

**MINUTES FROM THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING Monday,
November 13, 2023 4:00 PM SCD Office - 100 N. Cedar St, Manistique, MI**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM by chairperson Anthony Wright (AW). Others present were board members; Tom White (TW), Brad Hayes (BH), Kipp Beaudoin (KB) and Marvin Evink (ME). Also present were; Mike Van Wyk (MVW) of NRCS, Lyndsey Robinson (LR) FAP forester (attending virtually), County Commissioner Troy Bassett (TB), SCD District Manager Ashley Reitter (AR), SCD CAC Sara Solberg (SS), and SCD Conservation Technician Bruce Birr (BB).

2. Agenda approval Motion made by TW, second by ME to approve agenda. Motion carried.

3. Approve minutes of October 16, 2023 board meeting Motion made by BH, second by TW to approve October 16, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried

4. Approve Treasurer's Report Motion made by TW, second by ME to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

5. Reports

A. Partner Reports

MDARD- printed report attached

NRCS- printed report attached MVW mentioned that the EQIP deadline is this coming Friday, November 17th. Currently there are 9 applications from Schoolcraft County out of 50 total. CSP does not have a deadline set for 2024 funding yet, so far 12 applications have come in from Schoolcraft County.

FAP- printed report attached LR and AR shared the updates from the October FAP Advisory Meeting, and goals for FY24 for the FAP program. LR said that there had been 4 Schoolcraft County site visits in October.

B. Administrative Reports

District Manager– see attached spreadsheet AR detailed the completed October items: UCF grant application; all Q4 reporting for FY23 (state, federal, and grants); FY24 initial financials and budget entry; workshops: biodiversity field day, habitats workshop, scrap tire recycling, and Halloween hike; health insurance sign up and initial admin; WAM grant initial writing/planning.

Conservation Technician –BB reported that he is underway with inspecting and closing out permits for the year.

Communications Coordinator- see attached PPT SS detailed the public response to social media and outreach materials created. She also reported back on the UW grants writing class attended in October.

C. Subcommittee Reports

Business Plan/Long Range Plan

Education and Outreach

Personnel – FY24 first 6 months priority list. Not an official document, but is there to reference upcoming work

SESC

6. New business

A. NRCS High Tunnel LOS- Motion made by KB to have board chair sign and submit the LOS, BH second. Motion carried.

B. FAP MOU Update– Motion made by KB to approve the amended FAP MOU as presented, second by BH. Motion carried.

C. 2024 WAM Grant - Motion made by BH to approve and allow AR to submit the 2024 Wildflower Association of Michigan (WAM) grant application, second by ME. Motion carried.

D. 2024 Tree Sale April 26 and 27

7. Old Business

A. FY24 Priorities – Already discussed above. **Discussion of QFP resolution for MACD State Assembly instead** - TW made a motion to support the MACD resolution, but not co-sponsor it, second by KB. Motion carried.

8. Director Comments- AW made a motion to accept the resignation of Kipp Beaudoin from the board (see attached letter), ME second. Motion carried.

9. Compliments – AR shared that Bruce had celebrated 7 years with the District. She also shared a thank-you card from the HS Environmental Science class for their field day. AR passed on compliments from member of the public Rosemary Sablack for the hard work SCD is doing. She also shared that they had received very good feedback from the MI DNR about the UCF grant application and how well it was written.

10. Public comment – none

11. Adjourn- Next regular meeting: Monday, January 8, 2024 at 4:00 PM at the SCD office.

Motion by TW, second by BH to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 PM. Motion carried.