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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 Dan Hansen at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 12, 2019 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, Reporter	Adam Arndt	Jim Smith, NRCS	Adrienne Gransee
Dan Hansen, Chairman	Eric Gulbransen	Roger Wacek	
Jim Klecker, Secretary			
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chair			
Dave Melby, Treasurer			

The February agenda was reviewed, no changes were made.

The January minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to approve the minutes as written. Motion was carried by voice vote.

The January Treasurer’s Report was read by Melby. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker, to approve the January Treasurer’s Report. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Bills: (See attached) Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Melby, to approve paying the bills. Motion was carried by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Meeting Reports – Mark Ihlenfeld – Joint Powers Board – Ihlenfeld reported on the JPB meeting that he attended. They discussed the current employees and conducted annual reviews. All employees received range and step in pay. They also discussed the grants. The grant for small feedlot fixes is nearly used up. They received a soil health grant.

Kyle Wolfe – January 22 – Owatonna City Hall – Kyle Wolfe reported on a pollinator presentation that was promoting ecofriendly activities. The city council said that they would take it under advise.

Dan Hansen – January 23 – 1 Watershed 1 Plan – Dan reported that the draft plan was passed by the policy committee.

2. Kyle Wolfe and Mark Ihlenfeld were sworn in as SWCD Supervisors.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. EQIP Local Work Group Meeting – Jim Smith explained the LWG priorities. The Board will need to set priorities for 5 land uses; cropland, pasture land, forest, farmstead, and ass. agricultural land. He stated that NRCS wants quantifiable data.
2. 2019 Plan of Work – The draft plan of work was sent to the supervisors prior to the meeting. There were some changes and corrections that were discussed. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker, to approve the plan of work with the discussed changes. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. 2018 Annual Report – The draft annual report was sent to the supervisors prior to the meeting. The changes and updates that they wanted were discussed. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to approve the annual report with the changes that were discussed. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. Extension Farm Family of the Year – The Board discussed options for nominations for the Farm Family of the Year. They agreed upon Joe and Cheryl Rysavy.
5. Dues – Eric Gulbransen presented the annual dues to the Board. The Board reviewed the dues and discussed possible funding sources for the Envirothon contribution. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Klecker, to approve and pay the annual dues as listed below.
 - RC&D - \$300
 - Envirothon - \$175
 - NACD - \$775
 - SE SWCD JPB - \$1000
 - MASWCD - \$3926.53
 - SE MASWCD - \$500.00
6. MASWCD Day at the Capital – March 5-6 – Gulbransen presented the registration information and got a list of those who planned to attend the event.
7. 1WIP Joint Powers Agreement – The agreement was presented to the Board by Eric Gulbransen. They reviewed the agreement. Eric informed the Board that the plan would be open for comment for 60 days. He also told the Board about the open house to be held on February 20 in Faribault. A motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve and sign the agreement. Motion carried by voice vote.
8. Supervisor Orientation Sessions – Eric presented the dates for the upcoming sessions to the Board. These sessions are good for newly elected supervisors or as a refresher for those who have already served on the Board.
9. Flood Relief Grant Final Financial – Returned Funds \$113,445.09 – Eric Gulbransen presented the final financial to the Board for approval and signature. Because all of the grant was not utilized there is an amount that will be returned to BWSR. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Klecker, to approve and sign the report. Motion carried by voice vote.
10. Easement Work Order – 74-18-W099 – Eric Gulbransen presented the work order to the Board. Motion was made by Wolfe, seconded by Klecker, to approve and sign the work order. Motion carried by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

11. Other – FY19 Capacity Amendment – Eric Gulbransen presented the amendment to the FY19 Local Capacity grant. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe, to approve and sign the amendment. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Comments:

Roger Wacek presented and spoke on a handout that he had brought for the Board member and staff.

Agency Reports:

Jim Smith stated that they are still accepting EQIP applications until March 1. FSA has a new acting director, Kirk Phelps. There currently is no update about the status of the CRP program. Smith also stated that the new Soil Conservationist will be starting in the Steele office in March.

Staff Reports

Adam Arndt reported on upcoming soil health events. There are 4 in the near future. He also reported on the ditch viewers meeting in Merton and the I90 Soil Health tour.

Eric Gulbransen stated that the WCA work is still continuing at a steady pace. He also spoke to the Board about the status of the insurance paperwork that was discussed last month.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Wolfe, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Adrienne Gransee,
Administrative Assistant

February Bills

Jaguar		Internet		\$54.95
Cedardale Development Co.		February Rent		\$716.40
Elan		Meals	\$53.00	
		Office Supplies	\$281.54	
		Postage	\$203.52	
		Gas	\$119.86	
		Training	\$20.00	\$677.92
No-till Farmer				\$39.95
Agri-News				\$36.82
Sign-Pro				\$816.05
MCIT				\$5,137.00
Eric Gulbransen		Mileage 92@.58		\$53.36
Adam Arndt		Mileage 82@.58		\$47.56
			Total	\$7,580.01