

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Alger Conservation District Board

Tuesday, October 11th, 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 Chairman Highlen. Board members present at roll call: John Highlen, Rowan Bunce, Hans Eriksen, James DeDecker. Board members absent: Liz Wiener. Staff present: Matt Watkeys, Misa Cady, Kelly Sippl, Christy Foye. Staff absent: Sara Kelso, Elise Desjarlais, Landen Tetil, MAEAP Tech.

Guests: Rachael Guth (MDARD)

Public comment: None

Correspondence: Watkeys passed around correspondence.

Approve agenda: Motion to approve agenda, with the addition of section g.) NACD dues by Bunce, seconded by DeDecker; MCUC

Motion to approve minutes of the September 13th, 2022, regular meeting by Bunce, seconded by Eriksen; MCUC

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.
- d. DM: Report received.
- e. CONSERVATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Report received.
- f. MDARD: Report received.
- g. PRODUCE SAFETY: Report received.
- h. L2L CISMA: Report received.
- i. MAEAP: No report received.

MEETING REPORTS: Watkeys highlighted the MACD Region 2 meeting.

Old Business:

- a. MISG CORE: Watkeys turned in reporting. Most of the money is spent down with a little left for admin work. L2L CISMA applied for next years funding for similar work for ACD and if granted, ACD will receive another subaward.
- b. MISG KNOTWEED: Field crew completed treatment for this season. Watkeys will apply for an extension as the grant deliverables will not be able to be completed before the April 2023 deadline.
- c. SOGL 2019: Watkeys will wrap up reporting and submit a reimbursement request. Any money left will be used for admin.
- d. NEW GRANTS & FUNDING UPDATES: URBAN AG, UP SUSTAINABLE FOREST AND WILDLIFE FUND, DHIPI: Urban Ag is nearly done. UP Sustainable Forest is also almost done with about \$885 remaining which will cover a \$600 vendor bill. DHIPI is accepted and closed and Watkeys is awaiting payment. Watkeys had more Au Train Lake site visits for the FHG in October. So far there are 30 fish sticks and 30 brush bundles proposed for the project.

New Business:

- a. AGRIPALOOZA RECAP: An overall successful event.
- b. APPROVE EQUIP AND CSP PLANS (SIPPL): Sippl passed around contracts for the board to review and sign.
- c. ACD CURRENT GRANTS, PROGRAMS, & CONTRACTS SPREADSHEET: Watkeys passed out an updated grants spreadsheet to the board and went over the status of all current ACD grants.

- d. FY23 MDARD OPERATIONS GRANT: Need audit engagement letter. Should have it by October 15th.
- e. FY23 WORK AGREEMENT – MATT WATKEYS: The board discussed Watkeys work agreement and some changes to verbiage on vacation hours and grievance procedure. A review of personnel policy including maternity/paternity leave was recommended. Will revisit next month.
- f. FY23 WORK AGREEMENT – CHRISTY FOYE: The board discussed Foye’s work agreement. Will revisit next month.
- g. NACD DUES: Board discussed the benefits of paying annual dues. Highlen suggested paying \$100. Motion made by Bunce to pay \$100 to NACD; Eriksen seconded.


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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Board revisited MACD dues discussion from last month’s meeting. Motion made to pay MACD dues for Silver Level at \$700, with the MDARD Advocacy Donation of \$300 by Bunce; seconded by Eriksen.

Motion made by Bunce; seconded by Eriksen to adjourn at 6:34pm; MCUC.

Submitted by Matt Watkeys, District Manager

These Minutes are subject to approval until signed below.

APPROVED:  _____ Date: 11/8/22
John Highlen, Chairman OR James Dedecker, Secretary