

MINUTES

KALKASKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING July 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
Sam Fahl, Director
Dawn Moses, Chair
Carol Hart, Secretary/Treasurer
Dennis Iott, Director
Robert Baldwin, commissioner liaison
Monica Caster, District Conservationist – USDA/NRCS
Mark Randolph, District Manager
Renee Penny, Conservation Specialist
Sarah Schroeder, Community Outreach Specialist

Also in attendance: Mark Gilson and Danielle Fahl

Not in attendance:

Jim Pawlowicz, MDARD
Larry Czelusta, FAP Forester

Public Comment: none

Compliments: Mr. Randolph to Mr. Gilson, Ms. Penny, Ms. Schroeder, Cam Penny, Liza and Connor from the Lewis School for their hard, hard work at the tire recycling event; Mr. Randolph to Mr. Fahl for loaning us the skid steer for use with the tire recycling. Mr. Baldwin to Ms. Penny for making the Farmers Market a bustling success.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: Mr. Fahl informed the board that his firm arranged for the planting of red pine seedlings on the Nelson red pine planting.

Approval of Minutes: Board approved the June 19, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills: Motion by Iott, supported by Hart to accept the Treasurers Report for June, 2023, and to authorize payment of bills for July, 2023, in the amount of \$1,625.91 and credit card payments of \$307.11 and KFM credit card in the amount of \$36.96; Motion carried.

Commissioner Update: Mr. Baldwin reported that the board of commissioners did not approve new Rugg Pond conceptual drawing proposal last month due to an accounting issue which has been resolved; he expects the board of commissioners to approve the contract at its next meeting on July 26. The commissioners are seeking upgrades to Log Lake facilities.

Business: The board discussed a proposed budget with changes in format and scope relative to the current budget. A new draft will be presented and discussed at the August meeting.

Conservation Grants: The manager will cut checks for the two approved projects upon receipt of proper documentation.

Staff Reports:

Mr. Czelusta provided a written report.

Ms. Schroeder provided a written report including pictures of her work with school groups, community events, and her recent training at the DNR Natural Resources Academy.

Farmers Market: Ms. Penny informed the board that a disgruntled potential vendor accosted her while setting up the market on July 11. She gave the manager and chair a narrative of the verbal exchange. Mr. Randolph supported Ms. Penny's measured response and pointed out not everyone will agree with the published rules of the market regarding locally produced foods and products.

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 meet Thursday, July 19.

Grants Report: no new news.

MACD Update: MACD newsletter included KCD's Forest Owner workshop scheduled for August.

Natural River Applications: Mr. Randolph gave an overview of two applications to be considered on July 26th and expressed the value of institutional memory from serving on the NRZ board over a decade. Motion by Iott, supported by Hart, to appoint Renee Penny as the alternate member to represent the conservation district on the Natural Rivers Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried.

Correspondence: none.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Mark Randolph, Recorder