



STEELE COUNTY
Soil and Water Conservation District

235 Cedardale Drive SE
Owatonna MN 55060
507-451-6730 Ext. 3
www.steeleswcd.org

The regular monthly meeting of the Steele County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was called to order by Dan Hansen at 7:00 PM on Wednesday July 13, 2022 at the Steele County SWCD Office, 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna MN, 55060.

<u>SWCD Supervisors Present:</u>	<u>SWCD Staff Present:</u>	<u>Others Present:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
Mark Ihlenfeld, Reporter	Eric Gulbransen	Dave Copeland, BWSR	Dave Melby, Treasurer
Dan Hansen, Chairman	Adrienne Gransee		Adam Arndt
Mike Klecker			
Mark Ditlevson, Vice Chair			

The September agenda was reviewed, no changes were required.

The August minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

The August Treasurer’s Report was read by Ihlenfeld. 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 Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve paying the bills. Motion was carried by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Meeting Reports – Morgan Soil Health Field Day – September 6 – Eric Gulbransen, Adam Arndt, Mark Ditlevson, Mark Ihlenfeld, Jim Smith, Teddy Moreno-Santos, and Dave Copeland attended this event. They stated that it was well organized and engaging. The event was well attended and offered a good opportunity to network with local producers.

Area 7 MASWCD Executive Board meeting – Mark Ihlenfeld attended this meeting. He stated that the primary focus was to iron out the details for the upcoming area meeting at the end of September.

2. Fair Booth Recap – Dan Hansen reported on his time at the fair booth. He said there was more traffic than there has been in past years and he had the opportunity to visit with a few people. As most years there was interest in the District annual tree program. The Board discussed the possibility of displaying the Land Use Model at the fair both in the future. They also talked about the possibility of changing the type of tree offered for the drawing.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cover Crop Cost Share Contracts – Eric Gulbransen presented the contracts listed below for Board approval. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the contracts. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 1-22-CC, \$9,600
 - 2-22-CC, \$9,600
 - 3-22-CC, \$9,600
2. No-Till Incentive Contract – Eric Gulbransen presented the contract for the District’s new no-till/strip-till incentive program. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Klecker, to approve the contract. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 1-NT, \$9,600
3. Cost Share Payment – Eric Gulbransen present the contract to the Board for payment approval. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the payment. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 1-22, \$3,547
4. Cost Share Amendment – Eric Gulbransen presented an amendment to contract 21-ST-004 as listed below. The cost of the project needed to be increased due to unforeseen problems with excess water. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the contract amendment. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 21-ST-004, Cost Share increase to \$39,725.50
5. Cost Share Payment – Eric Gulbransen presented the contract listed below for payment. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the payment. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - 21-ST-004, \$39,725.50
6. Area 7 Meeting – September 27 – Adrienne Gransee presented the information about the meeting to the Board and requested that they let her know as soon as possible if they are planning to attend the meeting.
7. BWSR Academy – Registration \$55/day, Hotel \$75.16/night – Adrienne Gransee requested approval from the Board for those interested to reserve hotel rooms and register for BWSR Academy. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the cost of hotel and registration for staff to attend BWSR academy. Motion passed by voice vote.
8. MCIT Dividend – Adrienne Gransee presented the annual dividend information to the Board. There was only an excess in the Workers’ Compensation category for the 2022 fiscal year.
 - Workers’ Comp - \$1,187
9. Building Lease – Adrienne Gransee presented the new building lease to the Board. The monthly rent is going to be increasing to \$792.00 per month. The garage rent will increase to \$600.00 quarterly. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the new lease. Motion carried by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

10. Other – Eric Gulbransen reminded the Board of the Cotter Field day to be held on September 16. He also provided the information for the Dodge SWCD Open House on September 20. They are celebrating their 75th Anniversary.

Agency Reports

Dave Copeland spoke briefly about BWSR Academy to be held October 25-27. He gave an update on the status of the Competitive grants and spoke about a new Soil Health grant that will be coming to the District in the future. He also let the Board know that the FY23 Local Capacity and Buffer Law grants have been released and work plans can begin.

Staff Reports

Eric Gulbransen reported that he has been busy with ditch and WCA work. He gave an update to the Board about an ongoing project on a County tile line. They were making repairs due to issues cause by previous work and tree roots. It was a contractor that had not previously worked with the SWCD on a project and Gulbransen reported that he was impressed with their work.

Adrienne Gransee reported to the Board that she has been primarily focused on getting the fair booth completed and the start of the calendar.

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

Respectfully Submitted by,



Adrienne Gransee,
Administrative Assistant

September Bills

Cedardale Dev. Co	September Rent		\$716.40
Church Offset Printing	Soil Health Day Postcards		\$380.63
Elan	Gas	\$433.24	
	Hotel	\$219.65	
	Water Monitoring	\$242.21	
	Phone	\$84.36	
	Supplies	\$170.18	
	Fair	\$164.40	
	Anti-Virus Software	\$175.00	\$1,489.04
Spectrum	Installation & First Month		\$171.30
			\$2,757.37