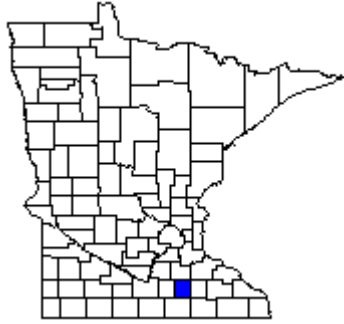


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**MINNESOTA
 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

The regular monthly meeting of the Steele County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dave Melby at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday October 14, 2015 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, Chairman	Eric Gulbransen	James Smith, NRCS	
James Klecker, Secretary	Adrienne Justman	Beth Hanggi	
Mark Ihlenfeld, Vice Chair	Adam Arndt		
Kyle Wolfe, Reporter			
Dan Hansen, Treasurer			

The October agenda was reviewed, no changes were made.

The September minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker, to approve the minutes as written. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. Meeting Reports – SE MASWCD Employee & Supervisor Meeting – September 15 – Dave Melby, Mark Ihlenfeld, Jim Klecker, Eric Gulbransen, Adam Arndt, and Adrienne Justman all attended this meeting in Elgin, MN. The main topic of discussion during the meeting was the buffer initiative. Much of the information presented was the same as what had been given at other meetings. Ihlenfeld reported on the budget for 2016 was not going to have any significant changes. They did include \$1000 that will be used to assist with the cost of supervisor and employee training events.

RC&D – September 28 – Ihlenfeld attended this meeting. He reported that they are looking for larger projects to help bring in funds. They are considering offering grant writing services for alternative energy grants with the hope being that those would help provide funds to help cover operating costs.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2016 Medical Insurance Options – Beth Hanggi – Beth Hanggi provided the Board with information regarding the available options for medical insurance in 2016. She reviewed the current plan and District policy regarding premium payment. She presented the details for the two alternate plans that would best fit the needs of the employees. Hanggi also presented options for H.S.A accounts as well as some of the rules regarding their use. There was discussion about the current insurance premium payment policy and what the employees would like to see in the future. Information was provided to the Board regarding what other SWCD's in the area cover as well as what Steele County offers to their employees. This topic was tabled and will be addressed again at the November board meeting.
2. 2016 Resolutions – Justman presented the 2016 Resolution packets to the supervisors for them to review. Their responses will be returned to MASWCD and the results will be presented at the 2016 Annual Convention.
3. 2016 MASWCD – December 6-8 – Gulbransen distributed the agenda and other information for the Convention to the supervisors.

Agency Reports:

Jim Smith reported on his activity. There will be an Equip sign-up coming November 20. He has been looking at potential project sites with landowners. NRCS will be hiring an administrative staff member through Ultima. It is expected that they will be hired within a month.

Staff Reports:

Adam Arndt has spent a time checking out project sites for next year as well as beginning a basin project. He has assisted with the 2016 District calendar.

Adrienne Justman reported that her major project for the month has been preparing the 2016 District calendar.

Eric Gulbransen has been spending a lot of time working in Waseca, mostly assisting with wetland issues. The WCA violation in Steele county that has been an ongoing issue is still being worked on. The restoration has been put on hold due to the wet conditions. Gulbransen reported on the Governance 101 training that he attended September 16-17. He reported that there was a lot of information including SWCD history and a large amount of information provided by MCIT.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Hansen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Adrienne Justman,
Administrative Assistant

October Bills

Cedardale Dev. Co	October Rent		\$619.20
Truax	Drill Parts		\$68.21
H.S.A.			\$220.84
Eric Gulbransen	Mileage 199@.575		\$114.43
Adrienne Justman	Mileage 182@.575		\$104.65
Elan	Gas	200.72	
	Hotel - Governance 101 Training	107.38	
	Office Supplies	7.51	\$315.61
			\$1,442.94