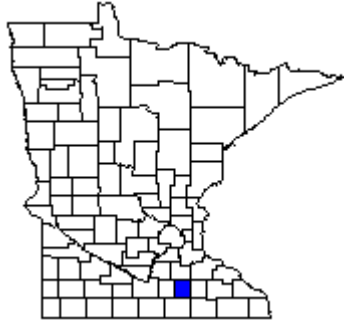


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

235 Cedardale Drive SE
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060-4417
Telephone (507) 451-6730 Ext. 3
Fax (507) 444-2421



**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 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 13, 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, Chrmn.	Dan Arndt, Manager	Bruce Kubicek, Co. Commissioner	
Mark Ihlenfeld, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen	Noel Frank, NRCS DC	
Dave Melby, Sec.	Sue Condon		
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chrmn.			
James Klecker, Reporter			

The July agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The June minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Corrections to be made: James Klecker was absent and Commissioner Kubicek stated that it was the rainfall and flow level that was to be measured on the Maple Creek and Straight River not the turbidity. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the minutes with said corrections. Motion was carried by voice vote.

The June Treasurer’s Report (see attached) was read by Ihlenfeld. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the June 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.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SE MASWCD Resolutions Meeting, June 14th: Ihlenfeld attended this meeting and presented our resolution of the frequency and need of audits. Discussion. Our resolution “**FREQUENCY OF THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FINANCIAL AUDITS**” was revised somewhat by the group and was passed. There were 4 resolutions from the area, with 3 of them passing and going on to MASWCD.
2. Other: none.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Farm Bill Technician status: the grant cycle for the position that Danielle Waldschmidt has is from July 1st to June 30th. Because of the state shut down, the grant was approved but not funded before July 1st. For the month of July, she will not be working in Steele County.
2. State Cost-share payments and applications: Gulbransen presented for payment 1(10) FC Edwardson with the cost of \$1,295 and cost-share of \$618.75. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve the payment subject to when BWSR payment forms are available on the website. Carried.

Encumbered cost-share 2010 Flood Control Projects: 4(10) FC Burns encumbrance of \$7,490.80; 5(10) FC Waage encumbrance of \$2,250; 6(10) FC Ringhofer encumbrance of \$1,500; 7(10) FC Randel encumbrance of 425; 8(10) FC Thompson encumbrance of \$10,000. Contracts 7(10) FC & 8 (10) FC are partnered with the NRCS. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to approve the encumbrances. Motion carried. Discussion on other projects needed in Steele Co. because of the flooding that occurred last year. Because of the lack of funding a lot of these projects can't be funded.
3. 2011 Outstanding Conservationists for Farmer, Windbreak and Wildlife: Nominations were reviewed and discussed. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby for the following: Ken & Steve Arndt for Outstanding Conservation Farmer; Al Hansel for Outstanding Windbreak; Howard Jacobson for Outstanding Wildlife. Motion was carried.
4. RIM Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve – 25th Anniversary, July 21st in Steele County: Arndt reported that because of the state shut down, it is postponed until sometime in the fall.
5. Other: Hansen reported that the North American National Trappers Convention will be in Owatonna in 2012.

Agency Reports:

Frank, NRCS reported that there may be an agreement for WRP monitoring and CRP spot checks for the District this year. Commissioner Kubicek reported attending a meeting of the SE MN Water Resources Board. They are working on grants for possible funding. Because of the state shut down the CRWP staff will be on ½ time starting August 1st and by Sept. 1st ¼ time or at which time the state is again up and running. On a county level because of the shut down, there may be a decrease in the Scat Buses services and possible other programs. Discuss followed.

Staff Reports:

Arndt reported that our RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) coordinator Mona McMartin has been laid off because of financial reasons. The RSVP group is asking for donations from the public. Brad Carlson, MN Ext. Educator, reported to Arndt that there will be a strip till demonstration on August 5th from 8:30 to 3:30 at the University Center, just south of the Owatonna Fleet Farm. There are expecting over 300 people. Gulbransen and Arndt reported that shortly they will be starting to spray the easement fields. Arndt reported that a one of the clients of the District and NRCS has been harassing the office. The complaints of the client have been turned over to the county attorney's office.

Motion was made to adjourn by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be August 10th.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary