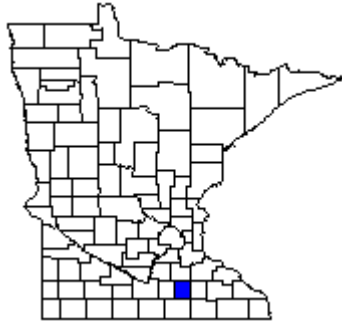


235 Cedardale Drive SE
 Owatonna, Minnesota 55060-4417
 Telephone (507) 451-6730 Ext. 3
 Fax (507) 444-2421



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 Mark Ihlenfeld at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at the Conservation Office located at 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna, MN.

SWCD Supervisors Present:

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

SWCD Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

Bruce Kubicek, Commissioner

Absent:

Noel Frank, NRCS
 Jim Smith, NRCS

The April agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Rural Advantage Meeting, March 23rd was attended by Arndt and Gulbransen. Both stated that the sessions were very interesting and reported on the sessions they attended.
2. Contractor's Meeting, March 25th: It was sponsored by the NRCS and SWCD's from Freeborn, Rice and Steele. There were over 20 contractors in attendance. Discussion followed.
3. RC & D meeting: Ihlenfeld reported that the Value Added Conference that was held on March 9-11th made a slight profit this year with about 220 people attending. The next Conference will be held in the spring of 2010 in Wisconsin. Ihlenfeld also stated that a grazing training school will be held for Freeborn and Steele counties. Also discussed was the RC & D rain barrel program. District will look into purchasing rain barrels from them.

Hansen reported that the training on Manure Mgmt at Riverland College was very good. All the manure management training sessions were excellent.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Legislative Update: Arndt read a report from Judy Erickson, MASWCD lobbyist. The Lessard Outdoor Heritage monies from the Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment will fund 18 projects this year. There will be a potential of a couple RIM/WRP projects in the county. Green Tree Acres will be changing. We currently have 3 partial green acre projects in the county. The Green Acre Projects is a program to keep real estate taxes down for conservation minded tax payers.
2. State Cost-share contract application for Mike Wesely, 6(09) Water & Sediment Control Basins – Cost estimate \$4,000. Gulbransen reported that Wesely in Aurora 14 & 15 will be doing basins. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to encumber 75% of the cost or \$3,000 for this project. It will be a 10 cost-share year contract. Discussion. Carried by a voice vote.
3. 2009 Fair Booth at the Steele rental for \$115: Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve the paying of the rental to the Izaak Walton League. Motion was carried by voice vote.
4. Cedar River Watershed District Update: Arndt reported on a hearing that changed the watershed boundaries. Steele County has approximately 7 square miles of the watershed within its boundaries.
5. Part-time help for tree distribution: Moved by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe to approve the hiring of help during that time for the wage of \$12/hr with no benefits. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. MASWCD Area VII Spring Meeting, April 14th: Arndt handed out agenda and it was reviewed. Ihlenfeld, Klecker and Melby will plan on attending.

MN Waters Conference, May 7-8th at the Mayo Civic Center: Arndt handed out the agenda. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Hansen to approve the registration costs for either meeting. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Staff and Agency Reports:

Smith reported that a lot of CRP burning requests have been coming through the office. Office is still waiting for the dates of the EQIP sign-up.

Kubicek reported that the SE MN Resource Bd requested monies through the Clean Water Legacy Act for feedlot fixes and it may include money for technical staff. The Commissioner stated that at the CRWP on March 9th Ryan Kubat was selected the new director at large. Kubicek also stated that the County Road Maintenance public meeting will be on March 12th.

Arndt handed out state budget information. (see attached.) He also reported that the spring newsletter was mailed out April 6th. He handed the newsletter to the supervisors.

Commissioner Kubicek reported that the Planning & Zoning Dept. will be having a meeting on April 28th for the Comprehensive Plan Update. They will be discussing long term manure storage. There will be up-coming meetings on the new Mega rail proposed to go through Owatonna.

Gulbransen report that there are approximately 1,200 trees left to sell and that 14,000 trees have been sold.

Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Hansen at 8:45 to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sue Condon
District Admin. Secretary