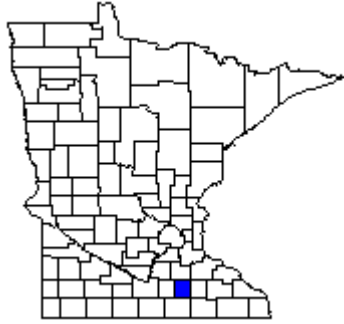


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 7:10 p.m. on Wednesday, September 8, 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	Noel Frank, NRCS DC	Kyle Wolfe, Treasurer
James Klecker, Vice-Chrmn	Eric Gulbransen	James Smith, NRCS	
Dan Hansen, Secretary	Sue Condon, SWCD	Bruce Kubicek, Steele Co. Commissioner	
Dave Melby, Reporter			

The September agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The August minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Corrections to be made: NB - #5 Arndt presented a slide presentation to the board not the county commissioners; NB - #7 It was sponsored by the Cannon River Watershed Partnership not the McKnight Foundation, which is where the CRWP acquired the money. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve the minutes with those corrections. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. August NRCS/SWCD Newsletter: Arndt reviewed and said that approximately 3,600 copies were sent out.
2. Iowa Soybean Assoc/Clean Water Alliance Mtg., August 16<sup>th</sup> Informational meeting held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna. Hansen, Melby, Arndt, Gulbransen and farm bill technician Danielle Waldschmidt attended. The informational meeting reviewed Best Management Practices on acres of corn with nitrates. Discussion followed.
3. 2010 Steele Co. Fair: All went well.
4. Other meetings: None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Cannon River Watershed Buffer Incentive Sign-ups: Arndt reviewed.  
VBS-2010-7 H. Johnson – 1.6 acres, Lemond twp.  
VBS-2010-4 B. Heers – 6.8 acres, Merton twp.  
VBS-2010-5 B. Heers – 7.0 acres, Merton twp.  
These contracts involve the Continuous CRP plus an incentive sign-up. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve signing these contracts. Motion was carried by voice vote. These contracts will be sent to Rice County for the incentive payments.
2. Farm Bill Technician Status: Arndt updated supervisors of the status of the position. The agreement between Steele, Rice and Waseca SWCD's was discussed. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, Waseca SWCD has been forced to drop out of this agreement because of financial issues. Waldschmidt now is at Steele SWCD two days a week. Her salary cost is funded 40% through the Farm Bill, with the remaining coming from the Districts she serves. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Melby to increase the Steele Co. SWCD's portion of that salary until June 30, 2011 in order to keep the farm technician, at that time the board will review it again.
3. FYI - MCIT Renewal: 2011 renewal. Property and Casualty - \$3,663 and Worker's compensation - \$1,155. For a total of \$4,818.
4. Thank you from Lauren Larsen: winner of the Conservation Trophy sponsored by the District at the fair. She is from the Deerfield Get There 4-H Club.
5. Comprehensive Plan Revision: Arndt reviewed the updated plan for 2010-2014. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Hansen to approve the new comprehensive plan for the Steele Co. SWCD. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
6. MASWCD Area Mtg., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>: Discussed. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby to approve any staff or supervisors wishing to attend. Motion carried. Because of the economic situation the District is in supervisors are sending only one supervisor to the meeting and then report back to board. Ihlenfeld, Arndt and Frank plan on attending.
7. Other: Kubicek stated that the county commissioners are reviewing all budgets submitted. Management and Personnel committee will be doing the preliminary budget work. Then the committee of the whole will review and vote. Arndt will set up a meeting with the committee to discuss our budget. Arndt will let the supervisors know when and where.

Agency Reports: Smith reported that the office is finishing up on the waterway projects, doing re-enrollments on CRP, and doing an ag-waste system wrap-up. Frank reported that the office may be acquiring a new office copier/printer. This is largely because of all the SWCD staff work done for the NRCS in the office. It is also because the SWCD copier is currently not working properly.

Commissioner Kubicek reported that he will start recording the filter strips along county ditches (the strips will be owned by the county ditches. Three ditches with filter strips will be recorded next spring.

Staff Reports: Arndt reported the Flood Project in SE Steele County will be starting. It is being done by Olson Excavating. Condon reported that the auditor will be at the office on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was made to adjourn by Hansen, seconded by Melby at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By: Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary