

Minutes  
Board Meeting  
October 15, 2024

APPROVED  
11/19/24 - DH

Missaukee  
Conservation  
District

101 S. Main  
Street

Lake City, MI  
49651

231.839.7193  
phone

[missaukeecd.org](http://missaukeecd.org)

Our mission is  
to provide  
leadership in  
promotion and  
protecting our  
county soil,  
water and  
other natural  
resources  
through  
education and  
technical  
assistance.

Living better  
with:  
Fresh air  
Healthy soils  
Clean water  
Recycling and  
Reducing waste

Board meeting of the Missaukee Conservation District was held Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 101 S. Main Street, Lake City, MI 49651.

**Directors present:** Susan Schwager, Paul Sawin, Barb Iverson, Sue Nyce, Janis Ransom (arrived at 9:03 am)

**Associate Directors present:** Mary Jane Emery, Ingrid Herweyer, Chris Iverson

**Associate Directors absent:** Eric Bradley

**County Commissioner Liaison present:** Frank Vanderwal

**Staff/affiliates present:** Dani Hamilton, Erin Horton, Lucas Santure, Ellie DeMarse, Jeff Fewless

**Staff/affiliates absent:** Zach Pelko, Sierra Gross, Liam Daniels

Meeting began at 9:01 am.

Motion by Sawin, supported by Iverson to approve agenda as amended (corrected date at top to October 15<sup>th</sup>). Motion passed.

Motion by Nyce, supported by Iverson to approve September 17, 2024 minutes. Motion passed.

Public Comment: None

Financial reports were reviewed.

Commissioner, MDARD, NCCISMA, and NRCS reports were reviewed. No Forester report as the position is vacant (Wexford CD is currently hiring for this position). Commissioner Vanderwal reported on building progress for the prosecutor's office and county park. Jeff Fewless presented NRCS program updates. Mary Jane Emery gave an update that the Friends of Missaukee Conservation District plans to change their meetings from monthly on Wednesdays to quarterly on Saturdays. The Friends are planning a moonlit snowshoe poker run as a fundraiser for the Jamieson property entryway (event to be held 2/12/2024).

Staff reports were presented and are on file.

Old Business

1. Board and events calendars were reviewed.
2. Annual Business Plan was reviewed. Motion by Sawin, supported by Iverson to approve the FY25 Annual Business Plan as amended (changing "MAEAP" grant to "CTAP" grant).
3. MACD Fall Conference was reviewed and a final count of attendees was established.
4. Annual Dinner/Renewable Roots Convention updates were presented. Registrations are picking up and there is a lot of interest and excitement around the convention.

New Business

1. Hopkin's Creek Restoration Project was reviewed. We will be seeking technical assistance to move forward on this project. Permit expires in August 2028.
2. Audit is scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024
3. Holiday Gathering is 12/17/24 and will be a holiday-themed murder mystery party.
4. A letter from MACD to legislators regarding the delay in passing a new Farm Bill was reviewed. Motion by Nyce, supported by Iverson to include Missaukee CD in support for letter.

### Committee Reports

1. Land committee – Ellie DeMarse reviewed land updates. Signs are being installed along property lines. Fundraising needed for entryway construction—board and land committee will be brainstorming ways to raise funds.

Public Comment – The Little Free Library in Lake City Park needs book donations. Sue Nyce shared that she visited the headquarters of the National Association of Conservation Districts and connected with their Chief Operating Officer.

Adjourned at 11:00 am. Next meeting (Annual Meeting) will take place at Timber Wolf Lake Camp on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, 9 am or at the call of the chair.

Submitted by,

**Ellie DeMarse**

Ellie DeMarse  
Land Stewardship Coordinator