

Chippewa East Mackinac Conservation District

Board Meeting Minutes- February 7, 2011

Attendees: Orv Kabat, Tom Allan, Dusty King, Todd Insley, and Kent Dankenbring.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved on a motion from Allan and seconded by Kabat. The treasurer's report and payment of bills were approved on a motion by Kabat and second by Allan. Carried.

Kristina Denison has accepted the position of executive director. She will start March 20.

MAEAP technician interviews will be held Feb. 9. McDonald, J Pawlowicz and King will sit on the panel.

Natural Resources Conservation Service report was made by Dankenbring. Farm bill is 2% of entire budget and 65% of the bill is spent on food stamps and food programs.

Cooperative Weed Management Area Report was given by Insley. Insurance and liability for licensed pesticide applicators may be a concern here. King is to check this further with our agent.

Emerald Ash Borer SLAM project was made by Insley. There will be work at Moran by MTU next year. We should try to get that job subcontracted to us. Insley to attend EAB meeting in Lansing Feb 16.

Watershed report was made by King. Feb 17 will be Jerome's last day as Watershed Technician. He will continue to assist with Soil Erosion permits. Lotoszinski will assist with the Mascoma permit due to the complexity of the project .

RIP IT UP project- this grant is being increased to have Lotoszinski continue mapping invasive weed sites for the Upper Peninsula.

NACD report- McDonald. Approximately 1000 people attended. Our Senator Stabenow heads the Senate Ag Commission. Districts could have a big voice if they united on a common issue. One issue from the western states that may of interest to us is the issue of horse slaughter facilities.

Audit and Policies- tabled to next month.

Annie's Project is a 6 week program for women in agriculture. Put on by MSU Extension we are helping to sponsor it here in the EUP. Starts Feb 6.

Annual meeting recap- great night. Good attendance. Good food. King very appreciative of recognition given her years of service.

There is office space available from Rural Development in this building for \$121 per month. It is moved by Kabat and seconded by Allan that we rent this space. Carried.

Merger with Luce West Mackinac Conservation District. Next steps were discussed. Kabat will met with LaPointe. Board members should meet with the Luce County Commissioners. We will recommend to MDARD that the public meetings be held in conjunction with regular board meetings. One big issue is who will be appointed to the new board. A special meeting may need to be held to further discuss these points.

Meeting adjourned.