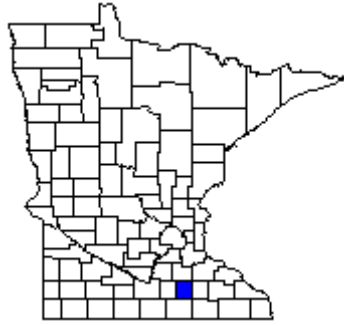


235 Cedardale Drive SE  
 Owatonna, Minnesota 55060-4417  
 Telephone (507) 451-6730 Ext. 3  
 Fax (507) 444-2421



## MINNESOTA SOIL <sup>and</sup> 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 Mark Ihlenfeld at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at the Conservation Office located at 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna, MN.

### **SWCD Supervisors Present:**

Mark Ihlenfeld, Chairman  
 Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer  
 Dan Hansen, Secretary  
 James Klecker, Vice-Chairman  
 Dave Melby, Reporter

### **SWCD Staff Present:**

Dan Arndt, Manager  
 Eric Gulbransen, Dist. Res. Con.  
 Sue Condon, District Admin. Sec.

### **Others Present:**

Jim Smith, NRCS  
 Noel Frank, NRCS  
 Bruce Kubicek, Commissioner

The February agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The January minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve the minutes. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

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

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Arndt presented a power point presentation on 2008 activities of the Steele County SWCD before the county commissioners. Ihlenfeld, Wolfe and Melby also attended. Response was very favorable. Questions were asked with discussion following. Commissioner Kubicek asked Arndt if he could present the presentation at the Exchange Club on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.
2. Other: Ihlenfeld reported on attending the Joint Powers Board on January 29<sup>th</sup> at Rochester. Ihlenfeld was elected chairman. Budget was reviewed and it was found there is enough monies to keep the current positions until the end of 2010.

Ihlenfeld and Kubicek attended the RC & D meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> in Rochester. Wally Hildebrandt was re-elected chairman. Driftless area was discussed in depth. This area starts at the east edge of Steele Count and then goes to the east.

Kubicek attended the CRWP Strategy Work Shop on Saturday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>. The work shop developed a plan of where the CRWP would like to be in five years. It was coordinated by extension.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2008 Annual Draft Report was mailed to the supervisors earlier. This report is due March 15<sup>th</sup>. The financial part of the report is not done. All will be together by the next board meeting, March 11<sup>th</sup>.
2. 2009 MASWCD Legislative Day at the Capitol, Feb. 23-24<sup>th</sup>: Steele and Waseca counties will be meeting with the legislators together. Condon has contacted 5 legislators to visit. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe to pay the registration and expenses for any supervisors or staff available to go. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
3. Clean Water Legacy – MN Conservation Corp Contract No. 12248: Arndt reported on making an application to the Corp last summer for 13 prescribed burns on approximately 215 ac. with 8 days of work. Arndt is presenting the contract #12248 between the Steele Co. SWCD and the MN Conservation Corp. (MCC) for signature. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve Arndt to sign the contract. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
4. Long Lake Conservation Center Camp Brochure: Discussion followed. This would be an excellent opportunity to tie an essay or poster contest winner to a week at camp. The week's stay is approximately \$400. It could be tied in with Extension or Scouting projects. Tabled until next month.
5. 2009 Soil Stewardship materials: Condon will contact schools and churches to see if they would like to participate in this year's theme: "Dig It- The Secrets of Soil". Ihlenfeld, Wolfe and Melby will contact the Medford, Owatonna, and Blooming Prairie schools respectively and get back to Condon.
6. SE MN Envirothon: El Shaddai has expressed interest. Ihlenfeld, Wolfe and Melby will contact principals in Medford, Owatonna and Blooming Prairie schools respectively and get back to Condon.
7. Wetland Delineation Training, Feb. 20, 2009: Moved by Wolfe, seconded by Hansen to approve the \$25 registration fee for Arndt to attend. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
8. SEMACDE mtg., March 10, 2009 – Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch – Stewartville: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker to approve the registration fee of \$14/person for anyone of the staff able to attend. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
9. Contractors meeting, March 25<sup>th</sup>: Rice, Dodge and Steele counties NRCS and SWCD staff will be presenting the current standards, specs and WCA information permit information to contractors in the area at a meeting to be held at the Community Center at the Steele county fair grounds. There will be an appreciation lunch for the contractors afterward. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve a monetary contribution of \$100 towards the meeting. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
10. Letter in support of Brian Langland: Arndt explained the situation. This letter will be addressed to the new state FSA Director, Linda Hennan. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker to have all supervisors sign this letter of support. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

**Staff and Agency Reports:**

Gulbransen reported that the tree orders are coming in and he just completed the e-link reporting for BWSR.

Jim Smith, NRCS reported that office has been working on CRP contracts and arranging burns to be done on acres needing it this year.

Noel Frank, NRCS DC reported that the EQIP monies may be available late spring.

Commissioner Bruce Kubicek reported on attending a meeting on current shore land rules which affects public waters and does not apply to ditches. The DNR office is taking comments on buffers on shore land. Discussion followed.

Dan Melby passed pictures of wind erosion in Steele County. Discussion followed.

Discussion also was on the Hwy 14 East link that is taking a southern route. Commissioner Kubicek stated that according to the impact statement the southern route will take less ag land. More discussion followed.

Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker at 9:45 to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sue Condon  
District Admin. Secretary