

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION BOARD

MINUTES

Thursday

May 18, 2006 - 7:00 p.m.

CONFERENCE ROOM B

200 Grand River Avenue, 2nd Floor, Port Huron, MI 48060

1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Jim Reid called meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Dianna Seifert, Ken Langmesser, Sue Sniegocki, Jim Reid,
Jim Hayes, and Chuck Kwasnik

Support Staff: Bill Kauffman, Planning Director

Absent: Terry Gill (Pat Anger Alternate)

3. **Citizens Wishing to be Heard**

None.

4. **Approval of April 20, 2006 Minutes**

Jim Hayes made a motion to accept the April 20, 2006 minutes as presented, Sue seconded, motion passes unanimously.

5. **Financial Report**

March Report

Jim Hayes made a motion to accept the March Financial Report as presented, Chuck seconded, all in favor, motion passes unanimously.

6. **Old Business**

Newsletter

a. Add the names of all donors to each issue. Have a section in the newsletter for donor interview articles. Add all the County commissioners to the newsletter mailing list.

b. Fundraising

Detroit Edison \$250, Eastern Michigan Bank \$500, Eastern Michigan Grain \$500 – all made generous donations.

c. 2007-2011 St. Clair County Capital Improvement Program

Jim Reid made an appeal to the CIP committee – there were lots of questions. They felt it was an important project but not this year. The FLP proposal scored in the bottom third; they encouraged us to keep looking for another source of funding.

7. **New Business**

a. PDR Training Workshop

Review for next meeting.

- b. State Ag Board 2006 Funding Cycle
There will be a 2006 funding cycle with \$700,000 – \$1,000,000 to be distributed. We will continue to send in our application even though the master plan has not been updated yet (to be completed date - summer 2007). There currently are 15 to 18 communities working on their master plans. The June State Ag Board meeting will reveal the new requirements.
- c. Upcoming State Meeting and Conference
Meeting of Michigan Ag Preserve Boards – June 22, 2006 in Lansing. Let Dave know by the first week of June who would like to attend. Those that are quite sure they will attend are Jim Reid, Ken and Dianna; maybe for Chuck, Sue and Jim Hayes.
- d. Blue Water Conservancy
Bill suggested we ask the president of the Blue Water Conservancy to sit on our next meeting – they could inform us on what their organization does – we need to form partnerships with other organizations like ourselves. Jim Hayes made a motion to invite Penny Peck to the next meeting; Ken seconded; motion passed unanimously. Bill will contact Penny and let her know that Jim Reid will be calling her.
- e. Survey of Residents – PDR, Millage Support
Review Lapeer's survey that is in the back of their master plan for future plans to survey the cities of St. Clair County.
- f. Parade of Farms Tour – Fall 2006
Lapeer County has had a tour for a few years now and Jim Hayes said it is very successful with 5 or 6 different farms every year. Ken made a motion to have a farm tour in partnership with the Conservation District for the fall of 2006. Dianna seconds, motion passes unanimously. Jim Hayes will gather information on Lapeer's farm tour.
- g. Multi-County Meeting
Will attend the June multi-county meeting.
- h. Open Space Program
Jim Hayes made a motion to start an open space sub-committee, Sue seconds, motion passes unanimously. Ken, Dianna and Sue will be on that subcommittee.
- i. Expansion of Group
Bill Kauffman will have Dale send Dianna a list of the larger FOSI group.
- j. Farmer's Market
Bill will have Dave check into the Traverse City area locally grown food campaign.
- k. Job Assignments
A list of job assignments will be emailed out after the meeting so we can keep the momentum going.

I. Press Coverage

Ken will contact the writer from the Review and pass along some article ideas about us to increase our press coverage.

8. Other Business

Staff Report

a. Bill mentioned that the State Ag Board is looking for regional initiatives from governments that are willing to work together to preserve farmland. We need to work with Lapeer County and the five northern Macomb counties and create partnerships.

b. Items for March Meeting

Penny Peck with Blue Water Conservancy, assignment updates from committee members, 4H Fair, internship work for college student.

c. Newspaper Articles

Covered.

9. Adjournment

Chuck made a motion to adjourn; Jim Hayes seconds; motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianna Seifert
Secretary