

**EMMET CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
March 2, 2010**

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. at 3434 M-119, Harbor Springs.

Present: Russell LaBeau, Jane Mooradian, and John Casto  
Absent: Jane Rye, Marcus Kurbruski, and Steve Migda

Also present: Nancy Salar, Cydney Steeb, Bill Borgeld, Tim VanKalker

The minutes for February were presented:

**MOTION:** John Casto           **SECOND:** Jane Mooradian  
To approve the February meeting minutes.  
Motion Passed.

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

Russell LaBeau, Chair reviewed "Dirt the Movie" and would like the other directors to watch the movie prior to the district having a public showing. Dirt the Movie will be showing in Traverse City soon. There was an advertisement in the Traverse City paper. Also has cd's on Adapting to Climate Change and Watershed Academy Training module. Both cd's are available to be borrowed from Russ.

Jane Mooradian heard an advertisement for a showing of Dirt the Movie in Traverse City. The movie is being sponsored by a variety of organizations.

The February Treasurer's report was presented

**MOTION:** John Casto           **SECOND:** Jane Mooradian  
To approve financial report as submitted

Payment of Bills

**MOTION:** John Casto           **SECOND:** Jane Mooradian  
To approve payment of bills as submitted.  
Motion Passed.

**DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST-** see report

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

Cydney presented a draft vision statement to the board. After discussion the board suggested the wording be changed to read "The Emmet Conservation District will continue to promote wise conservation practices and sustainable agriculture using innovative fund raising concepts and educational programs and become self funded within two years." The vision will be presented to the board next month for final approval of wording.

The tree donor cards are now available in the office. The average size and cost of tree to be planted needs to be decided along with the fee to be set for the cards. Staff was directed to research costs of trees from various nurseries and report back to the board at the April meeting.

Cydney proposed providing programs at Camp Petosega for campers during the summer. The Parks & Recreation director approves of the idea. The board approved of the idea. There was discussion on some possible programs that could be provided. Cydney will work with the Emmet County Parks & Recreation Dept. to work out the details.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received from Diane Brazier, Emmet County 4-H Program requesting a \$100 donation to be used as partial scholarship for a student to attend Exploration Days June 2010.

**MOTION:** John Casto           **SECOND:** Jane Mooradian  
To present \$100 to 4-H to be used as a scholarship for Exploration Days.

Motion passed.

### OLD BUSINESS

Russ gave a brief recap of the meeting, February 8<sup>th</sup> between Tim VanKalker, Nancy Salar, and himself. The meeting was to discuss the maintenance required to repair the no till drill, future maintenance of the no till drill, and possibly having Tim be the person to deliver and pick up the no till drill after each use. The no till drill is currently stored at Tim's residence. An estimated cost of repair was presented by Tim to the board. Repairs were estimated around \$500 not including the cost to have the hydraulic system repaired. According to Fischer Insurance increasing liability insurance to better protect the district and directors would range \$600- \$1,300. An exact quote would require a detailed application be submitted. The pros and cons of keeping the no till drill or selling it were discussed at length. The board felt the decision should not be postponed any longer so repairs could be made in time for spring planting rentals if the no till drill was kept.

**MOTION:** John Casto                      **SECOND:** Jane Mooradian

To sell the no till drill.

Motion passed with roll call vote as follows

John Casto -- yes

Russell LaBeau -- yes

Jane Mooradian - yes

Staff was directed to put together an advertisement to take bids for the sale of the no till drill. The bidding will be open for 10 days and to be posted locally in the county building as well as at the Farm Bureau office and the Farm Service Agency office. A notification will also be sent out by email to the MACD list serve.

### NEW BUSINESS

"Dirt the Movie" has been purchased and is available for the directors to view. A possible venue for the public showing of the movie will be discussed at the April meeting.

Nancy presented a proposal for a big tree contest in Emmet County. The contest is based on a similar contest done in Alpena District. The contest would run from spring through the end of September 2010 with the winner being announced at the annual meeting. The competition for this year will be for the largest white pine in Emmet County.

**MOTION:** Jane Mooradian                      **SECOND:** John Casto

To approve the contest.

Motion passed.

Staff will finalize the contest rules and present them at the April meeting.

The spring 2010 tree sale is off to a good start with eight (8) orders so far. There will be an advertisement in the Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> paper and the Saturday paper promoting the tree sale. Our volunteers Pat & Dee will once again be picking up the trees for the district as well as organizing the orders. Steve Migda has offered his trailer to be used for picking up the trees.

### OLD BUSINESS

The district has been offered the opportunity to have a vendor booth at the Garden Expo, June 12<sup>th</sup>. If we wish to sell products at the booth the booth fee is \$35. If the district does not sell products, but just gives out free information there is no fee for the booth. The board approved of paying the fee in order to be able to sell items from their booth.

Nancy notified the board that a Resource Assessment has not been completed by the district in over 5 years. A Resource Assessment should be done every 5 years and so it is time to start working on a new one. A portion of the next few meetings will be dedicated to starting the process of a Resource Assessment.

**The next regular scheduled meeting will be April 6, 2010, at 3434 M-119, Harbor springs, in the lower level conference room, at 9:00 a.m.**

No further business:

Meeting adjourned 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by; Nancy Salar, administrator

Date approved

*April 2010*

*Russell LaBeau* Secretary *CASTO*