

MINUTES

KALKASKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING December 20, 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
Olivia Cotton, Director
Carol Hart, Secretary/Treasurer
Mark Randolph, District Manager
Renee Penny, Conservation Specialist

Also in attendance: Mark Gilson.

Not in attendance:

Sam Fahl, Director
Dennis Iott, Director
Sarah Schroeder, Community Outreach Specialist
Robert Baldwin, commissioner liaison
Monica Caster, District Conservationist – USDA/NRCS
Larry Czelusta, FAP Forester
Jim Pawlowicz, MDARD
Lucas Santore, MAEAP Technician

Public Comment: none

Compliments: Mr. Randolph to Mr. Gilson for his dedication to Friends of Conservation and his consistency in attending meetings and lending a hand whenever needed. Ms. Moses to Ms. Cotton for attending the MACD conference to learn more about conservation districts and their functioning. Mr. Gilson to Ms. Penny and Ms. Schroeder for an outstanding KFM season. Ms. Hart to CDEM for providing health insurance for CD employees.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: none

Approval of Minutes: Board approved the November 16, 2023 regular meeting minutes as corrected. Motion by Hart, supported by Cotton. Passed.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills: Motion by Hart, supported by Cotton to accept the Treasurers Report for November, 2023, and to authorize payment of bills for December, 2023, in the

amount of \$885.96, credit card payment of \$875.28; and KFM bills \$212.50 plus the KFM credit card in the amount of \$89.79; Motion carried.

Commissioner Update: Mr. Baldwin was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Randolph reported the the Rugg Pond committee is working to accelerate the pace of bringing management options to the board of commissioners.

Business: The board reviewed proposed amendments to the current year work plan and the current 5 year business plan. Motion to approve and adopt the amended 5-year plan by Cotton, supported by Hart. Motion passed. Motion to approve amended 2024 work plan by Hart, supported by Cotton. Motion passed. The board reviewed the Kalkaska County Commissioners proposed draft resolution authorizing the County Conservation District millage renewal and certifying ballot language. Motion by Hart, supported by Cotton, to approve the draft resolution for the commissioners' consideration. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Mr. Czelusta provided a written report.

Mr. Pawlowicz provided a written report for November.

Mr. Santure provided a written report of his very busy first weeks.

Ms. Penny provided a preview of coming events.

Farmers Market: 2023 season ended yesterday (12/19). A very successful year by all accounts. Ms Penny will survey vendors to solicit suggestions for improvement.

Friends of Conservation Update: Friends are identifying fundraising options; Stephanie Wiley elected secretary.

Grants Report: The manager reported that the FY24 State operations grant has been executed and is underway.

MACD Update: Ms. Moses presented a written report of actions taken at the State Council meeting held in conjunction with the MACD conference. Adrienne Wolff with ACD agreed to be vice chair for Region 3.

Natural River Applications: none

Correspondence: none

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Mark Randolph, Recorder