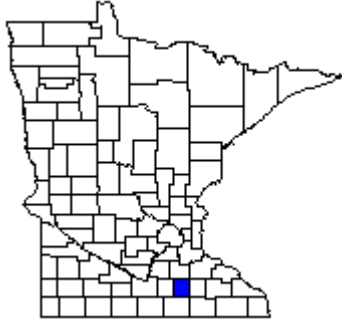


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 7:02 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2012, 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	Commissioner Bruce Kubicek	
Mark Ihlenfeld, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen	Noel Frank, DC	
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chrmn.	Sue Condon	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Dave Melby, Secretary			
James Klecker, Reporter			

The June agenda was reviewed and approved.

The May minutes were mailed to the Supervisors to be reviewed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to approve the minutes as written. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Crane Creek Tour, May 14<sup>th</sup>: Arndt and Ihlenfeld attended the tour, which turned out to be a meeting at Blowers Park. Others in attendance from Steele County were: Laura Ihrke, Co. Auditor; Commissioner Doug Johnson; and Dennis Grunwald, Steele Co. Ditch Inspector.
2. Supervisor Election Filings: Hansen, Klecker and Melby will be running unopposed in the November election unless there are write-ins.
3. SE MASWCD Resolutions Meeting, June 13<sup>th</sup> at Cabelas: Arndt and Ihlenfeld attended. There were 9 resolutions that were presented and of those 7 passed which included ours. Ihlenfeld reviewed the resolutions.
4. Other: Commissioner Kubicek and Ihlenfeld attended a RC & D (Resource Conservation & Development (Economic)) meeting in Rochester on May 21<sup>st</sup>. A Project Manager Coordinator was hired for a part time position for a six month position. Discussed was the Goat and Beef Grazing Project designed to help control invasive plants and to determine if the project had an economic benefit. Discussion followed.

4. Other: (Continued) Wolfe and Commissioner Kubicek attended the budget meeting of the CRWP on May 14<sup>th</sup> at Northfield. Hansen attended the Lemond Township Board Meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>. He discussed with them the invasive plant – wild parsnip. How to control the plant was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Steele Co. Ag. Service Center Status: Arndt explained that with 2 staff people coming from Waseca FSA office (which is closing August 1st) and at least 12 Rural Development people coming in to relocate here from adjoining counties, the Service Center will be putting bids out for a larger building. It must have at least 59 parking spaces. FSA, Rural Development, NRCS will be asking for bids for their space and the SWCD will be asking for bids for our space of 450 square feet. Arndt reviewed our ad for space with the supervisors.
2. Gulbransen presented the DNR Observation Well Contract: Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Wolfe to approve this contract for another year. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. NRCS/WRP 2012 Contribution Agreement: Arndt presented the agreement to be signed for the monitoring of 2 WRP Easements. Discussion followed. There were some questions left to be answered. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker that once the questions were resolved the agreement can be signed. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. BBR (Biennial Budget Request): Arndt handed out examples for the Programs and Operational Budget Request – Conservation Delivery and Cost-Share. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve the request when completed. Motion was carried by voice vote. He also stated that CRWP, being a non-profit, can not apply for these funds and they would like us to include them in our BBR Competitive Grant Request. Discussion followed. CRWP would work under a sub contract with the District. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Melby to approve and submit Competitive Budget Request before June 29<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. Gulbransen presented the State Cost-share Contract for 13(10) Curtis Johnson for a waterway-estimated cost of \$2,575 with the cost-share encumbered at \$1,925. Discussion. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the encumbrance. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. 2012 Conservation Farmer Nominations: Arndt request that the supervisors think about who they would like to nominate during the next month and bring their names to the next board meeting.
7. Conservation Tour: Arndt stated that the District will be having a tour sometime in the month of July.
8. 2011 Audit: Letters were sent out for bids. Only one CPA. Only one bid was received from Maiser for \$2,400. Condon would like until the end of the week to see if any more bids are submitted. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld to accept the bid of \$2,400 or if a lower bid comes in to accept that. Motion carried by voice vote.
9. Arndt handed out brochure on Alternative Drainage Field Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Gulbransen plans on attending.
10. Native Prairie Plant and Bird Walk, June 30<sup>th</sup>: Emily Hutchins, DNR will be hosting this event near Dennison, MN.

Agency Reports: Frank reported very busy with EQIP and WRP. Jim Smith is back from his military deployment.

Commissioner Kubicek reported that the commissioners had a tour on June 12<sup>th</sup>, on which they saw major erosion on the south side of Beaver Lake.

Staff Reports: Condon reported very busy with BBR and helping with the web site update. Gulbransen reported working on many projects and getting the 2010 flood money spent by the end of the year or we will have to return it to the state. Arndt stated that the drill has been very busy in the last month.

Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to adjourn the meeting. Carried the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

This is respectfully submitted by Sue Condon, District Admin. Sec.