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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The regular meeting was called to order by Board Chair Brines at 7:01 p.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2024.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Shannon Brines

Matt Nolan

Maegen Gabriel

Hannah Weber

Tom Shanahan

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jill Dohner, Co-Interim Executive Director

Deborah Shad, Co-Interim Executive Director (virtual)

Molly Eassa, Executive Assistant

Michelle Jackson, prospective Executive Director candidate.

**MEETING MINUTES**

March Meeting Minutes EDIT: Approve not ‘remove’ conservation plans. Motion by Weber to approve March minutes, Shanahan seconded. Motion carried.

April Special Meeting Minutes Correction: Gabriel and Shanahan not present. Nolan moves to approve Special Meeting minutes. Gabriel seconded. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No committee reports. Finance Committee meeting in May.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Assets | 1,084,784.25 |
| Total Liabilities & Equity | 1,084,784.25 |
| Total Monthly Income | 80,582.65 |
| Total Monthly Expense | 1,943.48 |
| Total Other Income | 80,582.65 |
| Total Monthly Net Income | 389,150.15 |

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Motion by Nolan to approve bills. Weber seconded. Motion carried.

**FARMLAND AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS**

Farmland Agreements: NONE

Conservation Plans: Robyn Burnham, brush management.

Motion to approve from Weber, seconded by Nolan. Motion carried.

**STAFF & PARTNER REPORTS**

WCCD Co-Interim Executive Director, Jill Dohner & Deborah Shad

Hiring process for new ED, millage, grants, MAEAP. Busy month. FOIA request.

WCCD MIFarmLink Specialist, Jill Dohner

Regional representatives and resources connections- in the upper peninsula.

* Volunteers

Website content for MIFarmLink

* Trilby for grant development

Quarterly e-newsletter! Subscriptions increased.

WCCD Resource Coordinator, Doug Reith

Leadership delegation for tree sale

Mock-ups for WCCD website- board would like to see next meeting.

WCCD Community Forester, Summer Roberts

Possible partnerships with Millcreek watershed.

Surveys and outreach discussion

* Nolan offers to help with outreach efforts.

WCCD MAEAP Technician, Nick Machinski

Need more context for Agricultural inventory.

* One-time presentation or paper of all the grant projects he’s working on.
  + Community needs access to this too.

WCCD Outreach Coordinator, Dru Mark Wilson

Tabling events

WCCD MCSFP Specialist, Megan Phillips Goldenberg

Washtenaw is representing well.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Resolution letter draft sent to county last meeting.

* Draft letter to MACD in solidarity
  + Disapprove letter- need a broader vision for CD funding from state.
  + Letter came from Rivka (interim MACD director)
    - To be sent to state representatives.
  + New proposed sentence from Chair Brines: *we believe in a broader conservation funding on a state level.*
  + Send out soon to show our support. Needs language change, one page paper.
  + Edit via shared google document.
    - Pre-approved letter- Gabriel motions to accept the sentiments of the letter for MAEAP technicians to be amended and approved, to be sent to state representatives and MACD. Weber seconded.
      * 5 yays no nays, motion carried.
    - Further discussion required.
    - Email to Nolan

**NEW BUSINESS**

* Millage request for renewal approved by county commissioners.
* Michigan DNR “wild talk podcast” – good outreach opportunity.
* Grant cheat sheet for BOD binders- next month.
* Additions to agenda Climate smart hire topic
* Climate smart tech hires: budget for 2 new hires in September.
  + Should be moved up for the hire to happen sooner for climate smart tech support.
  + More formal amendment for next meeting.
* Transparency:
  + HR portion and millage percentage of funding for position instead.
  + Bills & expenditures go on website.
  + Motion by Nolan, Weber seconded. Motion carried.
* Zoom capacity: discussion about approving more Zoom.
* Many hands, discussion networking opportunity.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion by Gabriel for closed session to discuss Executive Director interviews and prospective candidate, seconded by Brines. Roll call, all 5 yays. To be kept on file for one year.

**SESSION CLOSED AT 8:49pm**

Motion by Nolan to begin open session, Shanahan seconded.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Special Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 1st at 6:00pm.

Monthly Board Meeting: Thursday, May 16th at 7:00pm.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

**ADJUOURNMENT: 9:42pm.**

THESE MINUTES STAND TO BE APPROVED.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL SIGNATURE: