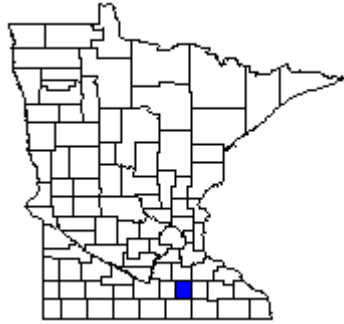


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**MINNESOTA
 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

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 7:05 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11, 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	James Klecker, Reporter
Mark Ihlenfeld, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen	Noel Frank, DC	
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chrmn.	Sue Condon	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Dave Melby, Secretary		Chris Hughes, BWSR Rep.	

The July agenda was reviewed and approved.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BBR Submittals: Arndt reported and reviewed the Biennial Budget Request with the supervisors, which will take the place of our Annual Plan of Work. Wolfe asked Hughes, “When will the District see the results of these requests?” Hughes replied, “With the Conservation Delivery (2 year request), we will see the numbers soon and it will probably not change too much.” “With the Competitive Requests it will take longer to go through the steps and then Governor Dayton will put it in his budget, then the projects will be screened.” The Conservation Delivery Request, which is a two year request, totaled \$162,000 with additional staff requested. The Competitive Request had two priorities: #1 was Maple Creek projects; #2 was Turtle Creek projects. In these requests, the Cannon River Watershed and the City of Owatonna would be partners with the District.
2. Others: None.

Hanson officially welcomed Chris Hughes to the board meeting. Hughes then reported on the current legislative funding. Mary Kells, BWSR Bd. Rep. in Rochester will be leaving SE MN and going to the metro area. Hughes also stated that the state funding will not be delayed and should be giving to us the same time as usual (late August to early September).

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cost-share actions: Gulbransen presented the following Flood C/S Contracts to the board. 4(10) FC - J. Burns an amendment for stream bank restoration to increase by \$3,834.20; 14(10) FC – M. A. Mundt to encumber for a stream bank (ditch) restoration \$3,000 – this is to be partnered with the county (ditch); and to cancel 12(10) FC – B. Kruesel for a side inlet structure in the amount of \$2,700; to cancel 10(10) FC – F. Langer a grassed waterway in the amount of \$2,100. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to amend 4(10) FC, encumber 14(10) FC, and cancel 12(10) FC and 10(10) FC. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. 2012 Comprehensive Plan Revision: The revision is due August 15th. Arndt will be meeting with Scott Golberg, (county) and review County Water Plan. If it is not applicable, the District will need to do a new Comprehensive Plan before due date. Melby and Ihlenfeld will plan on attending this meeting with Arndt.
3. 2012 Outstanding Conservationists: Arndt handed out nominations to supervisors. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby for the following: OC Farmer – Thompson Oakes – Eileen Thompson and son Tim Thompson; O Windbreak – Marty & Denise Bartness; O Wildlife – John and Gayle Hofmann. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. MASWCD Election: Arndt handed out information to supervisors about the election. The deadline is August 31st. Supervisors will let Arndt know if they are interested in being state president.
5. 2012 MASWCD Convention will be held in Bloomington during the first Monday and Tuesday of December. Area 3 will be hosting. They would like any ideas for the convention.
6. MASWCD – Leading Change Workshop will be held in Alexandria Sept. 6th. Registration is August 27th.
7. Other: Arndt reviewed how the 2012 Farm Bill stands right now. Discussion followed. Arndt said he would draft a letter for the supervisors to sign. (see attached). This letter will be sent to Rep. Collin Peterson; MN Senator Walz; Senator Al Franken; Senator Amy Kobuchar and Rep. Frank Lucas. Arndt will call when letters are ready to sign.

Agency Reports: Commissioner Kubicek reported on attending the SE MN Resource Board meeting, July 9th, and reviewed Feedlot Grants in order to get a technical assistant for the projects. He also reviewed a grant for community engagement to the U of MN in the amount of \$55,000 to help educate people on feedlots. He also attended a CRWP on July 9th to review their budget. Kubicek reviewed the Clean Water Fund with supervisors. Frank and Smith stated they were busy with EQIP payments and CRP plans.

Staff Reports: Condon stated that she did not get any other response to the audit letter, so Maiser will be doing the 2011 audit. Gulbransen stated he was getting ready for the spraying season. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Ihlenfeld to hire part time help for spraying. Motion carried. Arndt reported as of now the tour is scheduled for August 7th at 3:00-6:00p.m. Motion was made to have refreshments after the tour by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld. Motion carried. The board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will also include a meeting of the Local Work Group lead by NRCS (Frank). Arndt also stated that the Historical Center has a great display – to which materials from the District are on display.

Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld to adjourn the meeting. Carried the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

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