



STEELE COUNTY
Soil and Water Conservation District

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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 5:00 PM on Tuesday October 13, 2020 at the SWCD office located at 235 Cedardale Drive SE, Owatonna.

<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 (attended by phone)	Adam Arndt
Dan Hansen, Chairman	Adrienne Gransee	Jim Smith, NRCS	Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chair
Jim Klecker, Secretary		Kelly Bureke	
Dave Melby, Treasurer			

The October agenda was reviewed, no changes were made.

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

The September Treasurer’s Report was read by Melby. Motion was made by Klecker, seconded by Ihlenfeld, to approve the September Treasurer’s Report. Motion was carried by roll call vote.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Meeting Reports – RC&D – Mark Ihlenfeld attended this meeting on September 28 via Zoom. He reported that they primarily covered old business topics and reviewed the finances which are in good standing.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mission Statement – This topic was tabled for discussion at the November board meeting.
2. Resolution Packet – Packets were distributed to Supervisors prior to the meeting. The floor was opened up to questions and discussion. There were not specific concerns at this time. Adrienne Gransee requested that the Board members return their ballots by October 30 so that they can be sent to the State office before the November deadline.

NEW BUSINESS:

3. 2021 Board meeting schedule – Gransee stated that work on the 2021 Calendar is underway and requested that the Board set the meeting schedule for the year so that it can be correctly published. After discussion it was decided to keep the schedule the same as what was followed in 2020. Meeting will be held at 5PM on the second Tuesday of the month January-May and September-December. Meetings will be the second Tuesday at 7PM April-August. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Klecker, to approve the schedule as listed above. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. FY21 Local Capacity Grant Agreement – Adrienne Gransee presented the grant agreement for the FY21 Local Capacity and Buffer Law grants. There was a slight reduction in the amount of the Buffer Law grant but an increase in the Local Capacity. Motion was made by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Melby, to approve the grant agreements and return to BWSR. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. CRP Reimbursement Agreement – Eric Gulbransen presented the terms of the agreement to the Board. There were funds available to reimburse for SWCD assistance completing CRP plans. Adam Arndt completed 75 plans and the District was permitted to invoice \$440 for each plan.
6. 2021 Steele County Ditch Agreement – Gulbransen requested that the Board think about any changes that they would like to see in the County Ditch Agreement. A few that were discussed was increasing the annual limit and increasing the maximum approval amount for each ditch and project.
7. H.S.A. Annual limit increase – Gransee informed the Board that the annual maximum contribution for single H.S.A. accounts will be increasing to \$3,600.
8. Other – Gulbransen informed the Board that the area Supervisors meeting will be held on November 9 from 10-2:30. It will be a Zoom meeting with the option of attending in person at RCTC.

Agency Reports

Dave Copeland reminded everyone that the virtual BWSR Academy is running October 27-29. He also informed the Board that it is anticipated that he will continue to telework through the end of the year.

Kelly Burkke reported that she has been working on completing site checks for CRP and getting payments processed.

Staff Reports

Adrienne Gransee stated that she had an envirothon state meeting. It was decided to hold 1 virtual state level event for 2021. She also informed the Board that the financial audit is nearing completion.

Eric Gulbransen stated that WCA and ditch work continue to occupy his time. He has also been making a few visits for tree concerns and discussing cover crops with interested landowners.

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

