VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 859 Held in the
Lake Elmo City Council Chambers
Thursday, June 23, 2011

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; Barb Wolle, Attorney, Lawson Marshall McDonald Galowitz and Wolle; Ray Roemmich, Inspector; Melissa Imse, Recording Secretary

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Rusty Schmidt, Washington Conservation District; Roger Johnson, Citizens Advisory Committee; Jeff Swan and Tom Germscheid, Silver Lake Residents; Scott Knudson and Pam Bailey, Lake Elmo Residents

CALL TO ORDER
President Bucheck called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
After discussion of the June 9, 2011 meeting minutes, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS
Item #2 under Engineers Report-State of Minnesota Shutdown Impacts to VBWD

PUBLIC FORUM
Mr. Jeff Swan and Mr. Tom Germscheid, residents from Silver Lake, were present to discuss the Silver Lake water levels. Mr. Swan is requesting VBWD assistance to remove the weir in front of the culvert outlet to help reduce the flooding issues to his property (a sump pump that runs frequently) and around the lake (erosion issues). Mr. Germscheid does not want to change the current lake levels to Silver Lake, and prefers a high water level on the lake. He indicated that the Silver Lake Improvement Association has not taken a position on the topic, but felt that most members would prefer to leave the outlet as is. The managers directed Engineer Hanson to investigate the impacts of modifying the geometry of the outlet weir plate. They encouraged Mr. Swan to work with the Cities of North St. Paul and Maplewood and DNR to develop a no wake ordinances and to submit an inventory of properties negatively affected by high water.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Roger Johnson reported on the treatment for invasive species on Lake DeMontreville. Roger also requested that Chuck Taylor’s lake level and precipitation reports be posted on the VBWD website. The managers agreed to do so, and instructed Recording Secretary Imse to post the reports.

SECRETARY’S REPORT
Secretary Lucas reported that she had updated her and Manager Marchan VBWD records. Engineer Hanson distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT
Inspector Roemmich reported that there are no new projects.
ATTORNEY’S REPORT  Attorney Wolle presented the Stormwater Quality Maintenance agreement for the River Valley Riders for signature. President Bucheck and Secretary Lucas signed the agreement.

TREASURER’S REPORT  Treasurer Borash distributed copies of the Administrative and Program Budgets Fiscal Year 2011, dated May 2011, and the Treasurer’s Report dated June 23, 2011. After discussion, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Lucas to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried unanimously.

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT  Rusty Schmidt was present to discuss the BMP Cost Share Program.

ENGINEER’S REPORT
MPCA Watershed Protection and Restoration Program  The MPCA has a Watershed Restoration and Protection Study program that provides funds to assess waters on a 10-year cycle that do not meet water quality standards, and to protect those waters that do meet standards. The MPCA has inquired if VBWD would like to participate in the program. If VBWD determines to participate in the program a detailed work plan with associated cost is needed and would likely be at the VBWD own expense. Mr. Christopher Klucas with the MPCA was unable to attend the meeting, but could attend a future meeting. The managers decided to have Barr Engineering contact Mr. Klucas to invite him to attend a future managers’ meeting to discuss the program and work plan costs.

State of Minnesota Shutdown Impacts to VBWD  Engineer Hanson prepared a memo that showed the impacts to VBWD in the case of a state government shutdown. The managers thanked Engineer Hanson for bringing these matters to their attention. No action was taken.

MANAGERS’ REPORT
Lake Elmo Survey  The survey of Lake Elmo outlet control structure and various other features at the lake was completed by Folz, Freeman, and Erickson, Inc. The results showed an elevation of 884.52 in the DNR’s Lake Elmo datum for the top of the stop log control structure. The results were consistent with the DNR permit for the outlet structure. Residents of Lake Elmo were present for the results and thanked VBWD for conducting the survey.

BMP Cost Share Program and Consent Calendar  The 2011 BMP Cost Share program budget is $40,000.00. The projects on the consent calendar will exceed the current budget. After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Fetcher to approve the BMP projects on the consent calendar in the amount of $22,464.55, and to suspend the 2011 BMP Cost Share program. Motion carried unanimously. Rusty Schmidt will continue to provide technical advice to VBWD residents, but no new projects will be funded in 2011.

2011 Budget Status  President Bucheck provided the VBWD budget worksheet for the managers to review. This report will be updated by Recording Secretary Imse on a monthly basis.

Next Meeting - July 14, 2011  All managers plan to attend.

OLD BUSINESS  None.

NEW BUSINESS  None.

FUTURE ITEMS  None.

ADJOURNMENT  Motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash at 9:10 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
CONSENT CALENDAR
The following items were approved at the June 23, 2011 meeting:

1. BMP Cost-Share Grants
   A. A $2,500 individual grant to Mike and Michelle Finn to install two rain gardens.
   B. A $3,125 community grant to remove asphalt within the area of the Montessori school and replace with plantings.
   C. A $2,500 individual grant to Vicky and Greg Batroot to install three rain gardens.
   D. A $500 plant grant to Kathleen Helm for native plantings.
   E. A $500 plant grant to Pat McAllister to expand a rain garden.
   F. A $2,000 individual grant to Kim Knandel to install three rain gardens.
   G. A $2,500 individual grant to John Muller for shoreline plantings.
   H. A $2,500 individual grant to Nick Heidenreich for shoreline plantings.
   I. A $2,500 individual grant to Paul Anderson for shoreline plantings.
   J. A $2,394.60 individual grant to Judy Burns to install a rain garden.
   K. A $1,444.95 individual grant to Robert Bruton to install a rain garden.

Minutes approved by managers on 7/14/2011