



St. Joseph County Conservation District  
693 E. Main Street  
Centreville, MI 49032  
(269) 467-6336 x5

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## Board Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2026

6:02 pm Call to Order by Chad Clark

### **Directors Present:**

Chad Clark, Board chair

Todd Hironimus

Carol Higgins, Member

### **Director Absent**

Mike Sherman, Member

Dan Blasius

### **Associate Board Members:**

Howard Avildsen

### **Staff Present:**

Carolyn Grace

Mike Censke

### **Introductions / Visitors:**

None

**Additions / Deletions to Agenda:** one addition to new business which prompted Higgins motion to accept the board agenda with that addition. Hironimus second. Motion passed

### **Approval of Board Minutes:**

Higgins moved to approve the board minutes from Annual Meeting and Election, Hironimus second. Motion passed

**Treasurer Report:** Hironimus explained he looked over the financials and felt we are in good shape for the first quarter of FY26. Hironimus motioned to place on file February and March Higgins second motion approved.

### **Correspondence Reports:**

**Administrator:** Grace explained the approval and denial of the 4 outstanding grants. Also that there are still two other grants the office is waiting to hear about.

**CISMA:** written

**CTAI:** written

**MDARD:** Knorek spoke about his report and will send the Board the copy tomorrow.

**CTAP:** Censke spoke about his busy schedule and verifications in Cass as well as in St. Joseph. Also Mike spoke about the verification of a Yak Farm in Cass county at the Sugar Row Maple Syrup Farm.

Discussion about the farm and verification was had. July 6<sup>th</sup> week will be the week we hold our CTAP Farm Field Day.

**Board:** Higgins reminded Grace about Macroinvertebrates demonstration for May 9<sup>th</sup> in Mendon. The ERB foundation sponsored NACD conference will be held in July in Grand Rapids. Finally, the MACD Conference will be held in Lansing in October.

**Region 8 meeting:** Kalamazoo will be holding the summer region 8 meeting this year

**Old Business:**

- **Conflict of Interest**
- **Tree Sale Volunteers:** Grace asked board members to volunteer of find a few new people to help out at the sale.

**New Business:**

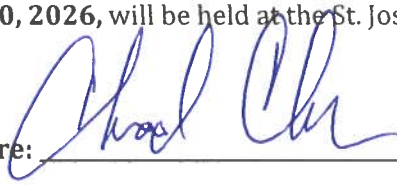
- **Stewardship week:** During the tree sale Higgins will be holding a fun activity and Grace purchased prizes to be given away.
- **Election of Board Officers:** Higgins motioned to keep the current officers in place for FY2026. This includes Chad Clark, chair Dan Blasius, vice chair, Todd Hironimus, treasurer. Hironimus second the motion. Motion passed.
- **Board Discussion:** The board would like to draft a letter of resignation for Mike Sherman, an elected member of the board. He has not attended 10 board meetings in a row, and he has not stated why he has not attended. Blasius would be willing to write and take the letter to his home and ask Sherman to sign. They feel we need 5 active board members to accomplish the District missions. Knorek stated that we must have a written letter from Sherman to move forward with appointing a new board member to finish out the term.

**PA116:** none

**Adjournment:** at 7:24pm Hironimus made a motion to adjourn and Higgins second. Motion passed

**Next Meeting:** May 20, 2026, will be held at the St. Joseph County Conservation District Offices at 6:00pm.

**Board Chair Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Date:** 6-17-26