



**STEELE COUNTY**  
Soil and Water Conservation District

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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 Tuesday May 11, 2021 at the Izaak Walton League Lodge.

<b><u>SWCD Supervisors Present:</u></b>	<b><u>SWCD Staff Present:</u></b>	<b><u>Others Present:</u></b>	<b><u>Absent:</u></b>
Mark Ihlenfeld, Reporter	Eric Gulbransen	Dave Copeland, BWSR (via Conference Call)	
Dan Hansen, Chairman	Adrienne Gransee	James Smith, NRCS (via Conference Call)	
Dave Melby, Treasurer	Adam Arndt		
Mike Klecker,			
Mark Ditlevson			

The May agenda was reviewed. One item was added to the bills.

The April minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. There were no corrections needed. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote.

The April Treasurer's Report was read by Melby. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Ditlevson, to approve the April Treasurer's Report. Motion was carried by voice vote.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Meeting Report – Mark Ihlenfeld attended an meeting of the Executive Board. They discussed plans for the resolution meeting. The date was set for June 22 and it will be held in Austin. People will have the option of attending in person or via zoom.
2. Other – Kyle Wolfe Memorial – Dave Melby informed the Board that the bench has been ordered. The estimated delivery is approximately 8 weeks.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Cover Crop Contracts – Adam Arndt presented 2 cover crop contracts, listed below, for approval. Both contracts were for a 1-3 species mix on 80 acres. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to approve the contracts. Motion carried by voice vote.
  - 1-21-CC, Todd Hansen, \$7,200
  - 2-21-CC, Dustin Wayne, \$7,200
2. Conservation Award Candidates – The Board was given the current list of candidates for the annual Conservation Farmer, Wildlife Conservationist, and Windbreak awards. The winner will be chosen at the June Board meeting.
3. Legislative Update – Eric Gulbransen provided the Board with a brief legislative update. The main focus of discussion was the local capacity funding grant. The MASWCD is backing the Senate proposed funding level, which is holding steady at the current level. Dave Copeland let the Board know that it is looking likely that there will be a special session to get the budget completed but that is not definite yet.
4. Fair Booth – The District will have the opportunity to use the booth that has been available in the past. Care of the building is being changed from the Izaak Walton League to the Steele County Fair Board.

**Agency Reports**

Dave Copeland stated that there were no significant changes to the work situation at the moment. He informed the Board that BWSR is in the process of making changes to the Biennial Budget Request process. As part of these changes a work plan is going to need to be submitted for State Cost Share grants beginning with FY22. He also said that BWSR Academy is still being planned as an in person event in October.

Jim Smith updated the Board on the EQIP projects that have been funded. He also told the Board that the local work group meeting has been scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> at 8 AM. This meeting is the chance to talk about what they would like to see as the priority concerns for the upcoming year.

**Staff Reports**

Adrienne Gransee has been assisting with tree orders. She has also been making updates to the website and beginning initial planning for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet.

Eric Gulbransen stated that he has been busy with ditch concerns as well as WCA. He also assisted Adam with tree week preparation and pick up days.

Adam Arndt stated that tree pick up went smoothly and the program was a success overall again this year. The plant kits and seeds will be available for pick up at the end of the month. He is working with Extension to put together 4-H kits as they have done in past years. The kick off night will be May 27. He also let the Board know that the soil health team is looking for options for field days. They would like to find 2 sites in Steele that they could visit and discuss. He also stated that he is moving forward with a project on Medford Creek.

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

Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adrienne Gransee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.

Adrienne Gransee,  
Administrative Assistant

May Bills

<b>Cedardale Dev. Co.</b>	<b>May Rent</b>		<b>\$716.40</b>
<b>Matronet</b>	<b>Internet</b>		<b>\$54.95</b>
<b>Leslie Sorensen</b>	<b>6 hours Tree assistance</b>		<b>\$90.00</b>
<b>Dan Arndt</b>	<b>21 hours tree assistance</b>		<b>\$315.00</b>
<b>Noel Frank</b>	<b>20 hours tree assistance</b>		<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>Mitch Hansen</b>	<b>26 hours tree assistance</b>		<b>\$390.00</b>
<b>Dodge SWCD</b>	<b>Trees</b>		<b>\$358.00</b>
<b>Tree World</b>	<b>Plantskydd</b>		<b>\$804.96</b>
<b>BFG Supply Co</b>	<b>Fertilizer</b>		<b>\$292.70</b>
<b>Goodhue SWCD</b>	<b>Tree tubes</b>		<b>\$366.00</b>
<b>Wolcyn</b>	<b>Trees</b>		<b>\$31,989.25</b>
<b>Schumacher's</b>	<b>Trees</b>		<b>\$7,787.00</b>
<b>Elan</b>	<b>Gas</b>	<b>\$232.91</b>	
	<b>Supplies</b>	<b>\$87.96</b>	
	<b>Vehicle</b>	<b>\$46.00</b>	
	<b>Tree Supplies</b>	<b>\$412.70</b>	
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>\$84.61</b>	
	<b>Board meeting meal supplies</b>	<b>\$10.07</b>	<b>\$874.25</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,338.51</b>