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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

Shannon Brines  
Matt Nolan  
Maegen Gabriel  
Hannah Weber  
Tom Shanahan

### DIRECTORS ABSENT

### 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.
  - o 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
  - o Disapprove letter- need a broader vision for CD funding from state.
  - o 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:

