VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 943
Held in the City of Lake Elmo City Hall
Thursday, July 9, 2015

MANAGERS PRESENT: Dave Bucheck, President; Dale Borash, Treasurer; Jill Lucas, Secretary; and Ed Marchan, Manager

MANAGER ABSENT: Lincoln Fetcher, Vice-President

STAFF PRESENT: John Hanson, Engineer, Barr Engineering; Susannah Torseth, Attorney, Lawson Marshall McDonald and Galowitz; and Melissa Imse, Recording Secretary

STAFF ABSENT: Ray Roemmich, Inspector

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Krafthefer; Ron Moorse, City of Afton Administrator; Jim Golden, Afton Sewer Treatment System; Jim Taylor and Audrey Robins, City of Maplewood; Brian Buchmayer, Friends of Long Lake; Phil Easton, Lake DeMontreville

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
After discussion, motion was made by Lucas and seconded by Marchan to approve the June 25, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS
Under Manager's Report, Item#4-2015 Budget

CITY OF MAPLEWOOD: Public Art and Environmental Education at Joy Park
Jim Taylor with City of Maplewood provided a history of the City Park Plan and the concept plan for the public art and environmental education plan for Joy Park. The City is interested in partnering with VBWD on the environmental educational piece of the project. The managers suggested contacting Angie Hong as an educational resource for the project.

CITY OF AFTON: Update on Afton Village Projects
Ron Moorse, the City of Afton Administrator, gave an update on the Afton wastewater treatment facility and the Afton Village projects. The City of Afton will be submitting a permit to VBWD for the wastewater treatment facility next week.

PUBLIC FORUM

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Chuck Taylor provided the lake level report for June.

SECRETARY’S REPORT
Engineer Hanson distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT
None

ATTORNEY’S REPORT
None

TREASURER’S REPORT
Treasure Borash reminded the managers that per diems are due.
WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Kelle’s Creek Septic System Assessment Barr Engineering and Secretary Lucas will present the project to the Afton City Council on August 18, 2015.

Rivas Property Engineer Hanson, Tom MacDonald of Barr, Secretary Lucas, and Manager Marchan met with Mr. Rivas to discuss re-establishing buffers and shade to Valley Creek. The meeting went well. Engineer Hanson will present restoration ideas for the Rivas property at the next VBWD meeting.

Goetschel Pond FEMA Flood Mapping At the December 11, 2014 meeting, the managers directed Barr to complete the Goetschel Pond subwatershed modeling and submit the information to FEMA and the City of Lake Elmo. Barr prepared details of the work involved to submit information to FEMA for its approval of revising the flood mapping to Goetschel Pond for the managers to consider. After discussion, a motion was made by Lucas and seconded by Marchan to direct Barr Engineering to prepare and send the Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) of Goetschel Pond to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and FEMA for up to $10,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

MANAGERS’ REPORT

Consent Calendar After discussion, motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Lucas to approve the consent calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Valley Creek Ravine Stabilization Projects Barr and Attorney Torseth are continuing work to obtain the easements. Afton’s Planning Commission approved the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Afton City Council will hear the CUP request at its July 21 meeting. Construction bid results will be presented to the Board at its next meeting.

Next Meetings - July 23 and August 13, 2015 All managers plan to attend the meetings.

2015 Budget President Bucheck will review and recommend revisions to the 2015 budget at the next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING: Valley Branch Watershed District 2015-2025 Watershed Management Plan At 8:00pm President Bucheck suspended the regular meeting and opened the public hearing for the Valley Branch Watershed District 2015-2025 Watershed Management Plan. The following comments regarding the plan were received: Jim Golden asked if the Afton wastewater treatment facility and the Afton Village projects are included in the Plan. Phil Easton of Lake DeMontreville indicated he had provided comments at a recent lake citizens advisory committee meeting and asked about the Plan approval process. At 8:04pm President Bucheck closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS
None.

NEW BUSINESS
None.

FUTURE ITEMS
None.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan at 8:09 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jill Lucas

Jill Lucas, Secretary

**Consent Calendar**

Consent calendar items are generally defined as items of routine business, not requiring discussion, and approved in one vote. The Managers may elect to pull a consent calendar item(s) for discussion and/or separate action.

The following items are presented for the Managers approval:

A. $750.00 Individual Cost-Share Grant to Armando and Ella Menendez for a rain garden located at 3105 Layton Court N. in Lake Elmo within the Legion Pond subwatershed

B. Final payment of $273.45 for a Plant Grant to Debra and David Downing at 5135 Lake Elmo Ave N. in Lake Elmo within the Goetschel Pond subwatershed

C. Partial payment of $1,773.31 for a Buckthorn Removal Grant to Jesse Wilcox at 14725 Afton Blvd in Afton within the Kelle’s Creek subwatershed