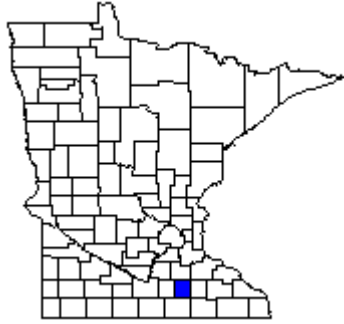


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**MINNESOTA
 SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

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, August 11, 2010 at the Conservation Office located at 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna, MN.

<u>SWCD Supervisors</u> <u>Present:</u>	<u>SWCD Staff</u> <u>Present:</u>	<u>Others Present:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
Mark Ihlenfeld, Chrmn	Dan Arndt, Manager		
James Klecker, Vice-Chrmn	Eric Gulbransen		
Dan Hansen, Secretary	Sue Condon, SWCD		
Dave Melby, Reporter			
Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer			

The August agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SE JPB Meeting, July 28th: Ihlenfeld reported that he attended. MCIT has settled a claim against the SE JPB on a feedlot project, in which the grades for the project were off. The financial report of 2010 was gone over and recommendations for 2011 were reviewed. The feedlot projects are mainly funded through the 3/8 of 1% sales tax.
2. Cannon River Performance Based Conservation Meeting, July 28th: Arndt attended and reported. The incentive based conservation program acres located within the CRWP is being facilitated through the McKnight Foundation. This program with-in the CRWP will target sedimentation through 2 or 3 smaller watersheds in the Cannon River Watershed.
3. Ihlenfeld attended an RC & D meeting and tour, July 26th. The tour included a site on organic farming with a geo-thermal green house.

The 2010 Steele SWCD tour, July 20th, was well attended. Melby, Hansen and Wolfe attended. The Owatonna Peoples Press, Wendy Reuer, wrote a very good article and on the OPP site there was also a video clip. A thank you will be sent to Ms. Reuer.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Gulbransen reviewed the state cost-share contract 4(09) D. Grunwald. The total cost is \$3,793.38. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve the 25% cost of \$948.04. The remaining \$1,897 (75%) will be paid through a CRP contract. Motion was carried by voice vote.
2. Gulbransen reviewed the 2010 Co-op Weed Management Contracts on RIM permanent easements. There are 10 permanent easements total of 126.7 acres requesting cost share assistance.

1(10)WM – J. Mahoney – Deerfield twp. – 5.5 acres	\$ 651.15
2(10)WM – J. Connecker – Somerset twp. – 12 acres	\$1,420.68
3(10)WM – H. Drache – Lemond twp. – 13.2 acres	\$1,562.74
4(10)WM – M. Hackett – Deerfield twp. – 12 acres	\$1,420.68
5(10)WM – P. Haukoos – Somerset, Lemond twp. – 12 acres	\$1,420.68
6(10)WM – C. Just – Lemond twp. – 18.8 acres	\$2,225.73
7(10)WM – G. Kaplan – Summit twp. – 26 acres	\$3,078.13
8(10)WM – G. Meixner – Lemond twp. – 12 acres	\$1,420.68
9(10)WM – V. Wimer – Clinton Falls twp. – 3.2 acres	\$ 378.85
10(10)WM – D. Schloblom – Somerset twp. – 12 acres	\$1,420.68

Motion made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to approve Ihlenfeld to sign these contracts. Passed by voice vote.

3. Buffer Grant Applications: Arndt reviewed the 3 contracts. T. Trotman – Blooming Prairie & Aurora twp. – 13.1 acres - \$7,860; T. Simon on JD#2 – Somerset twp. – 13.9 acres - \$8,340; R. Vesely - Lemond twp. – 8.5 acres - \$5,100. These applications will be paid through the Clean Water Fund. These will be sent to Rice SWCD. They will be combined with applications from Rice, Goodhue, and Waseca Co. SWCDs. It will be on a first come first approving basis. This is an incentive program for buffer strips. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve these applications. Passed by voice vote.
4. MCIT 2010 Dividends: FYI. Property Casualty = \$1,975 and Workman's Comp = \$533.
5. 2011 Proposed Budget: Wolfe, Klecker, Arndt and Condon met earlier to review budget. Arndt presented a slide presentation to the county commissioners. District will pursue other grants. The District has been fiscally responsible and very frugal during the last 4 years. But during these financially stressed times, these is not the funding as before. Discussion. We do not have any stable funding except through the county allocation, of which we are very thankful. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Klecker to give the county the proposed budget asking for what is needed to balance our budget. Carried by voice vote. Arndt will request a meeting of the whole with the commissioners to explain our position. All supervisors will try to attend this very important meeting.
6. District Capacity Award Program: Arndt and Condon explained how the award points are accumulated. Each year it seems to change. The District will receive Honorable Mention for 2009-2010. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe to have each supervisor sign the District Capacity Award. Passed.
7. Iowa Soybean Clean Water Alliance, August 16th: This group will present a meeting at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna, on August 16th. There will be a lunch provided at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be from 6 to 8 p.m. It is sponsored by the McKnight Foundation. Hanson, Melby, Gulbransen and Arndt plan on attending.
8. BWSR Base Grant Agreement: Arndt reviewed this agreement with the supervisors. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to sign the agreement. Passed with voice vote.

Agency Reports: None. No one was in attendance.

Staff Reports:

Arndt reported that the Flood Control Project will soon be started. The District is also promoting Buffer incentive along with CRP.

Gulbransen stated that he has been doing a lot of spraying on permanent RIM easements.

Condon reported that the newsletter is going out this week promoting the buffer incentive to 3637 people. She also reported that Rushford-Peterson High School (SE MN) representing the state of Minnesota took 3rd place in the National Canon Envirothon that was held in California.

It was mentioned by supervisors to send a thank you to the students from Rushford-Peterson High School.

Supervisors signed up to man District Fair Booth at the Izaak Walton Building.

Motion was made to adjourn by Wolfe, seconded by Hansen at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary