

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Alger Conservation District Board

Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 at 5:00 pm

MSU Research and Extension Center, Chatham, MI

The regular meeting of ACD was held on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by Vice-Chairman Bunce. Board members present at roll call: Rowan Bunce, Hans Eriksen. Liz Wiener, James DeDecker. Board members absent: John Highlen. Staff present: Matt Watkeys, Misa Cady, Sara Kelso. Staff absent: Christy Foye (excused), Kelly Sippl, Elise Desjarlais, Landen Tetil, MAEAP Tech.

Guests: Rachael Guth (MDARD)

Public comment: None

Correspondence: Watkeys passed around correspondence.

Approve agenda: Motion to approve agenda as presented by Wiener, seconded by Eriksen; MCUC

Motion to approve minutes of the August 9th, 2022, regular meeting by Eriksen, seconded by Wiener; MCUC

FY2023 Budget Hearing: Hearing opened at 5:05 pm.

Public comment for budget: None

Board action to adopt proposed Budget and Appropriations Act: Moved by DeDecker, seconded by Wiener;

Roll call vote: Highlen: Absent

Bunce: Aye

Wiener: Aye

DeDecker: Aye

Eriksen: Aye

Hearing closed at 5:26 pm

STAFF REPORTS: Written reports reviewed by board.

- a. NRCS DC: Report received. Cady presented additional information
- b. NRCS SC: Report received.
- c. FAP FORESTER: Report received. Kelso presented additional information
- d. DM: Report received.
- e. CONSERVATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Report received.
- f. MDARD: Written report received, and Guth presented additional information.
- g. PRODUCE SAFETY: Report received.
- h. L2L CISMA: Report received.
- i. MAEAP: No report received.

MEETING REPORTS: Watkeys discussed Au Train Lake Project landowner meeting, and City Commission Meeting attended to present Lyme Parcel purchase to Munising City Commissioners

Old Business:

- a. MISG CORE: Watkeys reported that the field work is completed and there is a bit of funds left to utilize over the winter for reporting time, database entry and grant wrap up.
- b. MISG KNOTWEED: In progress. Manual treatments are continuing and fall chemical treatment is starting
- c. SOGL 2019: Making progress wrapping up this grant.
- d. NEW GRANTS & FUNDING UPDATES: URBAN AG, UP SUSTAINABLE FOREST AND WILDLIFE FUND, DHIPI: DHIPI Grant is wrapping up, trail work is completed and signs went up in the last week.

Continuing work on the UP SF&WF Grant at the Chatham parcel. Gravel was delivered for a small parking area and the wildflowers were planted during the last volunteer workshop.

New Business:

- a. APPROVE EQIP PLANS – SIPPL: Tabled
- b. APPROVE LIMESTONE TOWNSHIP CONTRACT FOR SERVICES: Adopted by Limestone Township to continue invasive species control of wild parsnip. Tabled for Highlen’s signature
- c. MACD DUES INVOICE DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL: Board discussed paying dues for Silver Level at \$700, with the MDARD Advocacy Donation of \$300. Tabled for input from Highlen.
- d. WATKEYS EMPLOYEE EVALUATION AND SUMMARY: Evaluation was positive and appreciative of Watkeys performance and employment to date.
- e. AMERICORPS VISTA TEAM MEMBER FOR 1 YEAR TERM, APPROVED BY AMERICORPS ALREADY: Barring any unforeseen circumstances or unanticipated answers to the few last questions, the Board would like to move forward with the acceptance of a VISTA Team member for a 1 year term. Motion made by Wiener, seconded by Eriksen; MCUC
- f. FALL MICORPS STREAM MONITORING: Watkeys presented the tentative plan and schedule for monitoring of road stream crossings. AmeriCorps Member will be tasked initially with researching new sites for next spring.
- g. FY23 MDARD OPERATIONS GRANTS: Watkeys presented draft grant language received from MDARD for Board to review for next month

ACCEPT TREASURY REPORT/PAY BILLS: Motion to accept treasury report made by Wiener, seconded by DeDecker; MCUC


PUBLIC COMMENT: Wiener mentioned job opening for MSU Extension Educator in Munising or Escanaba, and Harvest Fest Scheduled for October 8th at the MSU UPREC Farm.

Motion made by Wiener; seconded by Eriksen to adjourn at 6:49 pm; MCUC.

Submitted by Matt Watkeys, District Manager

These Minutes are subject to approval until signed below.

APPROVED: _____


John Highlen, Chairman

OR

James Dedecker, Secretary

Date: _____

10/13/22