

**Minutes for the Inter-District Meeting/Special Meeting
Of the
Alger Conservation District (ACD) & Marquette Conservation District (MCD)
Held at the Skandia Township Hall----March 29, 2006 6:00 p.m.**

An Inter-District meeting and Special Meeting of the Alger Conservation District and the Marquette Conservation District was held on the above date. The meeting was called to order by 6:00 p.m. by MCD Vice-Chairman, Bernie Huetter. Present from the Alger Board: Carol Ward, ACD Chairperson, Robert Gibbons, ACD Vice Chairman and Jude Holloway, ACD Secretary. Present from the Marquette Board: Randy Gentz, MCD Treasurer; Bernie Huetter, MCD Vice Chairman and Wayne Premeau, MCD Secretary. Staff present: Chris Burnett, ACD/MCD Forester, Renee Leow, MCD Administrator and Danita Rask, ACD Executive Director. Guests: Jim Pawlowicz, MDA Field Representative and Don Sandstrom, Alger County Commissioner.

There was no Public Comment.

It was agreed by consensus to accept the agenda without changes.

A motion to accept the Minutes of the previous IDC Meeting on February 8, 2006, was made by Gibbons, seconded by Premeau. Motion carried.

Burnett reported on the first meeting of the statewide MACD Forestry Committee. Several CD's have non-FAP forestry programs and they will be included in this Committee. The group will meet just before State Council meetings and the next one will be at the Employees conference in June.

Burnett reported that with regard to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) grant, that MDA will probably again be offering it to the districts and that we may be offered Baraga and Iron Counties as well.

Discussion took place regarding whether or not to accept the new EAB contract. The IDC members would like to see and review a new contract at another Special Meeting of the IDC with includes some specific language about the terms of the payments from MDA. No decision was reached regarding the dispersal of the excess EAB funds but it was proposed that the excess funds might be used towards the 2007 EAB grant implementation.

Leow reviewed the financial report. A motion was made by Gibbons, seconded by Ward to move \$1000 from the equipment category to the education/meeting category in the FAP budget to accommodate Burnett's travel to meetings. In a roll call vote, all voted "yes".

In New Business, discussion took place regarding the duties and powers of the MCD and ACD in relation to the IDC. Pawlowicz stated that ACD and MCD must sign an Inter-District Agreement before MCD can sign the FAP (Forestry Assistance Program) grant with MDA. The cooperation of the two districts is essential before the FAP will be granted by MDA.

After much discussion, it was decided to allow Burnett to write up a description of each district's role in the Inter-District Committee. This will allow each Board to discuss and approve the IDC role at their Regular Meeting.

It was agreed by consensus that Burnett's time can be used in non-forestry grants as match and that forestry grants can use none-forestry personnel as match also.

Burnett also stated that he was interested in pursuing grants for forestry-related projects and that if he was successful in being awarded the grant, that he would like additional monetary compensation above his regular salary. As to how much extra money and how that would be calculated was a subject of discussion. It was agreed by consensus to select one member from each Board to form a subcommittee to investigate this further and report back to the IDC.

Discussion also took place regarding updating the forestry work plan to include grant writing activities.

A Special Meeting will be called as soon as the EAB contract is offered.

A motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. was made by Gibbons, seconded by Holloway.

Danita L. Rask, Executive Director
Alger Conservation District

These Minutes are subject to approval.