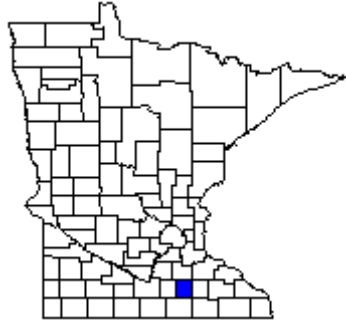


STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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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 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 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, Chrnm	Dan Arndt, Manager	Bruce Kubicek	
James Klecker, Vice-Chrnm	Eric Gulbransen	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Dan Hansen, Secretary	Sue Condon, SWCD		
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. In January of 2010 the officer's positions were voted on to remain the same ~~and it was voted on that thereafter to rotate positions every two years~~. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to cast a unanimous ballot for Board Officers to rotate positions every two years, as of 2011. Motion was carried by a voice vote. Two year held positions are as follows: Chairman Dan Hansen; Vice-Chairman Kyle Wolfe; Secretary Dave Melby; Treasurer Mark Ihlenfeld and Reporter Jim Klecker.

The January agenda was reviewed and stays as it stands.

The December minutes were sent to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Arndt reported that there was a possibility that a Clean Water Fund Grant would be approved for \$30,000, but it was not funded. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve the minutes. Motion was carried by voice vote.

The December Treasurer's Report (see attached) was read by Wolfe. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Melby to approve the December Treasurer's Report. Motion was carried by voice vote. Certificate of Deposit #1602063 in the amount of \$21,125.64 with the renewal date of 1-21-11 was discussed. Arndt obtained the current rates from other banks and found that Community Bank with the rate of 1.3% was the best. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to renew the certificate at this rate. 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. 2011 SWCD Calendar: There have been 3,300 calendars mailed out. The Owatonna rural routes were saturated and the remaining went out to our clientele from a mailing list. Extras are available.

2. CRWP Straight River TMDL Meeting, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>: Gulbransen, Ihlenfeld, Melby, and Wolfe attended the meeting. Discussed were the problems of stream bank erosion in Cannon River Watershed and the possibility of solutions.

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3. CRWP/Extension Drainage Ditch Meeting, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>: Daniel Waldschmidt spoke at the meeting. Ihlenfeld attended. Among things discussed were: CRP and incentives on filter strips. Over 60 people attended.
4. Other: Ihlenfeld attended a RC & D planning meeting on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2011 Committee Appointments: Discussion. Moved by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld to confirm the following appointments. Alternates will be chosen case by case when needed.  
Personnel –Melby and Klecker  
Budget & Planning – Ihlenfeld and Wolfe  
Steele Co. Planning & Zoning – Ihlenfeld  
SE Joint Powers Bd. – Ihlenfeld  
Hiawatha RC & D – Ihlenfeld  
Cannon River Watershed Partnership – Hansen
2. 2011 Budget Revision: Arndt reviewed with supervisors. Noted by Hansen that the supervisor's compensation amount should be increased on the 2011 budget report. Staff will make adjustments. Hansen thanked Commissioner Kubicek for the County's continued support. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe to approve the 2011 Budget with the revisions made to the supervisor's compensation amount. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. 2011 Plan of Work: Arndt reviewed. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld and seconded by Melby to approve the 2011 Plan of Work. Motion was carried by a voice vote.
4. District Charges: Charges for services were presented by Arndt. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker to approve the 2011 charges for services. Motion was carried by voice vote.
5. 2011 Annual Approvals: Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker to approve the following. Motion was carried by voice vote.
  - Monthly Board Meeting Day and Time: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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
6. 2011 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. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe. Motion was carried.
7. State Cost-Share Technical Assistance Option Agreement: Arndt presented the agreement to the Board. If the district has less than 18 months in the fund balance the district may use the cost-share money to leverage Federal funds for projects. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Klecker approve signing the agreement. Motion was carried by voice vote.
8. Conservation Partners Clean Water Legacy Program Grant Agreement: Arndt reviewed. The Legacy funds are dispersed through the DNR. The District has 6 landowners of CREP easements wishing to complete easement maintenance on their easements. Matching funds for completing the burns will be provided by FSA. The grant is in the amount of \$24,862. There will be some T & A included. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Melby to approve Hansen's signing of the agreement. Motion was carried by voice vote.

9. Federal Surplus Property Application: Arndt presented the application to the board. Discussion followed. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Klecker to approve submission of the application. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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10. Wally Hildebrant Retirement, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>: Rice Co. SWCD supervisor Wally Hildebrant (51 years supervisor) will be held January 21<sup>st</sup> in Faribault. A card will be sent from the district.
11. SE JPB Meeting, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>: Ihlenfeld will plan to attend.
12. CRWP "One Water Management Strategy" meeting, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>: The meeting will be at the South Central Technical College on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon. Registration must be in by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. There is no fee.
13. Other: Hansen would like the staff to look into the cost of signs for the Outstanding Farmer and maybe the Outstanding Windbreak and the Outstanding Wildlife awards. Staff will investigate the costs and report next month.

Commissioner Kubicek reported he attended the SE MN Watershed Resource Board meeting. He reviewed the SE watershed map with us.

Agency: Smith stated that there is an EQIP sign up ending March 4th. Smith may be deployed with the Army National Guard in May for a year, it is not official yet.

Condon reported that the Phased Retirement that she is on is working out very well. A lot to do in January, but it is getting done.

Gulbransen reported on a presentation he did on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> for a Meriden 4-H group.

Ihlenfeld reported that on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> he attended a Steele County Board of Adjustment meeting. A variance request to construct a farm home on agricultural land was approved.

Motion was made to adjourn by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Sue Condon, District Administrative Secretary