

MINUTES

KALKASKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING January 17, 2023

406 S Cedar St., Suite A, Kalkaska MI, 49646

The meeting was called to order by Chair Moses at 5:00 p.m.
A quorum was present.

Attending Directors and Staff:

Olivia Cotton, Director
Dawn Moses, Chair
Dennis Iott, Director
Carol Hart, Secretary/Treasurer
Monica Caster, District Conservationist – USDA/NRCS
Mark Randolph, District Manager
Renee Penny, Conservation Specialist

Also in attendance: Mark Gilson, Anna Hall

Not in attendance:

Sam Fahl, Director	Robert Baldwin, commissioner liaison
Larry Czelusta, FAP Forester	Jodi Dehate, MAEAP Technician
Jim Pawlowicz, MDARD	

Public Comment: Carol Hart introduced Anna Hall, Antrim County's Parks director.

Compliments: Mr. Gilson to Ms. Penny for the great new paint job at the office. Ms. Moses to Ms. Penny for sending cards to KFM vendors. Ms. Moses to Friends of KCD for their assistance painting the office. Mr. Randolph to Ms. Moses for her time spent on KCD business between meetings.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: none

Approval of Minutes: Board approved the December 20, 2022 minutes as presented. Motion by Iott, supported by Hart. Passed.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills: Motion by Hart, supported by Iott to accept the Treasurers Report for December, 2022 and to authorize payment of bills for January, 2023, in the amount of \$1,255.94 and credit card payments of \$1,184.52. Motion passed.

Staff Reports:

CAKE: Mr. Randolph reported that CAKE is developing marketing materials to support asking Conservation Districts, Counties, and townships to defer costs of delivering services.
Ms. Caster reported on her upcoming 1/27/23 deadline. She is continuing office hours in Kalkaska each month. Ms. Caster shared a draft letter requesting NRCS support of seasonal high tunnels.
Mr. Czelusta submitted a written report of accomplishments through December.
Ms. Dehate submitted a written report of accomplishments through December.
Mr. Pawlowicz – written report was not in board pack; emailed 1/18/23
Ms. Penny submitted a written report of activities in December and January.
Mr. Randolph updated the board on planned cooperation with Trout Unlimited, MDNR, MDEQ and UMRA on Manistee River projects for the coming field season.

Commissioner Update: Mr. Baldwin is recovering from bronchitis. Mr. Randolph shared that the Spicer Group would report on its Rugg Pond engineering study on January 26.

Cost Share Update: No activity. Manager will convene ad hoc committee to make recommendations for 2023 program.

Farmers Market: Ms. Penny

Friends of Conservation Update: Mr. Gilson informed the board the friends group has been quiet besides helping paint the office.

Grants Report: 2023 State Operating Grant reporting up-to-date; will require organizational planning during the coming months.

MACD Update: Ms. Moses is now the District 3 representative and is active on two committees. MACD legislative day is May 18. Board members encouraged to attend.

Business: Camp Grayling expansion ad hoc committee reported neither support nor opposition to the proposal, but have concerns and desire more information. Manager will invite Tom Barnes to upcoming KCD meeting for more perspective. Audit will continue on January 26 with Dale Stanton at the office to go over paper files. 2023 State Operating Grant will require organizational planning during the coming months.

Natural River Applications: none

Correspondence: none.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Mark Randolph, Recorder