VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 873
Held in the Lake Elmo City Annex
Thursday, March 8, 2012

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:  Steve Zimmer, Doug Lake, and Paul Linnerude, Lakeshore residents from Cloverdale and McDonald Lakes.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS  None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  After discussion of the February 23, 2012 meeting minutes, motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS  Item G5 under the Engineer’s Report, Watershed Restoration and Protection Program Report

PUBLIC FORUM  Lakeshore residents Steve Zimmer, Doug Lake, and Paul Linnerude were present to discuss the neighborhood’s concerns with high water levels at Cloverdale Lake and low water levels on McDonald Lake. They are requesting that VBWD assist them investigate options to better control the water levels of the lakes. After discussion, the managers directed Barr Engineering to look into the current and past elevation around the lakes and to provide further details of the possibility of connecting the flow between the lakes.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  None

SECRETARY’S REPORT  Engineer Hanson distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT  None

ATTORNEY’S REPORT  None

TREASURER’S REPORT  None

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT  None

ENGINEER’S REPORT
Oakdale Station Permit 2008-03  The developer’s bank submitted an amendment to the letter of credit for the site. The amendment listed is set to expire on May 13, 2012, which is not long enough to address the wetland replacement
issues for the project. The managers directed Engineer Hanson to contact the permit holder and the permit holder's bank and ask them to extend the letter of credit until May 2013.

**Wildflower Shores Wetland Bank** The managers reviewed the Wildflower Shores Wetland Bank Annual Monitoring Report for 2011. The VBWD can request certification of some of the wetland bank area, however, a land survey of the bank site with a legal description and filing the requirements per the Wetland Conservation Act Rules must be complete before any portion of the wetland bank can be certified. After discussion, the managers directed Barr Engineering to submit the Annual Report to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and to contact surveying companies to submit cost estimates for completing a survey of the area to be included in the easement of the wetland bank.

**Silver Lake Bioretention Basin** The City of North St. Paul is considering making modifications to the Silver Lake Bioretention Basin. The modifications include excavating the basin a foot deeper and installing curb cuts along adjacent roads. The manager discussed the potential modifications and directed Barr to work with the City to insure that a survey of the basin is done to determine if the potential modifications will achieve the City’s goals and still adequately treat the stormwater runoff.

**2011 Basin Water Quality Results** The managers reviewed the 2011 Basin Water Quality Results and Barr's recommendations for the 2012 monitoring plan. After discussion, the managers directed Barr to prepare an estimate for monitoring the high priority basins that are included in the VBWD 2012 work plan and budget.

**Watershed Restoration and Protection Program** In January Engineer Hanson met with Christopher Klucas, with the MPCA, to discuss the administrative and technical details to the VBWD Watershed restoration and Protection Program. Barr Engineering provided a draft work plan for the managers to consider. The draft work plan included three scopes of the WRAP, which would be dependent on funding by the MPCA.

In February the VBWD directed Barr Engineering to submit the work plan to MPCA with suggested revisions. MPCA has since provided comments back to VBWD on the work plan, including that it will likely fund studies of basins of lower priority to the Managers, but not some identified high priority basins with signs of degrading water quality. The managers directed Barr to contact Christopher Klucas with MPCA to discuss monitoring higher priority basins.

**MANAGERS’ REPORT**

**Meetings with City Councils and Town Boards** The managers tabled the discussion until the March 22 meeting.

**Volunteer Recognition** The managers tabled the discussion until the March 22 meeting.

**BMP Cost Share Program Policy Considerations for 2012**

President Bucheck provided draft copies of the 2012 BMP Plant and Community Grant policy forms for the managers to review. After discussion, *motion* was made by Bucheck and seconded by Marchan to approve the BMP Plant and Community Cost Share Program Forms for 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

**City of Lake Elmo Community BMP Cost Share Grant** The City of Lake Elmo is requesting assistance from the VBWD Community Grant program for the cost of installing BMPs along re-constructed roads in the Lake DeMontreville watershed. After review and discussion, the managers suggested that they will likely approve funding at a level equivalent to 50% of the BMP construction costs. The managers directed Engineer Hanson to contact the City to discuss the VBWD funding for the project.

**Consent Calendar** After review and discussion, *motion* was made by Fetcher and seconded by Borash to approve the consent calendar with the exception of the Hedberg Landscaping application. Motion carried unanimously.

**Next Meeting - March 22, 2012** President Bucheck will be absent. The remaining managers plan to attend.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.
NEW BUSINESS
None.

FUTURE ITEMS
None.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion was made by Borash and seconded by Fetcher at 9:25 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Ed Marchan

Ed Marchan, Acting Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR
The following items were approved at the March 8, 2012 meeting:

1. BMP Cost-Share Applications
   A. A $500.00 plant grant to James Arkell.
   B. A $500.00 plant grant to Jim Gehrke.
   C. A $1,000.00 buckthorn grant to Mary Ann and Ernest Reeh.
   D. A $2,700.00 individual grant to Mary and Patrick Rugloski.
   E. A $1,000.00 individual grant to Thomas Skalbeck.

Minutes approved by managers 3/22/2012