

MINUTES FROM THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 8, 2024 4:00 PM

SCD Office - 100 N. Cedar St, Manistique, MI

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call** The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM by chairperson Anthony Wright (AW). Other board members present were; Tom White (TW), Brad Hayes (BH), and Marvin Evink (ME). Appointed - but not yet sworn in - board member Susan King (SK) was also present. Also present were; Rachael Guth (RG) attending virtually, NRCS District Conservationist Mike Van Wyk (MVW), County Commissioner Troy Bassett (TB), SCD District Manager Ashley Reitter (AR), SCD Conservation Technician Bruce Birr (BB), and SCD CAC Sara Solberg (SS). Members of the public Michelle Guzzetta and Linda Thomasma was also present.
2. **Approve Oath of Office** Motion made by TW to accept the Oath of Office for Susan King, second by ME. Motion carried.
3. **Agenda approval** Motion made by ME, second by BH to approve agenda. Motion carried.
4. **Approve minutes of March 11, 2024 board meeting** Motion made by TW, second by BH to approve March 11, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried
5. **Approve Treasurer's Report** Motion made by TW, second by BH to approve the treasurer's report. TW asked AR if she thought the millage amount will reach the forecasted total for FY24. AR said there are still some payments to come, so we will have to wait and make adjustments as needed. Motion carried.
6. **Public Comment** Linda Thomasma and Michelle Guzzetta introduced themselves to the board.
7. **Reports**
 - A. **Partner Reports**
 - MDARD- printed report attached** RG highlighted the FY23 Ops Grant summary that was in her report and the growth from FY22 across Districts.
 - NRCS- printed report attached** MVW shared that EQIP is in the funding phase right now with funding announcements to come.
 - FAP- vacant**
 - B. **Administrative Reports**
 - District Manager**— see attached spreadsheet
 - Conservation Technician** —see attached report BB mentioned SESC ads had started to run and permits have started to come in.
 - Communications Coordinator**- SS gave an update on the seed library, the quarterly newsletter and other upcoming outreach events.
 - C. **Subcommittee Reports**-
 - Business Plan/Long Range Plan** - none
 - Education and Outreach** - none

Personnel – none

SESC – none

8. New business

A. FY25 MDARD Budget Recommendations The board discussed next steps.

B. MACD Summer Conference/Capital Day AR discussed attendance by board members and staff.

C. FAP Vacancy

D. 2024 Community Conservation Grants TW made a motion to approve and fund all five Community Conservation Grant applications, second by SK. Motion carried.

E. 2024 Scholarships

i) College – TW made a motion to approve the college scholarships for Joel Gillespie and Jackson Harrison, second by BH. Motion carried.

ii) Summer Camps – TW made a motion to award the summer camp scholarships to the applicants so far; Jersie and Macie Marcella, second by BH. Motion carried.

F. Annual Meeting AR asked for feedback on the proposed annual meeting location of Flatiron Brewing, and to lock in the date of August 15th.

G. Tree Sale Board Member Involvement AW discussed board members helping with tree sale volunteering. AR said they can sign up for times at the end of the meeting.

9. Old Business - none

10. Director Comments- BH shared some highlights and education from the UP-Beekeeping conference. BH also asked if SS could develop some educational materials about Japanese Beetles as they have started to become a problem in our area.

11. Compliments – AR thanked BH for attending and helping with the Pruning workshop and ME for attending the Planning Your Garden workshop. AW thanked AR for attending the EUPCAC meeting in Manistique.

12. Public comment – TB shared an update on their DHIPI project that was funded and thanked SCD for the support.

13. Adjourn- Next regular meeting: Monday, May 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM at the SCD office.

Motion by TW, second by BH to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.