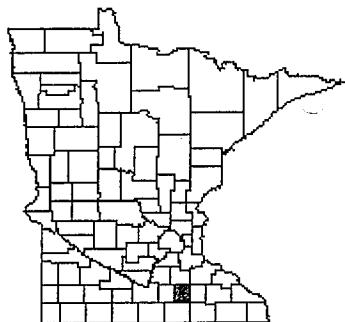


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 Chairman Mark Ihlenfeld at 7:05 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 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.	Noel Frank, NRCS
James Klecker, Vice-Chrmn	Sue Condon, Dist. Admin. Sec.	Jim Smith, NRCS	Eric Gulbransen, Dist. Res. Con.
Dan Hansen, Secretary		John Nicholson, Area Conservationist	
Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer			
Dave Melby, Reporter			

The April 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 May agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The April Treasurer's Report (see attached) was read by Wolfe. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve the April 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. Area VII Supervisor's Meeting, April 14th: Ihlenfeld, Klecker and Melby attended the meeting. It included: MCIT insurance policies, aids from the legislative members spoke, other agencies presented updates on on-going programs. The District should be announcing the Federal Programs and State Programs on the radio. Meeting over all was very interesting.
2. Annual Crane Creek Tour, (JD #24), May 11th: Ihlenfeld and Smith attended this tour. Discussion was on the buffers along the judicial ditch. The county owns the buffer area (county right of way) along the ditch and there will be a penalty for misuse.
3. Other: Condon reported and handed out the results of the 16th Annual SE MN Envirothon which was held on May 6th at Oxbow Park, Byron. Medford H.S. team came in 6th. Also, the Soil Stewardship materials were given out. Four churches and one school participated this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. State Cost-share contracts were presented by Arndt: Discussion. Motion to make the final payment to Curt Oeltjenbruns 3(08) in the amount of \$1,069.05 (75% of total cost) was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker. Motion carried by voice vote.

New State Cost-share contracts:

- 7(08) Myron Wencil, side inlet to encumber \$1,500, total cost \$2,000
- 1(09) Carol Peterson, waterway with tile to encumber \$1,687.50, total cost \$2,250
- 2(09) Steven Arndt, erosion control structure to encumber \$2,764.30, total cost \$6,122
EQIP funding of \$1,827.20 on this project.

Motion to approve these encumbrances was made by Wolfe, seconded by Hansen. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

2. State Buffer Grant Applications: These 15 year contracts will be encumbered out of the \$20,000

				<u>Est.</u>
BG-1	Terry Yule	14.0 acres	@\$500/ac	\$7,400.00
BG-2	Georgette Maas	4.8 acres	@\$400/ac	\$1,920.00
BG-3	MN DOT	14.8 acres	@\$400/ac	\$5,600.00
BG-4	Kevin Lafky	1.8 acres	@\$400/ac	\$ 720.00
	Rent (3 years up front)			\$ 495.91
	20% Technical of \$20,000 =	\$4,000.00		

Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to approve these applications. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

2. Legislative Update: Arndt read an update from Judy Erickson, MASWCD Lobbyist. There will be cuts in BWSR's budget this year. Discussion followed.
3. Petition to amend the Steele County Water Management Plan: FYI. Arndt received a letter from Scott Golberg stating there will be an amendment to the water plan to include the Wetland Preservation Program. Landowners that decide to participate in the program will have their tax payment reduced and the state will make up the difference that is owed on that parcel of land. Kubicek stated that the District will be involved with the delineations of these wetlands.
4. Other: None

Staff and Agency Reports:

John Nicholson, NRCS Area Conservationist, reported that there is a new Federal NRCS head – Dave White – he was a state conservationist in Montana. Nicholson also reported the EQIP cost-share rate is now 75%, but we have a very short sign-up period. The sign-up will end May 29th. Nicholson also reported that the SE area of Minnesota has a LIDAR flight now. It is a new technical digital photography flight. There will be an information session June 3rd. This flight came from the reserve of DNR monies left from the flood money of 2007.

Smith reported that we have 12 EQIP applications including: waterways and sediment structures; animal compost; and buckthorn. This year's applications are very diverse. Nicholson stated that by the end of the week NRCS will know how much money is available for the SE area. There will be 23 million dollars in the state for EQIP. Smith also stated that there will be 9 million dollars of WRP money to match RIM dollars. We have 2 applications as of now.

Commissioner Kubicek presented maps on the Highway 14 southern route and the interchanges proposed by Havana. Kubicek also stated that county roads will now be posted for weight allowed year round. Any landowners that must use county roads for hauling larger loads must get a permit from the county. Kubicek was also asked to talk at the class for Environmental Politics at St. Olaf College. He stated it was fascinating talking to the college students on their political views and opinions on the environment.

Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Wolfe at 8:50 to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Sue Condon District Admin. Secretary