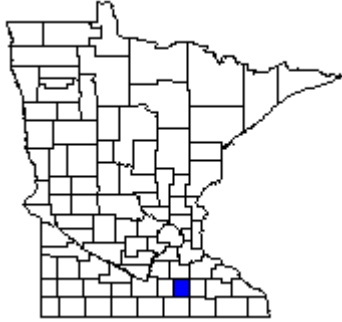


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**MINNESOTA
 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

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 6:42p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 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	Mike Donnelly, MN Extension	
Mark Ihlenfeld, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen	Noel Frank, DC	
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chrmn.	Sue Condon	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Dave Melby, Secretary		Gary & Georgia Joachim	
James Klecker, Reporter			

The August agenda was reviewed and approved.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. WCA Administrative Report Reviewed. A Steele County/SWCD Wetland Conservation Act administrative review was conducted by BWSR earlier this year. Arndt reviewed the findings of the review with the Board. It was BWSR’s opinion. Several recommendations were made by BWSR staff Steve Lawler but it was concluded that overall the County and SWCD were effectively administering WCA.
2. SE JPB Mtg. July 31st: No one attended.
3. Conservation Tour, August 7th: Approximately forty people attended. Favorable comments were made by all.
4. Other: Ihlenfeld attended a RC & D meeting, on July 23rd. Ihlenfeld reported that a new RC & D coordinator was hired. They reviewed plans on economic development.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. EQIP Local Work Group: Frank presented the proposed priority practices for the 2013 fiscal year. Funds will be distributed regionally not by county or area this year. About 60% will be targeted for animal projects on the state level. Discussion followed. Wolfe stated that soil erosion, wind erosion and habitat are still our Districts main concerns. Discussion followed and Frank solicited comments from the group. The group agreed that an effort should be made to strive for a County allocation rather than the current system.
2. SWCD Long Range Comprehensive Plan: Arndt stated that Districts Long Range Comprehensive Plan is scheduled to be updated this year. The District does have the option of adopting the County Water Plan as there Comprehensive Plan. Arndt met with and discussed this option with County Water Planner Scott Golberg. Golberg found no problem with the District adopting the County's Plan. The next scheduled County Water Plan update will be in 2016 and Golberg stated that the County would welcome the Districts input on any future plan updates. Motion was made by Wolf, seconded by Melby to approve signing a resolution adopting the Steele County Comprehensive Water Plan as the Comprehensive Plan of the Steele County SWCD. Motion carried by voice vote.

Donnelly left the meeting. Hansen thanked him for attending the tour and the meeting.

3. MCIT dividend notice: Arndt reported that we will be receiving a dividend from Worker's Compensation of \$822 and a dividend from Property/Casualty of \$2,932. Our premiums for this year are \$1,136 for Workers Compensation and \$3,428 for Property/Casualty.
4. Supervisors signed up for manning the District booth during the 2012 Steele County Fair.
5. SE Area Fall MASWCD mtg. to be held at Cabela's on Sept 12th which is the date of our next board meeting. Let Condon know if you plan on attending by Sept. 7th.
6. Other: None.

Agency Reports:

Frank and Smith reported on renewing a lot of CRP contracts, but we are still going to be losing CRP acres.

Staff Reports:

Gulbransen reported that he was busy with the easement maintenance program.

Condon reported that the NRCS will no longer permit Quick Books on their computers. She is looking into options. This change must be done by September 30th.

Arndt reported on working with landowners mitigating wetland for WCA. Also, that the Waseca FSA staff (2) will be transferred to Steele County.

Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld to adjourn the meeting. Carried the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

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