



**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 5:05 PM on Tuesday November 10, 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)	Jim Klecker, Secretary
Dan Hansen, Chairman	Adrienne Gransee	Jim Smith, NRCS	
Kyle Wolfe, Vice-Chair (attended by phone)	Adam Arndt	Kelly Burke	
Dave Melby, Treasurer			

The November agenda was reviewed, no changes were made.

The October minutes were distributed to the Supervisors prior to the meeting. A spelling error was noted and will be corrected. There was also a change to who seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Melby, seconded by Wolfe, to approve the minutes with those two items corrected. Motion carried by voice vote.

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

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Meeting Reports – 1 Watershed 1 Plan – Eric Gulbransen attended a 1W1P meeting via Zoom. There was discussion on the budget and the best way to go about reimbursing those Districts that put in hours on the plan. They also discussed what expenses were eligible to be charged to the grant and what needed to be covered by member dues.

Area 7 Supervisor Meeting – Mark Ihlenfeld attended this meeting in Rochester MN. There were people attending both in-person and virtually. Ihlenfeld stated that Randy Smith will be the new Chairman and Ihlenfeld will continue his position as Treasurer/Secretary. They had an interesting presentation on cover crops, and Mark stated that they passed a motion to increase the contribution to Envirothon to \$900.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Mission Statement – The Board reviewed the 2 possible mission statements laid out in the strategic planning document. There was discussion about the merits and downfalls of each and the purpose of a mission statement. The Board agreed that the statement listed below would be adopted as the official District mission statement.
  - The mission of the SWCD is to assist in the conservation, development, and productive use of soil and water resources so all people may enjoy them now and in the future.
2. 2019 Audit – Adrienne Gransee presented the completed 2019 audit information to the Board. They were given updated graphs comparing the financial standing of the District over the last 5 years.
3. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Gulbransen informed the Board that the District will be celebrating 75 years of service in 2021. There was discussion about if there was typically recognition at the State and/or National level. Also, what could be done on the local level was discussed.
4. Medical Insurance Update – Gransee informed the Board that they are looking at a couple of options that were presented. The staff is also seeking information from the SE Co-op.
5. Election Results – Gulbransen informed the Board that both Dan Hansen and Dave Melby will be returning for another term. Mike Klecker will be taking over the position for District 5 beginning January 2021.

**Agency Reports**

Kelly Burkke informed the Board that the sign up deadline for Equip is November 20. She also stated that she has been working on CRP field verifications.

Jim Smith stated that his time has primarily been spent on completing cost list updates and as-built surveys.

**Staff Reports**

Adrienne Gransee stated that she had a meeting with the area envirothon committee. There is a desire to create a virtual event or course that can be offered to students in both Middle and High School to help keep them engaged even though an in-person area event is not going to occur.

Eric Gulbransen stated that WCA and ditch work continue to occupy his time. He has also been making a few site visits for landowner consults.

Adam Arndt stated that he also has been occupied with ditches requiring maintenance. In addition he has been working on his recertification for engineering practices.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made by Wolfe, 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

November Bills

<b>Cedardale Development Co.</b>	<b>November Rent</b>		<b>\$716.40</b>
<b>Jaguar</b>	<b>November Internet</b>		<b>\$54.95</b>
<b>Schlatters</b>	<b>Tile Probes &amp; Tips</b>		<b>\$287.64</b>
<b>Truax</b>	<b>Drill Parts</b>		<b>\$170.21</b>
<b>MN Dept. of Ag</b>	<b>Tree Dealers License</b>		<b>\$350.00</b>
<b>Elan</b>	<b>Postage</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>	
	<b>Budget Training</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	
	<b>Gas</b>	<b>\$67.89</b>	
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>\$88.21</b>	<b>\$239.10</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,818.30</b>