

Approved: Forbes McDonald

Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes - June 4th, 2013

Board Members Present: Forbes McDonald, Tina Love, Thomas Allan, Jane Bishop.

Absent: Orville Kabat

NRCS/District Staff Present: Kristina Denison, Patrick Blanzky, Mark Pittenger, Nick Cassel, Pat Carr.

Absent: Kent Dankenbring, Todd Insley.

MDARD Representative: Absent

The May regular meeting minutes, special meeting minutes, and treasurers reports were reviewed. Motion made by Bishop to accept, seconded by Allan, Carried.

Program Reports:

-- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report - Carr. High Tunnel Selections were successful with 5 out of 6 being funded. A new intern is on board for the summer and will be shadowing staff in the field.

-- Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP). - Denison. MAEAP Transition in place, Chris Anderson from below the bridge will cover clients in need of immediate assistance during overlap. Applications are due June 12th and interviews will take place the week of the 17th.

-- Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) Report - Blanzky. Busy in the field with little time in office. Many success stories and positive feedback about the program from landowners.

-- District Outreach and Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Report - Cassel. Main focus has been on Garlic Mustard mapping and pulling. Garlic Mustard efforts will now shift focus to treatment and other CWMA activities will be focused on as well.

-- Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative (CTAI) Engineer Report - Pittenger. Began field visits and survey work with Marquette staff.

-- Farm Service Agency (FSA) Report - Vining. Emergency Forestry Reserve Program (EFRP) funding has been received in the amount of 1.5 million. General CRP signup is ongoing and while there are some applications in for continuous there are no full sign ups. The first GRP's are coming out of contracts and will need funding to keep people in so any influence that can be emphasized would be greatly appreciated.

Other Business:

- Pittenger and Cassel Work Agreements were renewed under continued grant funding.
- Two Farm Bureau grants were applied for but only Luce/West Mackinac Farm Bureau will be receiving funding this year.
- Tree sale was postponed two weeks but was still a success. There was approximately \$25,000 in sales and after expenses the District made just over \$7,000.
- A new computer and printer were purchased. Research was done online as well as locally to generate quotes and ensure best value.
- Policies are still on the table for review. The Executive Director will provide the board with another copy including suggested revisions.
- MACD Conference is June 25-26 and board members are encouraged to attend.

Love moved to adjourn the meeting, supported by Bishop, Carried. Meeting Adjourned.