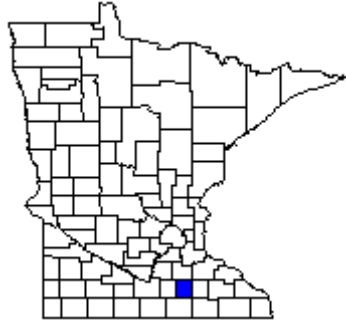


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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, January 13, 2010 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, Chrmn	Dan Arndt, Manager	Bruce Kubicek	
James Klecker, Vice-Chrmn	Eric Gulbransen	Noel Frank, NRCS	
Dan Hansen, Secretary	Sue Condon, SWCD	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Dave Melby, Reporter			
Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer			

Organization of Board Officers: Arndt read the 1-14-09 minutes. The minutes indicated that it was agreed to continue with the same held offices for one more year and to decide in 2010 on new officers. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to cast a unanimous ballot for Board Officers to remain in their current positions for 2010 thereafter to rotate positions every two years. Motion was carried by a voice vote.

The January agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The December minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Under old business an omission was pointed out – Ihlenfeld attended the RC & D meeting on November 23rd. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve the minutes with said correction. Motion was carried by voice vote.

The December Treasurer’s Report (see attached) was read by Wolfe. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve the December Treasurer’s Report. Motion was carried by voice vote. Certificate of Deposit #1602063 in the amount of \$20,891.95 with the renewal date of 1-21-10 was tabled. Condon will check and confirm this amount with the Community Bank.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2010 SWCD Calendar: There have been 3,500 calendars mailed out. The Owatonna rural routes were saturated and the remaining went out to our clientele from a mailing list.
2. Melby attended a Steele County MN Pheasants meeting in December to discuss a windbreak cost-share program. The District is trying to bring about an incentive of cost-share for windbreaks with the MN Pheasant organization’s help. They will be placing this information in their newsletter. Discussion followed. Arndt will be contacting other wildlife groups in the area requesting match funding for the Farm Bill Technician position.

Noel Frank enters meeting at 7:40 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Committee Appointments: Discussion.
Personnel – Hansen and Melby
Budget & Planning – Wolf and Klecker
Steele Co. Planning & Zoning – Ihlenfeld
SE Joint Powers Bd. – Ihlenfeld
Hiawatha RC & D – Ihlenfeld
Cannon River Watershed Partnership - Hansen
2. 2010 Plan of Work: Arndt suggested that the District continue with the current plan of work until the status of the grant applications is known. Motion was made by Wolfe and seconded by Melby to table the 2010 Plan of Work until next month. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
3. District Charges: New list of charges for services were presented by Arndt (see attached.) Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to accept the changes in our charges for services. Motion was carried by voice vote.
4. 2010 Annual Approvals: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker to approve the following. Motion was carried by voice vote.
 - Monthly Board Meeting Day and Time: 2nd Wed. of month at 7:00 p.m. in conference room.
 - United Prairie Bank: Official District Financial Institution.
 - Owatonna Peoples Press: Official Newspaper
 - KOWZ: District's Official Radio Station
5. 2010 Supervisors Compensation: It was decided by the Supervisors that compensation should remain at \$60/ 4 hrs or less, and \$75 over 4 hrs. Two 4 hr meetings are equal to one full day or \$75. Mileage is IRS business mileage amount.
6. Transfer employee HSA from Select account to Community Bank of Owatonna. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve transferring the District employees Health Savings Accounts from Select Account to Community Bank Owatonna. Motion was carried by voice vote.
7. 2010 Dues: Discussion followed. Melby made motion, seconded by Klecker to approve the following: NACD - \$275; MASWCD – pay ½ of due (\$1,375) now with an accompanying letter stating that the other ½ will be paid at a later date because of our budget deficit; SE MASWCD - \$500; Hiawatha RC & D - \$300; CRWP - \$35; SE JPB - \$500; and the MN Volunteer - \$25. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
8. SE SWCD Tech. Support JPB mtg., Jan 27th at the Peoples Co-op. Ihlenfeld and Arndt plan to go.
9. MASWCD Legislative Day, Feb. 17th – 18th: Condon stated that 2 hotel rooms are reserved. Let Condon know by Feb. 5th, if you plan on attending.

Agency: Frank and Smith stated that there will be an EQIP sign up starting Feb. 1st until the end of Feb. NRCS does not have a docket yet.

District staff reported that a Tree Day – Contractor Open House will be held February 19th.

Commissioner Kubicek stated that the Oak Glen Wind Farm has been proposed to the Steele County Commissioners. The wind mills will generate 44 meg-a-watts. The proposed project is located in the following sections: Bl. Pr. Township Sections 4,5,7,8,9,10,17, and 18. He, also, stated that the bids are being taken on the East belt line going around Owatonna.

Staff: Gulbransen stated that about 1,000 trees have been sold so far. Condon reported being very busy with W-2's, 1099's and the end of the year materials.

Motion was made to adjourn by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Susan Condon

Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary