

MINUTES
For the special meeting of the Alger Conservation District Board
Monday, July 28th, 2025, 5:00 pm

Call to order: Chairman Bunce called the meeting to order at 5:01pm

Board members present: Rowan Bunce, Hillary Ludecke, James DeDecker, Charlie Todd and Hans Eriksen

Board members absent: Associate board members absent: Barb Isom

Staff present: Alex Kolton and Eryn Grupido

Staff absent: Sara Kelso, Misa Cady, Landen Tetil, Elise Desjarlais and Holly Wendrick-Moss

Guests: None

Public comment: Kolton reported news from EGLE that there is no longer scrap tire recycling available locally at a reasonable cost, so grant reimbursement rates are no longer matching costs. ACD is therefore going to cancel the second of two planned tire collections under our current EGLE grant, leading to a \$1,735 net loss from the first collection and project overall.

Approve agenda: Motion by Ludecke, seconded by Todd, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business

- a. **Approval of New Staff Hire:** Bunce reported that the Junior District Coordinator hiring committee extended interview invites to four candidates and interviewed two candidates. The committee is recommending Candidate 1 for hire based on her past experience with ACD as a summer technician, relevant education, and apparent passion for the work. Candidate 2 seemed qualified, but less interested in field work. Of the other two candidates offered interviews, one withdrew voluntarily, and another could not identify a good interview date/time. Eriksen suggested conducting a background check on the new hire with support from DeDecker. Motion by DeDecker, seconded by Eriksen, to offer the Junior District Coordinator position to Candidate 1 pending a successful background check. All in favor; motion carried.
- b. **Approval of Michigan Association of Conservation Districts as Fiscal Sponsor for Stanley Smith Foundation, Chatham Community Garden grant for FY 2026:** Kolton presented a letter from MACD expressing their willingness to be the fiscal sponsor of ACD's recent proposal to the Stanley Smith Foundation. Motion by Todd, seconded by DeDecker, to approve the MACD commitment letter. All in favor; motion carried.
- c. **Increase the technology budget by \$1600 for a new computer and equipment for a new staffer:** Kolton requested a budget amendment to provide a new computer and other equipment to the new Junior DC. Motion by Eriksen, seconded by Ludecke, to increase the technology budget by \$1,600 to fund a computer for the Jr. DC. All in favor; motion carried.

Public comment: None

Adjourn: Motion by Ludecke, seconded by DeDecker, to adjourn at 5:29pm. All in favor; motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: August 12th, 2025

APPROVED: un

DATE: 08/12/2025

Rowan Bunce, Chairperson or Hilary Lucdecke, Vice Chairperson

REVISED