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AUGUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:09 on Thursday, August 21, 2025.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Shannon Brines, Chair

Maegen Gabriel, Vice-Chair

Hannah Weber, Treasurer

Brandon Henes, Secretary

Patricia Denig, HR Liason

DIRECTORS/STAFF ABSENT

Summer Roberts, Executive Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Deborah Shad, Finance Administrator

Danielle Christian, Administrative Assistant

Megan Phillips Goldenberg, Development Manager

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

N/A

Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

Met 08/15/2025

Went over most recent budget amendments

Reviewed first draft of 2026 draft

CORRESPONDENCE

N/A

PUBLIC NOTICES

N/A

FARMLAND AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS

Clarification; no farmland agreements or conservation plans-system down and signatures needed, will appear next month

STAFF & PARTNER REPORTS

WCCD Executive Director, Summer Roberts, on leave

WCCD Conservation Technician, Matt DeJonge

School Community Habitat Grant Update discussion moved here:

- -Discussion on community grant and contractors
- -Discussion on MDJ growth in Forrester role in FY27 and beyond
- -Board will circle back with MDJ in a few months for updates

WCCD Conservation Specialist, Nick Machinski

WCCD Resource Specialist, Doug Reith

Development Manager, Megan Phillips Goldenberg

MiFarmLink Specialist, Jill Dohner

MDARD Regional Coordinator, Nadene Berthiaume

NRCS Representative, Solomon Andrews

- -Clarification on funding; process changing
- -Waiting for final budget approval
- -Adjusting NRCS agreement to 3-year deal
- -Discussion on temporary Kristen Sutter reassignment

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Annual Meeting/Voting at NPEM (5 min) Gabriel
 - a. 2026 vs 2027

- 2. Gateway Farm Invitation (5 mins)-Goldenberg
 - a. Discussion on email
 - b. SB or MPG to follow up with family
- 3. School Community Habitat Grant discussion (15 mins)-Gabriel
 - a. Written update from DeJonge
 - 1. Discussed during staff reports section
- 4. Upcoming Opportunities (10 mins)-Brines
 - a. Region 10 Meeting, Tentatively September 22, 2025 from 10a-2p, in Monroe County
 - b. Tentative: MDARD/MACD BOD Training in Jackson County, September 22, 2025-8 pm and 23, 10 am-3pm, 2025; \$75/person. Scholarships available through MACD
 - c. MACD Annual Meeting, December 8-10, 2025, Bellaire, MI

OATH OF OFFICE

ADJOURNMENT: 8:54 pm

THESE MINUTES STAND TO BE APPROVED.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL SIGNATURE:

Shulki 9/25/25