



MINUTES

Montcalm Conservation District Board Meeting
USDA Service Center
77 S. State St., Stanton, MI 48888
February 13, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Welder at 8:30 a.m.
 - I. **Directors Present:** Welder, Mark, Noll, Wyckoff
 - II. **Absent:** Sabin
 - III. **Staff Present:** Hayes, Silveus, Snow, MAEAP – Cody Christensen
 - IV. **Other:** Assoc. Director J. Johansen, Assoc. Director S. Aagaard, Owens, MDARD – Jack Knorek, Chris Johnson - public
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Public Comment:** Introduction of Cody Christensen, the new MAEAP technician. Cody stated he began in crop insurance and looks forward to being able to be out in the field and meet with farmers. Introduction of board and staff members.
- IV. **Recognition of Guest(s):** N/A
- V. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Wyckoff to approve with changes made to say Director Noll, seconded by Noll. Ayes: All. Motion carried.
- VI. **Approval of Consent Items:**
 - **Minutes of January 9, 2024 Meeting**
 - **Staff/Agency Reports**
 - **District Manager**
 - **FAP Forester - Vacant**
 - **Conservation Program Technician**
 - **Resource Recovery / Conservation Program Technician**
 - **MAEAP**
 - **NRCS**
 - **Produce Safety Technician**
 - **MDARD**

Motion by Mark to approve consent items as presented, seconded by Wyckoff. Ayes: All. Motion carried.
- VII. **Approval of Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Mark to approve Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Noll. Ayes: All. Motion carried.
- VIII. **Correspondence:** Letter from EGLE detailing a dredge line. Wyckoff noted he thinks that shoreline revision is unnecessary. Motion by Noll to write a letter to submit as comment to EGLE describing the board's opposition, seconded by Wyckoff. Ayes: All. Motion carried.
- IX. **Officer Reports:**
 - Chairman:** Welder stated he is happy to be here and noted his appreciation for board members that have served longer.
 - Vice Chairman:** N/A
 - Treasurer:** N/A
- X. **Reports:**

MINUTES

Montcalm Conservation District Board Meeting

USDA Service Center

77 S. State St., Stanton, MI 48888

February 13, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

Director Wyckoff: Wyckoff thanked Chris Mark and Bruce for attending the annual Ducks Unlimited Banquet and he extended a thank you to the community as well. Wyckoff noted a Kayak-A-Thon planned by Hayes to raise money and awareness for the Flat River Watershed Council. Wyckoff stated he was contacted by NRCS for CSP and thinks it is a great program and he hopes to be selected.

Director Noll: N/A

Assoc. Director Aagaard: Aagaard said she attended a Stewardship Network conference. She stated WMCN events are being set up, with presentations occurring later this year. She also noted that the FFA Agriscience career center students won first place at regionals and are on their way to state competition.

Assoc. Director Johansen: Stated he and Jeff are available for tree sales.

MDARD – Jack Knorek: Knorek highlighted that it is currently grant proposal season.

Friends of Montcalm Conservation District: N/A

NRCS: Owens noted that NRCS is moving forward with a lot of programs. He also announced that he has taken a position with EGLE and his last day is Friday 2/16.

XI. Old Business:

Review Planning Calendar: Snow stated we are on course. Recycling presentations are coming up on February 21 and March 5 and a native plants presentation on February 28. She stated the audit will occur a week from this Friday. Snow is also hopeful for a forester.

Forest Maintenance/Projects: Noll said we should start planning April forest maintenance, such as vinyl siding on the shelter and well project.

Spring Tree Sale: Snow said the sale will be held April 19.

XII. New Business:

Annual Meeting: Snow mentioned she would like to give Amanda Sturm's class \$200 as a thank you for creating centerpieces. Motion by Wyckoff to present class with \$200 check, seconded by Mark. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

XIII. Public Comment: Johnson stated that volunteering with the strike team is a great opportunity. He noted wetland restoration efforts with Ducks Unlimited and said they should collaborate with NRCS on land programs. He also stated that we should work to enhance partnerships and promote each other's programs. Johnson also noted that he is willing to help with model forest projects and provide tractors and tools.

XIV. Meeting recessed by Welder at 9:16 a.m. to enter Closed Session.

XV. Closed session adjourned by Welder at 9:46 a.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

XVI. Adjournment: Chairman Welder declared meeting adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

MCD _____

Date _____

3-12-24