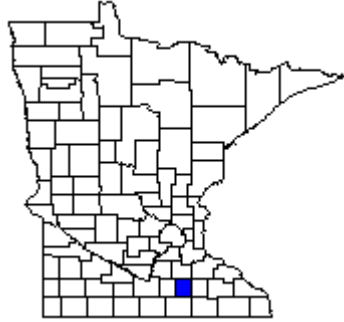


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 Kyle Wolfe at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 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>
Kyle Wolfe, Chrnm.	Dan Arndt		
Dave Melby, Vice-Chrnm	Sue Condon		
Mark Ihlenfeld, Secretary	Eric Gulbransen		
James Klecker, Treasurer			
Dan Hansen, Reporter			

The October agenda was reviewed. No adjustment to be made.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Meetings attended: SE MASWCD: Gulbransen and Ihlenfed reported on the meeting on Sept. 16th at Lanesboro at the Eagle Bluff Center. Convention planning was reviewed. Also reviewed were: Envirothon, grant agreements now good for 3 years, BWSR academy, and Kasey Taylor, NRCS AC is leaving for a job in Delaware. Afternoon session for supervisors: a by-law change for SE MASWCD area director will be 2 years and could run twice for that position. The SE MASWCD audit was completed. Ihlenfeld stated that work is being done on the area MASWCD district calendar (1,000 printed copies of the 2014 calendar). (Arndt will review in item #8) RC&D meeting on Sept. 30th was attended by Ihlenfeld and Kubicek. Ihlenfeld reviewed covered items.
2. Other: none.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Federal Government Shutdown: Arndt reported on impact to District. District could not use the internet, or the copier, or send or get faxes. There was extreme difficulty in providing service to clientele. The shutdown was a great inconvenience to the efficiency of the District's work. Several clients called or came in to see the federal staff for assistance but we could not do anything for them.
2. BWSR 2014 Easement Implementation Grant Amendment (PO#3000002417 for the FY'13 Programs and Operations Grants) in the amount of \$4,000. Discussion. This amendment was on RIM/WRP work for two 2012 sign-ups. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Klecker to approve this amendment. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. 2014 Proposed Budget: Arndt handed out the proposed District budget for 2014. Discussion followed. The proposed budget has a 5% increase from the County. There will be a budget meeting on Oct. 9th at 1:00 p.m. Commissioners Kubicek and Johnson on the budget committee. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Hansen to approve the budget. Motion carried by voice vote. Ihlenfeld stated that the subject of levy authority for the Districts may come up again.
4. County Budget Committee Meeting, October 9th at 1:00 p.m. Supervisors are asked to attend.
5. Personnel Committee Meeting Report held at 6:00 p.m.: Wolfe, Hansen and Arndt met to review the announcement for the position as an administrative assistant/bookkeeper. Position will be a full-time position. Discussion. Deadline for applications will be November 15th. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to post the position in the appropriate places.
6. New BWSR Board Conservationist – Tom Gile: Arndt reported that because of BWSR's reorganization Chris Hughes is no longer our Board Conservationist, but Tom Gile is and he is stationed in the Rochester office.
7. 2014 MASWCD Convention committee met today, October 8th: area calendar to be handed out at convention. Contribution for printing in the amount of \$200 asked for. Motion made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve the amount asked for. Motion carried by voice vote. 2013 Resolutions were handed out to the supervisors. Condon asked that the voting ballots be submitted to her by October 25th.
8. JPB Area Soil Health Coordinator Position: Arndt reported that the JPB is making Clean Water Fund application to fund an area Soil Health Position. To meet the grant match requirements the JPB is asking \$500 from each District for 4 years to have this person available to us to promote soil health cover crops, etc. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Ihlenfeld to pay to the JPB in the amount of \$500 for the next four years. This amount will be taken out of the Education account. Motion passed by voice vote.
9. Other: None.

Agency Reports: No federal reports because of federal shutdown.

Staff Reports: Arndt reported that the Hiawatha RC & D director came to the District office last week to promote aggressive measure on invasive species. One project is proposed for the county landfill – the grazing of the landfill by goats to eradicate the invasive species located on site. Arndt reported that there will be a special meeting between the Steele and Waseca SWCD's supervisors sometime the first week in November. Discussion followed. Gulbransen reported on his grants written and the on-going spraying done on federal easements for maintenance. Condon reported on the progress of the calendar. Still needed is the cover page. Ihlenfeld suggested an aerial picture. Discussion followed.

Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Hansen to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. the meeting. Motion carried.

Submitted by
Sue Condon, District Admin. Sec.