



Van Buren Conservation District

November 8, 2023

10:00 AM

Van Buren Conservation District – 1035 E Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079

Agenda

Call to Order – Rescheduled Business Meeting

Roll Call of Board Directors:

- Chairperson, Bill VanTassel
- Vice-chairperson, Jan Petersen
- Treasurer/Personnel Liaison, Carl Druskovich
- Secretary, Paulette Rybarski
- Member, Ron Klein

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

- October 25, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Public Comment

Treasurer's Report

- October 2023 Financial Statements
- Payment of Bills for November 2023
- Payroll & Paid Time Off Accumulation Report for October 2023

Old Business:

- **VBCD Foundation**
- **FY 23 Audit**

New Business:

- **Grants Received:**
 - **Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) | Operating Grant Program | \$40,000.00 awarded | \$0 match | 1 October 2023 start date**
 - **MDARD | Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Technical Assistance | \$78,500.00 | \$0 | 1 October 2023 start date**
- **Grant Applications Submitted:**
 - **Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy (EGLE) 2024 Scrap Tire Grant | Southwest Michigan Regional Application for Collection Days and Year-round Site Collection | \$148,500.00 proposed budget | \$0 match**
 - **National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) | Climate-smart Commodities (CSC) Project Concept Paper | \$1,070,000.00 proposed budget | X | expected decision date: December 2023**
 - **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Forest Service | Connecting Lake Associations With Their Upstream Watersheds in Southwest Michigan | \$300,000.00 proposed budget | \$0 match | expected decision date March 2024**



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- **GLRI Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) 2023 | Consistent and Effective Invasive Plant Control Throughout the Jones Conservation Corridor | \$100,596.00 proposed budget | \$9,450.00 match | expected decision date April 2024**
- **Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) 2023 | Core Funding and Survey Treatment & Objectives | \$100,000.00 proposed budget | \$0 match | expected decision date April 2024**
- **MISGP Priority Project Funding | Early Detection & Rapid Response (EDRR) for Hydrilla and Other Watchlist Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in Southwest Michigan | \$246,000.00 proposed budget | 0 match | expected decision date April 2024**
- **MDARD 2023 Rural Readiness Grant with West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum (WMSBF) | \$60,000.00 proposed budget | \$10,000.00 in funds for VBCD | 0 match | expected decision date unknown**

Committee Updates:

- **Fund Development**
 - Next Meeting: To be determined
- **Property Development**
 - Site Plan and Concept Plan Discussion
 - Next Meeting: To be determined

Farmland and Open Space Preservation [Part 361 (1994 Public Act 451)] Applications for Review: None.

Board of Director Reports

- Chairperson - verbal
- Vice Chairperson - verbal
- Treasurer - verbal
- Secretary - verbal
- Member - verbal

Van Buren Conservation District Staff Reports:

- Executive Director's Report - verbal
- Administrator's Report - verbal
- Ag Conservation/Water Quality Projects Report - written
- CISMA Report - written
- MAEAP Report - written
- NACD/NRCS TA Report - written
- NRCS CT Report - written
- Outreach Report - written
- Produce Safety Report - none
- Resource Recovery Report - written

Cooperating Agency Reports:

- FSA Report - none
- Land Preservation Board Report - none. Meets 8 November 2023 at 6:00 PM
- MDARD Report - written
- MSUE Report - email
- NRCS - none



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- VBCD Foundation Board – none

Other Correspondence: None

Next Board Meeting: December 13, 2023 | 10:00 AM | VBCD Office | 1035 E Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079

Adjournment