



Van Buren Conservation District

27 March 2024

10:00 AM

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

Agenda

Call to Order – Regular 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

- 28 February Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Public Comment

Treasurer's Report

- February 2024 Financial Statements
- Payment of Bills for March 2024
- Payroll & Paid Time Off Accumulation Report for February 2024

Old Business:

1. **VBCD Foundation**
2. **VBCD 2024 Annual Meeting Location & Program**
3. **Tree Sale 2024**
4. **Vehicle Need**
5. **Envirothon Team Sponsorship**
6. **Grant Applications Submitted:**
 - a. **Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) 2023 | Core Funding and Survey Treatment & Objectives** | \$110,000.00 proposed budget | \$93,000.00 awarded | \$0 match | expected start date: 1 April 2024
 - b. **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 | \$190,500.00 awarded | \$0 match | expected start date: 1 April 2024

New Business:

1. **Mini-grant Application: Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum Memorial Fund, Inc.**
2. **Grant Applications Submitted:**
 - a. **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation | Conservation Partners Program (CPP)** | \$373,188.74 proposed budget | \$0 proposed match | expected decision date: unknown
 - b. **Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Michigan Water Corps (MiCorps) | Paw Paw River Cleanup** | \$2,915.21 proposed budget | \$1,206.90 proposed in-kind match | expected decision date: 31 May 2024



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- c. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) | Climate Smart Commodities – Climate-Smart Grazing: Empowering Farmers through Sustainable Practices and Scientific Insights for Enhanced Soil Carbon Sequestration and Reduced Green House Gas Emissions | \$2,335,490.00 proposed budget | \$704,129.00 proposed match | expected decision date: 1 July 2024**

3. Administrator Job Description

Committee Updates:

- **Fund Development (Petersen, Rybarski, Sinclair)**
 - Next Meeting: To be determined
- **Property Development (Druskovich, VanTassel)**
 - 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 Team Report – written
- MAEAP Report – written
- NACD Outreach & Technical Assistance Report – written
- Outreach Report – written
- Produce Safety Report – written
- Resource Recovery Report – written

Cooperating Agency Reports:

- FSA Report
- Land Preservation Board Report
- MDARD Report – written
- MSUE Report – email
- NRCS
- VBCD Foundation Board

Other Correspondence:

- Van Buren Youth Fair Ag Olympics
- EGLE Public Notice Announcement: HPZ-T9EA-3G9VS (80-39532 Wilderness Dunes Lane-Covert)

Next Board Meeting: 24 April 2024 | 10:00 AM | VBCD Office – 1035 E Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079

Adjournment