



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

Board of Directors Minutes for March 17, 2021

6:08 pm official start by Carol Higgins *Howard Avildsen*

**Directors Present:**

Howard Avildsen, Chair  
Dan Blasius, Vice Chair  
Carol Higgins  
John Nelson, via zoom White Pigeon Mi

**Directors Absent**

Chad Clark

**Introductions/Visitors:** Dan Czajkowski, Jared Harmon

**Additions or Deletions to agenda:**

Added PA116 for Janice Kindig of Flowerfield Township

**Approval of Minutes:** Higgins motioned to accept February minutes. Blasius supported. Motion passed.

**Treasurer Report:** Blasius made a motion to place February financials on file. Higgins supported. Motion passed.

**Correspondence Reports:**

- **NRCS:** none
- **MEAEP:** written
- **CTAI:** submitted by Ashley Ives.
- **CTAI:** spoken. Jared Harmon explained his board report. He has seen exciting growth in all the districts he works with. Would like to work more with MEAEP.
- **Admin report:** written
- **CISMA:** written
- **Director Board:** Avildsen was going to attend a breakfast with Steve Carra, our new representative. Higgins attended the MACD board meeting as region 8 representative. She shared the June 7-8 Virtual MACD conference date, and she was very impressed with Dan Moliene as the new President of the MACD. He hopes to have base funding for the Districts. Also, the board will choose a date to come to office and pick up trash around the building and grass areas.  
Blasius reported that Black gold will provide chips for

**Unfinished Business**

- **Conflict of interest**
- **Tree Sale:** May 7-8<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds at the usual building. Pick up trees and wrapping begins May 3

- **Annual Meeting and election:** We will hold the meeting at the covered bridge park. Election will go on but no presentation until further notice. Higgins would like Grace to look into having the guest speakers during the fair.
- **Grants:** In Jan and Feb 3 grants were turned into the Federal or state level. The Great Lake Grant was denied. They stated that many proposals were turned in. Grace will try again next year. The River Clean up and the Macroinvertebrate grant were also turned in and Grace should hear in April if they are accepted or not.

### **New Business:**

- **Vision statement:** To live in a community where the citizens protect and preserve the environment in which they live. Higgins motioned to accept the vision statement; Blasius second Motion carried. The board will be pleased to know that they were the first of any District to submit their vision statement.
- **MACD Business Management Review:** The board completed this assignment and Grace will turn it in with the other completed Management plan in September.
- **Audit:** A completed audit book is available to the public as well as any board member.

**PA116: Janice Kindig:** Higgins motioned to accept the PA116, Blasius second. Motion Passes.

**Adjournment:** Blasius motioned to adjourn at 8:14 pm, Higgins second motion passed.

**Next Meeting:** April 17, at the Covered Bridge Farm Park at 6:00pm.

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

