

STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

235 Cedardale Drive SE  
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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 7:05 p.m. on Thursday March 10, 2016 at the Conservation Office located at 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna, MN.

<b><u>SWCD Supervisors Present:</u></b>	<b><u>SWCD Staff Present:</u></b>	<b><u>Others Present:</u></b>	<b><u>Absent:</u></b>
James Klecker, Secretary	Eric Gulbransen	John Glynn, Steele County Commissioner	Dave Melby, Chairman
Mark Ihlenfeld, Vice Chair	Adrienne Justman		Kyle Wolfe, Reporter
Dan Hansen, Treasurer	Adam Arndt		

The March agenda was reviewed, no changes were made.

The February minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker, to approve the minutes with the stated correction. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Meeting Reports – SE MN Cover Crop Initiative Meeting – Owatonna – Gulbransen and Ihlenfeld attended this meeting. They reported that the SE MN Cover Crop Initiative has received and \$253,000 LCCMR grant that they will be using to establish cover crops and conduct an analysis of their economic impact. There was also discussion about seeding techniques and the need to get more people to try using cover crops.

Ag Water Quality Certification Training – Gulbransen reported on this training. The focus was on how to approach landowners about this new program and how to begin the process for those interested in pursuing certification.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2015 Annual Reports – Justman presented the Financial, Annual, and Budget reports to the Board. She highlighted additions to the reports such as the new PERA deficit reporting and the District’s net gain in the financial report; and the updates to the Annual report including the student tree planting day and the Medford Envirothon team attending the State Competition. Gulbransen presented the 2016 Plan of Work. He noted the inclusion of outreach for the Ag Water Quality Certification program, and the addition of a focus on installing buffers to bring landowners into compliance with the current law. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker, to approve the reports as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. Legislative Day – Justman requested a final count for Legislative day so that registration could be submitted. Gulbransen indicated that he and Melby would be attending. Ihlenfeld and Klecker also stated they were going.
3. Steele County Farm Family of the Year Nomination – There was discussion about the people named at the last meeting and any new additions. After discussion it was decided that Brad Hagen, and Brian Connie’s families would be submitted as the District’s nominations for 2016.

**Agency Reports:**

John Glynn reported that it is currently a fairly quiet time for the County. There was a change to the meeting times but currently there are no other new developments.

**Staff Reports:**

Adam Arndt has been spending a lot of time on the tree program; there were many orders received shortly before the deadline and there are still a few more coming in. He is working with landowners to plan windbreaks for next year. He also reported that he has been attending a variety of trainings and meetings.

Adrienne Justman completed the 2015 Financial Report, as well as updating the Annual report and the Budget. She also has been helping with the tree program and attending training and meetings. She assisted Gulbransen with preparing the Capacity Funding work plan for BWSR.

Eric Gulbransen has been working on the Capacity Funding work plan. He has also been spending a lot of time working with WCA; there has recently been more violations than in the past several years. Gulbransen also has been attending a variety of trainings and meetings.

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

Respectfully Submitted by,



Adrienne Justman,  
Administrative Assistant

March Bills

<b>Cedardale Dev. Co</b>	<b>March Rent</b>		<b>\$619.20</b>
<b>Elan</b>	<b>Meals</b>	<b>51.55</b>	
	<b>Gas</b>	<b>45.84</b>	
	<b>Quickbooks Payroll</b>	<b>562.76</b>	<b>\$660.15</b>
<b>Sweet Towing &amp; Repair</b>	<b>Towing &amp; Spare Tire repair</b>		<b>\$110.54</b>
<b>Eric Gulbransen</b>	<b>Mileage 165 @ .54</b>		<b>\$89.10</b>
<b>Adrienne Justman</b>	<b>Mileage 175 @ .54</b>		<b>\$94.50</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,573.49</b>