



KALAMAZOO CONSERVATION DISTRICT

July 17th, 2026

Board Meeting Minutes

KCD Office – 5950 Portage Rd. Suit B, Portage, MI 49002

Working with our community to protect, conserve, and restore the natural resources of Kalamazoo County!

1 – CALL TO ORDER: Ed Called to order @ 8:01AM

2 – ROLL CALL: Directors present: Andrew Fern, Sandy Bliesener, Edward Cagney, Tricia Keala, Lynn Coville
Directors absent:

Also present: Chandra Kinney, Samantha Wood, Lucy Gregerson, John Gisler, Celina Robinson, James Benjamin, Grant Reinhart

3 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF July 17th, 2026, BOARD MEETING AGENDA:

Approval of Agenda movement carried by Sandy Bliesener, seconded by Lynn Coville.; Voice Vote: Y5 N0 Motion: Carried

4 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF June 12th, 2026, KCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 12th, 2026, movement carried by Sandy Bliesener, seconded by Tricia Keala; Voice Vote: Y5 N0 Motion: Carried

5 – PUBLIC COMMENTS: -John Gisler: Urge to vote no on the childcare millage – childcare is important, although these services cannot be funded by charging our entire community.

- OLD BUSINESS:

- Review County Presentation – Feedback provided. Presentation will be tweaked to reflect feedback.

7 - TECHNICAL REPORTS:

- KCD DM Report– Chandra Kinney, District Manager
- MACD Report – Rivka Hodgkinson, Executive Director MACD
- MDARD Partner Report – Jack Knorek, MDARD Regional Coordinator
- ~~NRCS Report – Di'Shun Melbert, District Conservationist~~
- CTAP Report – James Benjamin, MAEAP Technician
- ~~USDA NRCS Soil Con Report – Celina Robinson; Soil Conservationist~~
- ~~BCK Cisma – Sara Hutteman, Invasive Species Coordinator~~
- Produce Safety – Patrick Gordon, Produce Safety Technician
- Forestry Assistance Program Report – Ben Savoie; Regional Forester
- Regen. Ag. Incubator Farmer Program Start Up – Grant Reinhart; Intern

6 - TREASURER REPORT:

Review and approve all June 2026 and Q3 financial reports:

- Balance Sheet (QBD+QBO)
- Profit & Loss Summary (QBD+QBO+YTD)
- Deposits Summary
- Bills Summary

- Payroll Summary
- Budget vs Actual
- Reconciliation & Bank Statement

Movement to approve May's Treasurer Report carried out by Lynn Coville, seconded by Sandy Bliesener. Voice Vote: Y5 N0 Motion: Carried

8 - OLD BUSINESS:

- Early Launch CNA Survey – will be launching at the end of the month! Review formatting and questions.
- Regen. Ag. Incubator Farm Start Up – Grant Reinhart giving a presentation.

9 - NEW BUSINESS:

- NFWF Conservation Partners – Discussed how to utilize this grant opportunity to the best of our ability.
- Begin Drafting FY27 Budget – Draft handed out for review – this template includes a reflection of our proposal to the County board.
- Tree Sale 2027 Ordering – Feedback on trees to purchase for 2027.

10 - PUBLIC ACTS & NOTICES:

- PN: EGLE 39-Taylor Dam-Climax Township – No comments
- PN: EGLE 39-5283 East O Avenue-Kalamazoo – No comments

11 - DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

- N/A

12 - ADJOURNMENT

Movement carried by Tricia Keala, seconded by Andrew Fern.; Voice Vote: Y5 N0 Motion: Carried

➤ NEXT MEETING – 8 AM on August 21st, 2026, at the KCD office!!!

X: _____ **Date of Approved Minutes:** _____