

Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District

Board Meeting Minutes- February 5th, 2013

Board Members Present: Orville Kabat, Tom Allan, Jane Bishop, Forbes McDonald

Absent: Tina Love

NRCS/District Staff Present: Kristina Denison, Michelle Jarvie, Nick Cassel, Patrick Blanzzy, Pat Carr, Kent Dankenbring

MDA Representatives: Absent

-- January minutes reviewed. Motion made by Kabat to accept, second by Bishop. Carried. Treasurers Report presented. Motion by Bishop to accept, support by Kabat. Carried.

Program Reports:

-- Farm Service Agency (FSA) Report – Kaye Vining. The milk program is up and going. September payments are being made. DCP is approved for crop based and extended with a February 19th sign-up. Hispanic/Women's claims period ends in March. Ranking for Grassland Reserve has been redone and switched from per acre to appraisal. No sign-up for CRP continuous until mid-March, there will be updated soil rental rates and perhaps a general sign-up, however most are already certified. Emergency Forest Restoration Program has 60 applications and currently working with DNR to move those forward.

-- Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Report – EQIP Sign-ups reached 60 at the cut-off date, almost half were forest management plan applications while the rest were for engineered practices, fencing and tree planting. Cut-off for application ranking is February 22nd.

-- Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Report – 63.3 percent of grant deliverables have been reached. Discussion on land succession and possibility of District hosting a workshop on how to transfer your property.

-- Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) Report – Interest in field visits remained steady and 8 were completed (more were scheduled but postponed due to weather). Newspaper articles continue to draw interest and workshops have added clients.

-- Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Report – Phragmites work is beginning though still waiting on contract from UPRCD. Will be submitting pre-proposal for Sustain Our Great Lakes grant to continue restoration efforts at the Cut River Bridge area where Garlic Mustard eradication attempts are ongoing.

Other Business:

- CTAI Engineer Position Interviews will be held February 12th. Denison and Kabat will represent District, Brian Hill will represent NRCS and Michelle Crook for MDA.
- District van was scrapped for \$300.00. Research into other options will continue.
- Annual Dinner Meeting was a success with over 100 people in attendance.
- NACD Annual Meeting in San Antonio was attended by Denison. Many great contacts were made and informational sessions attended.
- The Chippewa/East Mackinac FY12 Audit was reviewed. Motion by Kabat was made to accept the audit, support given by Allan. All in favor. Carried.

Kabat moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Bishop. Meeting Adjourned.