VALLEY BRANCH WATERSHED DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Meeting No. 947
Held in the City of Lake Elmo City Hall
Thursday, September 10, 2015

MANAGERS PRESENT: Dave 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; Susannah Torseth, Attorney, Lawson Marshall McDonald and Galowitz; Ray Roemmich, Inspector; and Melissa Imse, Recording Secretary

STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Chuck Taylor, Citizens Advisory Committee; Peter Miller and Eric Blasing with Wenck Associates; Kyle Prokosch

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 Fetcher and seconded by Marchan to approve the August 27, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS
Under Engineer’s report item G8-Lake Elmo Corridor and Utility Project

PUBLIC FORUM
None

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Chuck Taylor presented the August lake level report.

SECRETARY’S REPORT
Engineer Hanson distributed the mail.

INSPECTOR’S REPORT
Inspector Roemmich reported on the following projects: Wildflower development, Village Preserve, Easton Village, Oak-Land Junior High School tennis courts, and a Silver Lake shoreline restoration project.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT
Attorney Torseth distributed the list and status of the Valley Creek Stabilization project recorded easements.

TREASURER’S REPORT
None

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT
None

ENGINEER’S REPORT
Permit Request: Downtown Village Sanitary Sewer Improvements (Large Subsurface Sewage Treatment Plant) After discussion, a motion was made by Marchan and seconded by Fetcher to approve permit 2015-19, Downtown Village Sanitary Sewer Improvements (Large Subsurface Sewage Treatment Plant) in Afton with the suggested site specific conditions, and to waive the permit and surety fee. Motion carried unanimously.
Permit Request: Oakdale Park Trail Improvements, Oakdale  After discussion, a motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Borash to approve permit 2015-22, Oakdale Park Trail Improvements in Oakdale with the amended suggested site conditions to include the following conditions: Allow a variance for three infiltration basins that will provide 75% of phosphorous reduction. Although the project does not meet the VBWD eight foot buffer requirement, because it is an existing park, the trail will override this requirement. The permit requirement on the number of monuments shall be reduced to 2 to 5 monuments and shall be placed near the areas of the trail of highest usage. The easement requirement for the permit (because it is a designated park land) can be replaced with a letter from the City of Oakdale stating the trail is part of permanent parkland. Motion carried unanimously.

Kelle’s Creek Watershed Septic System Inspection Program  The managers previously reviewed possible program details for the Kelle’s Creek Watershed septic system inspections, including potential incentives for property owners to participate in the program. The managers discussed the possibility of incentives again and would like more information before they make a decision.

No-Fee Permits for Individual Homes  VBWD requires permits and stormwater management for projects that create 6,000 or more square feet of impervious surface. When individual homes are constructed with more impervious surface than assumed for the subdivision, or are not included in a subdivision and have impervious surfaces that total 6,000 or more square feet, the managers have required stormwater management facilities and waived the fees and surety.  In reviewing several permits for individual homes, many of them are missing the required drainage easements over the stormwater management facilities. After discussion, the managers may change the permit program for individual homeowners by no longer waiving the surety for future permits to insure the easements are being recorded. The managers will make a decision at a future meeting.

Permit Closeout Request: Koch Pipeline Company HWY 36 Bore-Site Pipe Replacement, Permit 2014-26  After discussion, a motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to approve permit closeout for permit 2014-26, Koch Pipeline Company HWY 36 Bore-Site Pipe replacement and to return the surety. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Disbursements Request: Washington County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Grant  The VBWD was awarded a $9,660.00 grant from Washington County to prevent the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil in Long Lake, Lake DeMontreville, Lake Olson, and Lake Jane. After discussion, a motion was made by Fetcher and seconded by Marchan to authorize Treasurer Borash to disburse the aquatic invasive species prevention aid grant money to Friends of Long Lake, the Lake DeMontreville/Olson Association, and the Lake Jane Association, as detailed in table 1 of the September 2, 2015 memorandum. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment Request: Removal of Downed Trees in Kelle’s Creek  After discussion, a motion was made by Marchan and seconded by Fetcher to approve payment of $1,830.00 to Buelow excavating for the removal of downed trees in Kelle’s Creek. Motion carried unanimously.

Lake Elmo Corridor and Utility Project  President Bucheck signed the Transaction Form for Withdrawal of Wetland Credits from the Minnesota Wetland Bank.

Public Hearing: 2016 Budget  At 8:00 p.m., President Bucheck suspended the regular meeting and open the 2016 budget hearing. No public was present for the 2016 budget hearing. A motion was made by Borash and seconded by Marchan to close the 2016 budget hearing and resume the regular meeting at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. President Bucheck reconvened the regular meeting.

MANAGERS’ REPORT
2015-2025 VBWD Watershed Management Plan  The VBWD Plan will be discussed by the Board of Water and Soil Resources Board on September 23, 2015. Assuming the Plan will be approved by the BWSR Board, the VBWD will need to formally adopt the Plan at the September 24th meeting.

2016 Budget  After discussion, a motion was made by Bucheck and seconded by Fetcher to approve the 2016 VBWD budget at $990,500.00 with a tax levy of $790,000.00. Motion carried on a 3-1 vote with Manager Borash opposed.

Next Meetings – September 24 and October 8, 2015  President Bucheck will be absent at the September 24th meeting. All other managers plan to attend the meetings.
OLD BUSINESS
None.

NEW BUSINESS
None.

FUTURE ITEMS
None.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Ed Marchan

Ed Marchan, Acting-Secretary

Minutes approved by managers 9/24/2015