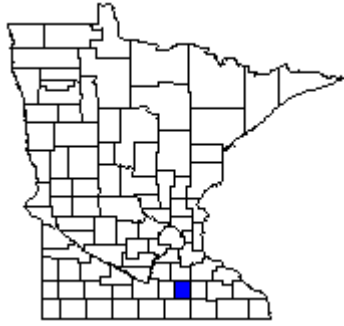


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**MINNESOTA
 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

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, September 9, 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	Jim Smith, NRCS	James Klecker, Vice-Chrmn
Dan Hansen, Secretary	Eric Gulbransen		Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer
Dave Melby, Reporter	Sue Condon, SWCD		

The August 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 September agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SWCD Fair Booth: Booth centered on Invasive Species. Staff showed the poster with the tree winners for the week and the rain barrel winner was Julie Malone from Owatonna. Others interested in trees and rain barrels are being contacted.
2. Other: There were no other meeting attended.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Gulbransen presented the 2010 State Cost Share Program to the Board. The time period will be from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 to encumber the money on projects. Gulbransen reviewed the principles of the cost-share program. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to accept the same proposed practices; the starting and finishing dates for erosion control – July 1st through Sept. 15th for structures, storm water control systems, and critical area stabilization practices; the starting and finishing dates of October 1st and December 1st for terraces and animal waste control systems; and the limit of the cost-sharing percentages. Motion was carried by voice vote.
2. State Cost-share action: Gulbransen presented an amendment for 1(09)A Carol Peterson in the amount of \$230.60 for more tile for the grassed waterway. Moved by Melby, seconded by Hansen to approve the increase. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve the final payment of \$1,918.10 for cost-share on project 1(09)A for Carol Peterson. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

Gulbransen present an amendment for 2(09)A Steven Arndt in the amount of \$416.68 for a erosion control structure. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve the increase. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Hansen to approve the final payment of \$3,180.98 for the cost-share project 2(09)A Steven Arndt. Motion was carried by a voice vote. EQIP will be paying the amount of \$3,123.60. The total amount will be \$8,406.11. The client will be paying \$2,101.53. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

3. Office Rent Agreement: Arndt reviewed the agreement for October 1st to September 30th between NRCS and the District in the amount of \$9,537. This figure is \$8,703 for 506 sq ft of rented space and \$834 for LAN/WAN/VOICE connections. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Hansen to sign the agreement. Motion was carried by a voice vote. For the Board's Information: next year the District will be dealing directly with the landlord instead of the NRCS. More details will be available later.
4. Cannon River Watershed JPB: Arndt reported that he had met with other District Managers in the Cannon River Watershed (5 districts) about establishing a Joint Powers Board. If there were a JPB, there would be a possibility of acquiring 319 monies or some of the Lessard 3/8 % sales tax environment money. More details will be available later.
5. Farm Bill Technician: There is a Farm Bill Technician grant from the BWSR, Pheasants Forever and the DNR in the amount of \$25,000 for a technician with a matching \$10,000 from the Districts. Waseca SWCD and Steele Co. SWCD and Rice SWCD are proposing to merge together to match this grant. More details will be available later.
6. Area 7 – SE MASWCD Annual Meeting, Sept. 16th: Arndt handed out the agenda for the meeting. Discussion followed. Ihlenfeld, Hansen, Melby will be attending. Arndt, Condon and Gulbransen will also be attending.
7. Easement Maintenance Program Update: Arndt reported that 5 easement landowners land was sprayed. A total of 141.6 acres. All were assignments to be paid through the WRP in the amount of \$11,029.20. Gulbransen reported that all went well with the help of Jarod Guse, part-time employee. The most amount of spraying was done with the ranger and there was hand spraying done also.
8. BWSR Academy, Nov. 2-4th in Brainerd: This is a training sessions for both administrative and technical training. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Hansen to approve any staff's registration and expenses for this training. Motion was carried by voice vote.
9. MASWCD 2009 Resolutions: Arndt handed the resolutions out to the supervisors. Please review, vote and bring back to next meeting.
10. Other: None.

Agency Reports:

▲Smith reported that 20 CRP filter strip were re-enrolled. EQIP and WRP payments are being sent out. There will be a CSP training meeting tomorrow.

▲Gulbransen and Arndt reported that the RIM spot checks were completed and none were out of compliance.

▲Arndt reported on a proposal with the MN Steele Co. Pheasant group to acquire money for c/s on windbreaks. There may be money in the EQIP program to go along with this proposed c/s. More will follow.

▲Condon reported that the 2010 District Calendar will well under way.

Motion made at 9:00 to adjourn the meeting by Hansen, seconded by Melby. Motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted By: Sue Condon, District Admin. Sec.