for the cost associated with the land/easement exchange. Motion carried unanimously.

Long Lake Point Intercept Surveys  The Friends of Long Lake Association are planning a whole-lake aquatic plant treatment to manage the Eurasian watermilfoil. The association requested that the VBWD conduct the DNR required point intercept surveys of the aquatic plants after the whole-lake treatment. After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Bucheck to approve funding for up to $4200.00 to have two macrophyte point intercept surveys done on Long Lake between 2011 and 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Request: Ravine Stabilization Projects  After project review and discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Borash to approve payment application number five for the ravine stabilization in the amount of $8,387.50. Motion carried unanimously.

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 received reports on the water content of the snowpack and it was in the two-four inch range. The managers determined not proceed with the operating plans for lowering the lake levels due to the low range of the water content in the snowpack that was sampled.

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. Karen Chandler received a response from Melissa Lewis with BWSR that alternative approach to the plan amendment is inconsistent with how BWSR has been asking other watershed districts to incorporate new areas into plans and an approach similar to the approach suggested by Ms. Chandler is appropriate. A motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Marchan to authorize Barr to begin work on the plan amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

I694-Highway 36 Interchange  The Minnesota Department of Transportation is planning to re-surface a section of I-694 this summer, including some re-construction work at the Interstate 694-Highway 36 interchange. The managers had previously asked if MnDOT would be willing to partner with the VBWD to install stormwater management practices within the interchange. At the time of the request, MnDOT was not open to installing practices within the interchange, but now MnDOT is open to partnering with VBWD to treat the stormwater in the interchange. After discussion, the managers directed Barr to research stormwater management BMP options and costs.

MANAGERS’ REPORT
Next Meeting - March 24, 2011  All managers plan to attend the meeting.

EMWREP and MS4 Annual Meeting  Each year the VBWD is required to hold an annual meeting regarding its Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. Angie Hong, through the East Metro Water Resources Education Program (EMWREP), is offering to hold a joint public meeting for all Washington County MS4s. After discussion, the managers determined to hold their own MS4 annual meeting in May. Attorney Marshall will publish notice of the meeting.

Best Management Practices Cost Share Program Reimbursement Request: Silver Lake Shoreline Restoration at Joy Park, City of Maplewood  After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by
Marchan to approve BMP reimbursement for the Silver Lake Shoreline Restoration at Joy Park, City of Maplewood in the amount of $18,789.10. Motion carried unanimously.

**St. Croix River Association Conference**  The St. Croix River Association conference will be held on April 5, 2011. A **motion** was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to authorize attendance and payment for any of the managers and staff to the conference. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**
None.

**NEW BUSINESS**
None.

**FUTURE ITEMS**
None.

**ADJOURNMENT**
**Motion** was made by Borash and seconded by Fetcher at 8:52 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/\s/ Ed Marchan

Ed Marchan, Acting Secretary

**Minutes approved by Managers on 3/24/2011**