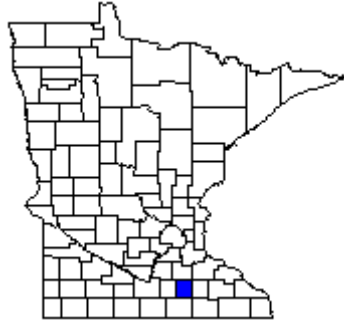


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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**MINNESOTA
SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

The regular monthly meeting of the Steele County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Hansen at 7:03 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2011 at the Conservation Office located at 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna, MN.

<u>SWCD Supervisors Present:</u>	<u>SWCD Staff Present:</u>	<u>Others Present:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
Dan Hansen, Chrnm.	Dan Arndt, Manager	Bruce Kubicek, Co. Commissioner	
Mark Ihlenfeld, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Dave Melby, Sec.	Sue Condon		
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chrnm.			
James Klecker, Reporter			

The April agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The March minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to approve the minutes with the correction to change Soil Stewardship Week to April 24, 2011 instead of March 24, 2011. Motion was carried by voice vote.

The March Treasurer’s Report (see attached) was read by Ihlenfeld. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to approve the February Treasurer’s Report. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Bills: (see attached.) Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve paying the bills as listed. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Gulbransen enters meeting at 7:10 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SE MASWCD Supervisor’s meeting, March 29th: Ihlenfeld and Arndt attended the meeting which was held at the Iron Springs Christian Ranch located by Stewartville. Ihlenfeld reviewed the resolutions that were passed at the convention from our area. District capacity questions will become more fair to the Ag and non-ag Districts. Adequate funding for District expenses looks unlikely. Grants need to be developed to help the situation.
2. RC & D meeting: March 21st Ihlenfeld and Commissioner Kubicek attended the meeting in Rochester. There will be \$9,000 for Community Garden Project in SE Hiawatha RC & D area with approximately \$700 for the city of Owatonna’s garden projects. There will be an Earth Day celebration on April 21st in Cascade Meadows sponsored through the RC & D.

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2010 Flood Control State Cost Share Program: Gulbransen presented proposed 2011 Flood Relief State Cost Share Program Policy to the supervisors. (See attached.) Discussed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the signing of the \$50,000 grant with these policies provisions. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
2. Gulbransen presented state cost share application of 1-10 FC, Edwardson, terrace repair for \$750. Discussion. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Melby to approve the signing of the application. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
3. Gulbransen presented the clean water buffer incentive applications: VBS 2010-17, Cashman – 1.4 ac. = \$840; VBS 2010-18 Heers – 6.2 ac. = \$3,720; VBS 2010-19, Maas – 3.3 ac. = \$1,980. The Clean Water Buffer Incentive is the group of Steele, Rice, Goodhue and Waseca SWCDs promoting buffer incentives. The sign-up period is now ended. Discussion. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve these applications and send them to Rice SWCD for approval. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
4. Steele County Wetland Preservation Area Program: County commissioners adopted the Wetland Preservation Area Program at their last board meeting. Arndt has discussed with Golberg how this program will be implemented. Arndt will have more information next month.
5. Tree distribution will be held April 15th. Volunteers will be helping at the sign in table. Arndt thanked Smith ahead of time for the help with distribution as this will be his last board meeting until he returns from Kuwait.
6. Arndt reported that there will be a tree planting day with the St. Isidore Elementary School on April 27th.

Smith reported that there will be a General CRP will end on April 15th. He stated that he is working of re-enrollments that will be expiring in September. His last day of work will be May 13th. He will be in Kuwait for one year. Board wished him well and a safe return.

Commissioner Kubicek reported on the Community Gardens. He also reported on the Oak Glen Towers located in Blooming Prairie township. The building starts May 1st. There will 24 towers (windmills) each generating 1.8 meg.

Condon reported that the SE MN Envirothon will be held May 5th. She will be an oral judge for the completion.

Gulbransen reported the tree sales are doing very well with pickup on April 15th.

Arndt reported that the city of Owatonna received a large flood control grant in the amount of \$300,000. The SWCD office will report this through e-link, but the monies will not be coming through our office.

Motion was made to adjourn by Klecker, seconded by Melby at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be May 11th.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary