VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 864 Held in the
Lake Elmo City Annex
Thursday, September 22, 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; Ray Marshall, Attorney, Lawson Marshall McDonald Galowitz and Wolle; Ray Roemmich, Inspector; Melissa Imse, Recording Secretary

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER President Bucheck called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the September 8, 2011 meeting minutes, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously. After discussion of the September 14, 2011 meeting minutes, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS Under the Engineer’s Report: Item G2-Mahtomedi Elementary School and Item G3-28th Street Culvert. Under the Manager’s Report: Item 4-Washington County Commissioners Meeting, November 1, 2011, Item 5-The City of Afton Update and Item 6-Conservation Targeting Tool.

PUBLIC FORUM None

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE None

SECRETARY’S REPORT Engineer Hanson distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT Inspector Roemmich reported on the following projects: Washington County Highway 13B, River Valley Riders, Whistling Valley III, and Cedar Bluff development in Afton.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT Attorney Marshall stated that the public hearing notice for the VBWD Watershed Plan Amendment was published.

TREASURER’S REPORT Treasurer Borash distributed copies of the Administrative and Program Budgets Fiscal Year 2011, dated August 2011, and the Treasurer’s Report dated September 22, 2011. After discussion, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried unanimously.

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT No report.
ENGINEER’S REPORT

Permit Request: Lake Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Facility, Lake Elmo  After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Marchan to approve permit request 2011-15 Lake Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Facility. Motion carried unanimously.

Mahtomedi Elementary School  Earlier this year, the City of Grant requested comments from VBWD prior to the city issuing a permit for a proposed new Mahtomedi elementary school. The project is legally within the Rice Creek Watershed District, but the eastern portion of the site where the school building, parking lot, and bus entrance are proposed is hydrologically within the VBWD. Runoff from the eastern portion of the site, where most of the impervious surfaces are proposed, drains to the landlocked Sunnybrook Lake. Homes, roads, and septic systems (all constructed prior to the VBWD’s permitting program) around Sunnybrook Lake are subject to frequent flooding. The proposed project could exacerbate the flooding problems in the Sunnybrook Lake neighborhood and the VBWD sent a comment letter to the developer’s engineer and Rice Creek Watershed District in July 2011 indicating that additional efforts need to be taken to protect the neighborhood. Since then, the developer’s engineer has made revisions to the site, which include a proposed infiltration basin. However, the proposed infiltration basin would ultimately overflow to Sunnybrook Lake within the VBWD. The VBWD Managers directed Engineer Hanson to prepare a response letter to the school district requiring that a drainage divide be restored so that the overflow of the infiltration basin drains into Rice Creek Watershed District, as shown on 1993 topography maps.

28th Street Culvert at Raleigh Creek  The landowner upstream of 28th Street North as well as city of Lake Elmo staff and a council member have requested that the VBWD remove culvert as soon as possible and restore the channel at 28th Street. The culvert is no longer needed because access to an adjacent lot has been provided from the west. The Managers directed Barr Engineering to prepare a cost estimate for removing the culvert and restoring the channel.

MANAGERS’ REPORT

Cost Share Funding Request: Repairs to Jane Road Rainwater Gardens, Lake Elmo  The city of Lake Elmo is requesting cost share assistance with VBWD for reconstruction of the Jane Road rainwater gardens. While the Managers agree that these are good projects and are disappointed to learn that there have been problems, these Best Management Practices were required as part of the VBWD permit. In addition, the VBWD has spent the entire budget for the individual cost-share program and has no funds remaining for projects. Therefore, the managers declined to fund the restoration of the rainwater gardens.

Cost Share Funding Request: DeMontreville Boat Launch Rainwater Gardens, Washington County  Washington County is requesting cost share assistance with VBWD for rainwater gardens at the DeMontreville boat launch. After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Marchan to approve VBWD special incentive cost share assistance with Washington County for up to $9000.00 for the construction of the BMP rainwater garden at the DeMontreville boat launch site, which will include a five year maintenance agreement with Washington County and a sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting - October 13, 2011  All managers plan to attend.

Washington County Commissioners Meeting, Tuesday November 1, 2011  President Bucheck informed the managers that he will be present at the Washington County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. The purpose of the meeting will be to present the VBWD 2012 budget and levy. The managers discussed the potential talking points. President Bucheck and Engineer Hanson will work on the presentation for the Commissioners.

City of Afton Update  Secretary Lucas provided a City of Afton update.

Conservation Targeting Tools  Vice President Fetcher attended a presentation on conservation targeting tools. Vice President Fetcher highlighted selected tools currently being developed by state agencies for use in state and local clean water efforts.
Public Hearing: Plan Amendment  At 8:00 p.m. President Bucheck suspended the regular meeting and opened the Plan Amendment hearing. No public was present to provide comments. President Bucheck closed the Plan Amendment public hearing and resumed the regular meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Plan Amendment  After discussion, motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve the VBWD Plan Amendment and directed Barr Engineering to submit the Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), Met Council, and the state review agencies for review and approval. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS
None.

NEW BUSINESS
None.

FUTURE ITEMS
None.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion was made by Borash and seconded by Fetcher at 9:05 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jill Lucas

Jill Lucas, Secretary

Minutes approved by Managers 10/13/2011