

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 Vice Chair Dan Hansen at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 14, 2017 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>
Mark Ihlenfeld, Chairman	Eric Gulbransen	Jim Brady, County Commissioner	Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer
Dan Hansen, Vice Chair	Adam Arndt		
Dave Melby, Reporter	Adrienne Justman		
Jim Klecker, Secretary			

The March agenda was reviewed, deciding on a permanent meeting date was added to new business.

The February minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. A correction to who called the meeting to order was noted. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to approve the minutes with the correction. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. Meeting Reports – Dave Melby reported on a Cover Crop workshop that he attended. It was put together by the MN Extension office and held in Owatonna. The main point of discussion was carry over of herbicide and how it affects cover crop choice when using them for forage or grazing. He reported that there was very little talk about the soil health benefits of using cover crops.

Dan Hansen reported on the 1 Watershed 1 Plan Policy meeting that he attended. The meeting included introductions, some background information about the 1W1P program, and the election of officers.

Hansen also reported on the Zumbro Watershed Partnership meeting. He stated that they are working on a grant application to fund the 1 Watershed 1 Plan program in the Zumbro watershed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Master Joint Powers Agreement – BWSR – Gulbransen presented this agreement. It outlines the new payment procedure that will be used by BWSR for easement related work. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to sign and approve the agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. JPB Sub Agreement for MAWQCP Grant – Gulbransen presented the agreement to the board. The agreement outlines the expectations for the MAWQCP water quality certification grant. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby, to approve and sign the agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Position Announcement for Part Time Temporary Filing Assistant – Gulbransen presented the position announcement to the Board. There was discussion about the position and the responsibilities. The Board chose to give the Personnel Committee the authority to hire the candidate they felt was best suited without further approval from the Board as a whole. The announcement will be posted in the office. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby, to approve the announcement and having the Personnel Committee make the final hiring decision. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Upcoming Events – Gulbransen presented the information for the following events.
 - JPB RCCP Small Feedlot C-S Meeting – 3/23 – 10 AM – Rochester
 - SE MN Cover Crop Consortium Seminar – 3/16 – 12:30 PM – Zumbrota
 - Cover Crop and Soil Health Seminar – 3/30 – 9:30 AM – New Prague
 - Zumbro Water Ways Science Series – 4/13 & 5/11 – 6:30 PM
5. Meeting Date – The Board discussed the possible meeting dates. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to hold meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. Motion passed 3 in favor to 1 opposed.
6. Other – Mark Ihlenfeld presented an idea about helping to raise funding to put toward researching the financial benefits of cover crops. The Experiment station in Waseca already dose some work with cover crops and could be a good option as a partner in this project.

Agency Reports:

Jim Brady reported on the SE MN Water Resources Board meeting that he attended. The Director is going to be leaving so they are taking this opportunity to look at a possible collaboration with the JPB. At this time they are discussing the options for such a joining.

Staff Reports:

Adrienne Justman has been working to complete the End of Year financial as well as assisting with the tree program.

Adam Arndt reported that there have been a lot of tree orders coming in. He also has been working on designing projects for this coming summer.

Eric Gulbransen has been assisting with trees. He has been involved with a fair amount of WCA this month. He also worked on completing the Local Capacity Grant work plan and attended the 1 Watershed 1 Plan meetings.

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

Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adrienne Justman". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.

Adrienne Justman,
Administrative Assistant

March Bills

Cedardale Dev. Co	March Rent		\$716.40
Khimaira	Website Hosting		\$165.00
MASWCD	2017 Dues		\$3,567.49
Cedardale Dev. Co.	2016 Garage Rent		\$1,200.00
Verizon Wireless	March		\$45.45
Eric Gulbransen	Mileage 70 @ .535		\$37.45
Elan	Quickbooks Payroll	610.96	
	Gas	61.97	\$672.93
		Total	\$6,404.72