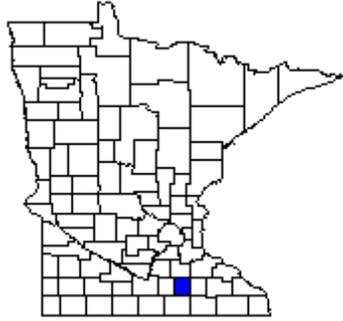


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 7:04 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10, 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.	Sue Condon	Chris Hughes, BWSR Bd. Rep.	
Mark Ihlenfeld, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen		
Dave Melby, Sec.			
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chrmn.			
James Klecker, Reporter			

The August agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The July minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve the minute. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- Ihlenfeld attended the SE JPB mtg. on July 27th: He reported that the 2011 financial report was approved. He also reported that the 2012 SE JPB budget was approved and that the 2011 audit for the SE JPB will be done with James Maiser, CPA. The JPB has hired a feedlot technical person, Matt Kruger; he will be housed in the Wabasha District. Mary Kells, BWSR, is working on the precise method of how to close out financial years for the Non-Point Eng. Assistant finance grant under the rules of the Office of Grants Managements. Rice county manager, Steve Pahs will be looking into how Katie Richards, nutrient management, could spend some of her time in the Cannon River Watershed area.
- Other: Wolfe attended the MN Strip-Till at the Riverland Technical College, Owatonna. He stated that there were approximately 125 in attendance. It was very well organized, with a panel on strip tillage, as well as 7 to 8 different machines operating.

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Gulbransen reported that the WPA Program has been repealed. This was the program allowing lower taxes on wetland easements, with the county getting reimbursed by the state for the difference. Discussion followed.
2. Fair booth scheduling: Discussion on which supervisor will be manning the booth during the evening from 5:00 to 9:00. Tues.- JK; Wed.-KW; Thurs.-MI; Fri.-DM; Sat.-DH. Discussion. The free trees offered this year will be 1 potted per drawing with 2 names drawn each day for a spring pick-up. Winners must have name, address and phone number clearly written on drawn slip. Supervisors will pick up booth daily. Trees on display during fair will be contributed by Jack's Nursery.
3. Condon reported that amount paid in to MCIT was \$4,818. We will be getting dividends back of \$3,831.
4. 2011 Mid-Year Budget: Condon reviewed budget with supervisors. Discussion followed. The main new expense not accounted for was the back log of rent due from 2010, which was paid to the landlord in 2011. The other expense not accounted for was the farm bill technician not working for us most of the month of July, which benefited our tight budget but not our work load. This was because of the state shut down. The increase of revenues was mainly due to an increase in the tree program, along with the timing of the grants coming in. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the mid-year budget. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
5. 2012 Proposed Budget: With much discussion, it was decided to table this until Arndt, Manager, and Kubicek, Commissioner, would be in attendance. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to table until next board meeting, September 14th. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
6. Other: Chris Hughes, BWSR Bd. Rep., discussed the BWSR 2012 Budget. He stated that it was better then what was originally expected. But to make budgets work, it might mean not doing something you want to do. It may mean charging for more services, such as flagging wetland and charging the farmer when it is done for any program. (Such as WCA, Swambuster wetland boundary identification, etc.)

Discussion on Wild Parsnips was very lengthy. District may have to attend township meetings in a timely manner to see what can be done to control the parsnips in the township road ditches. This should also be done with the county and DOT road ditches. Condon was very worried about the possibility of children getting into these weeds and having to go to the emergency room.

Motion was made to adjourn by Wolfe, seconded by Melby at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be September 14th.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary