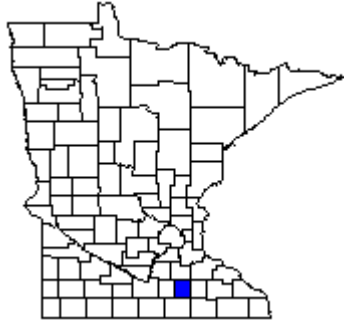


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday September 10, 2014 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>
Dave Melby, Vice-Chrmn	Dan Arndt	Bruce Kubicek, County Commissioner	Noel Frank, NRCS
Mark Ihlenfeld, Secretary	Adrienne Justman	James Smith, NRCS	Dan Hansen, Reporter
James Klecker, Treasurer	Eric Gulbransen	Richard Kucera	
Kyle Wolfe, Chrmn			

Kyle Wolfe welcomed Richard Kucera to the meeting.

The September agenda was reviewed with no additions.

The August minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. There was one minor revision needed. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the minutes with the revision. Motion was carried by voice vote.

The August Treasurer’s Report was read by James Klecker. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Melby to approve the August Treasurer’s Report. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Bills: (See attached) Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to approve paying the bills as written. Motion was carried by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fair Awards Program, August 12 – Kyle Wolfe attended the awards program and livestock pavilion dedication at the Steele County Free Fair. He handed out the awards to the three Conservation winners that were chosen during the July board meeting.
2. Fair Booth results – Adrienne Justman gave a brief description of the results of the fair booth drawings. The new Native plant drawing seems to have been well received. There are still a few tree winners that need to be contacted to verify addresses. The board member discussed the number of people that stopped to look at the booth. It was decided that we would have a fair booth again next year.

OLD BUSINESS (CON'T)

3. Soil Health Cover Crop Field Day, August 12 – Kyle Wolfe, Jim Smith, and Mark Ihlenfeld attended the Cover Crop Field Day. There were approximately 180 people who attended, the majority being government and office personnel. One positive point about the presentation that was discussed was that it was a farmer speaking to the farmers about the benefits of cover crops. Areas that could have been improved included that the crop itself didn't look very good, possible from being planted too early, and there was no discussion about the financial aspect of using cover crops.
4. Other - SE MASWCD Conference Call – Mark Ihlenfeld participated in a conference call with the SE MASWCD Finance Committee. The committee reviewed the budget and discussed the current standing. They are currently running a deficit but there is still money coming in so that is not expected to remain. They are anticipating a dues increase of \$250 dollar next year to help cover the budgeted expenses.
5. Other – Cannon River Watershed Partnership meeting, September 8 – Kyle Wolfe and Bruce Kubicek attended the CRWP meeting. The meeting discussed the current financial standing of the organization; the report was positive. They also discussed their community awareness and outreach programs, including the River Clean-up scheduled for September 20.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Medford Wellhead Protection Plan – Richard Kucera – Richard Kucera presented the 10 year report on the Medford Wellhead Protection Plan. The idea of the plan dates back to the late 1980's. In 2004 the first draft was approved. During the 10 year review some of the details were revised to keep the plan up to date with the present culture but there were no significant changes to the structure or purpose of the plan. Richard Kucera requested feedback from the SWCD about the plan and intends to include these comments in the final 10 year revision.
2. SE Area MASWCD Meeting Sep 22 – The upcoming meeting for both the SE Area MASWCD and the SE MACDE are being held on September 20, 2014. Motion was made by Klecker and seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve paying the registration fee for those interested in attending.

Agency Reports

Bruce Kubicek reported that the Ripley Culvert replacement project has been settled. The culvert will be replaced at the proper size and grade. He also reported on a policy meeting regarding solar energy. The major topic of discussion during the meeting was where these solar panel groups would be located. They need 7-10 acres of land and it is necessary to have them near an existing substation.

Jim Smith reported that there has been little change since his August report.

Staff Reports:

Dan Arndt reported that Dan Kuntz, the new CRWP Ag Consultant, has requested suggestions about areas that he should focus on for conservation. Dan recommended Maple Creek and the south branch of Medford Creek as both of these areas need stream bank stabilization work completed. He also reported that Phase 4 of the large RIM/WRP easement project has been completed. He expects that phases 5 and 6 will be completed next year.

Eric reported on the grant applications that he is currently working on completing. He also reported on the maintenance that is being done on one of the local easements.

Adrienne has begun to work on the 2015 calendar and requested ideas for topics that could be highlighted for each month.

Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adrienne Justman".

Adrienne Justman
Administrative Assistant

September Bills

Dan Arndt	Mileage Reimbursement		\$91.28
Eric Gulbransen	Mileage Reimbursement	\$83.44	
	Supplies	\$5.00	\$88.44
Rent	September		\$619.20
Jaguar	Internet		\$39.95
Elan	Gas	\$317.34	
	Field Supplies	\$140.61	
	Office Supplies	\$78.17	
	Promotion/Education (Fair)	\$64.35	
	Rental	\$27.70	\$628.17
Schlatter's Inc.	Tile Probes & Tips		\$290.28
Belkato	Laser repair		\$125.00
Post Office	Stamps		\$48.00
		Total	\$1,930.32