

MINUTES

KALKASKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING June 19, 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:

Dawn Moses, Chair
Carol Hart, Secretary/Treasurer
Dennis Iott, Director
Robert Baldwin, commissioner liaison
Mark Randolph, District Manager

Also in attendance: Mark and Linda Gilson

Not in attendance:

Olivia Cotton, Director
Sam Fahl, Director
Renee Penny, Conservation Specialist
Jim Pawlowicz, MDARD
Monica Caster, District Conservationist – USDA/NRCS
Larry Czelusta, FAP Forester
Sarah Schroeder, Community Outreach Specialist

Public Comment: none

Compliments: Mr. Randolph to Mr. Baldwin for his reliable and involved attendance at Rugg Pond and KCD meetings; Mr. Randolph to Ms. Moses for the extra time between meetings she dedicates to KCD and MACD; Ms. Hart to Katie Gray of CAKE for her amazing job presenting invasive species info to the garden club. Later in the meeting Mr. Baldwin to Mr. Randolph for his work with Rugg Pond and the county.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: none

Approval of Minutes: Board approved the May 15, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills: The board reviewed YTD budget to actual figures in preparation for the 2024 budget. Motion by Iott, supported by Hart to accept the Treasurers Report for May, 2023, and to authorize payment of bills for May, 2023, in the amount of \$2,640.71 and credit card payments of \$1,799.10 and KFM bills of \$431.98 and KFM credit card payment of \$242.86. Motion carried.

Commissioner Update: Mr. Baldwin reported that the Rugg Pond Natural Area Steering Committee was seeking approval from the commissioners to contract for two conceptual drawings for the two possible visions for Rugg Pond; that the county website is being improved and KCD should have a page on it; and that the county is soliciting bids to perform the repairs to the Kaliseum.

Business: The board discussed pros and cons of becoming the soil erosion permitting agent for the county. Mr. Randolph shared that Antrim CD may be looking for another CAKE partner to be the formal grantee for CAKE grants. The board was in general agreement that CAKE fulfills an important part of our mission. The board reviewed, modified, and approved the final draft of its 5-year plan.

Conservation Grants: The board reviewed Grant applications for a wildflower planting on the upper Manistee river (Cheney) and replanting after a red pine harvest (Nelson). Motion to approve the grants and authorize payment of the grants totaling 4,088.00 by Hart, supported by Iott. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Mr. Czelusta provided a written report.

Ms. Schroeder provided a written report including pictures of her work with the RCE school garden.

Farmers Market: Is up and running well. Slow start to vegetables this season. More craft vendors than in prior years so far.

Friends of Conservation Update: Friends are researching and organizing an electronics recycling event. There are several models of how a collection can be done. Will speak with EGLE soon.

Grants Report: State quarterly grant report due 7/7; KCD will assist DDA in another streetscape tree planting effort with that grant due to be submitted by August.

MACD Update: MACD activities like Stewardship week, Capitol day, the summer conference and quarterly state council meetings pile up in May and June. Dawn is assisting MACD on their policy and finance committees. There is renewed interest at the council level for Envirothon. KCD received two requests for nominations to the MACD vice president position. Motion by Hart to nominate Rivka Hodgekinson for MACD VP. Supported by Iott. Motion carried.

Natural River Applications: none for June.

Correspondence: none.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Mark Randolph, Recorder