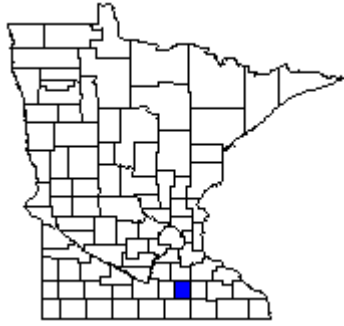


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**MINNESOTA
 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

The regular monthly meeting of the Steele County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Mark Ihlenfeld at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 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 | Dan Arndt, Manager | Bruce Kubicek, Com. | Sue Condon, SWCD |
| James Klecker, Vice-Chrmn | Eric Gulbransen | Noel Frank, NRCS | |
| Dan Hansen, Secretary | | | |
| Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer | | | |
| Dave Melby, Reporter | | | |

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

The June agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Conservation Applications for LIDAR: Gulbransen reported that he attended a training session titled “Conservation Applications for LIDAR”, on June 4th. This was an introduction to LIDAR and its application locally. LIDAR for Steele County will be available in late June. More training on LIDAR will be available in the near future.
2. RC&D: Ihlenfeld reported that he attended a Hiawatha Resource Conservation and Development meeting on May 18th. Featured speaker at the meeting spoke about the concept of permaculture. Permaculture is the science of incorporating permanent vegetation like trees and shrubs into your farming enterprise. Bruce Kubicek, Mary Larson, and Vic Ormsby were presented with Earth Team awards. Other meeting highlights included that the 2010 Value Added Conference will be held in LaCroose, and that vegetable gardening in the area this year is up 35%.
3. 2009 Tree Program: Gulbransen reported that the SWCD sold 14,000 trees and shrubs in 2009. Income minus expenses was approximately \$19,875.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. State Cost Share: 5(08) Dale Waage. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve final payment of \$1500.00 for the installation of a water and sediment basin. Motion was carried by voice vote.
2. Proposed Resolution: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve and submit the resolution titled “ CRP Rental Adjustment (see attached). Motion carried by voice vote.
3. Resolutions Meeting: The annual Area VII resolutions meeting will be held in Rochester on Wednesday July 1.
4. Contribution Agreement with NRCS: Arndt reported that the Natural Resources Conservation Service has offered the SWCD a contribution agreement to complete the EQIP no-till spot checks and status reviews. The agreement document has not been received but will be forthcoming.
5. Outstanding Conservationists: Nominations for the 2009 outstanding conservationists are being solicited at this time. The outstanding Farmer, Wildlife Conservationist, and Windbreak candidates will be selected at the July meeting.
6. Supervisor and Employee Orientation: Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Hansen to approve expenses for the Supervisors and employees to attend this session sponsored by MASWCD in St. Cloud on July 15 and 16. The deadline for registering is July 6th.
7. Emerald Ash Borer Update: Gulbransen reported that existence of the Emerald Ash Borer has been documented in the Twin Cities area. Trees can be treated to repel the insect, but it is rather expensive. There are nearly a billion ashes in Minnesota.
8. Well Monitoring Agreement: Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to sign a well monitoring agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health to monitor two wells for the next year. Motion carried by voice vote.

Agency Reports: Commissioner Kubicek reported that the DNR has approved a de watering permit for SMC Construction at their quarry located off 26th Street. The permit indicates that from 220 million to 400 million gallons of water will be pumped annually. He also mentioned that the Deml pit located in Summit Township adjacent to 35W will be opened up in the near future.

Staff Reports: Arndt reported that staff is busy with a variety of projects including a CREP II wetland restoration. Several requests have been made by producers to rent the no-till drill.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Dan Arndt, Manager