



# Michigan Chapter

## Executive Council Teleconference

Friday, May 3, 2019

### MINUTES

**(“Action Required” Items are in red italics)**

**Call to Order:** 10:04 a.m. by Vice President Katie Droscha

#### Roll Call:

<b>Present:</b>	Katie Droscha	Vice President
	Kelly Goward	Treasurer
	Dan Kesselring	Secretary
	Gerald Miller	Region 3 Director
	Dan Busby	At Large Director
	<b>(5 present – quorum achieved, according to Bylaws)</b>	
<b>Excused:</b>	John Freeland	President
	Tim Harrigan	President-elect
	Hugh Brown	Past President
<b>Absent:</b>	Rebecca Bender	Region 1 Director
	Jim Marshall	Region 2 Director
<b>Others:</b>	Jon Bartholic	2 <sup>nd</sup> Past President

**Agenda:** Katie asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as presented. Hearing none, Katie declared the agenda approved.

**4/5/19 Minutes:** Katie asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the previous teleconference. Hearing none, Katie asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Moved by Jerry, supported by Kelly, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kelly reviewed her account statement and budget reports she had emailed earlier. The General Fund balance as of April 30 is \$5446.46. Due to upgrades in the Marshall Community Credit Union system the April Scholarship Fund balance was not readily accessible, but the April 1 balance was \$9247.37. The Vanguard Investment Fund balance as of 2/28/19 was \$6413.71. Moved by Dan K., supported by Jerry, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

**Disbursements:** None presented.

**Motions approved by email prior to this teleconference:** None.

## **New Business:**

**Finance:** Dan K. and Kelly reported that the 12 mo. CD at the Marshall Community Credit Union matures June 7. Dan K. suggested that this \$4000 CD should be turned into a 60 month CD, or invested in the Vanguard accounts in order to increase earnings for the Scholarship Program. However, Jerry moved that the \$4000 CD be rolled back into a 12 month CD at 1.8% interest, and for Dan K. and Kelly to see if the 60 month CD could be converted to a new 60 month CD without too much of a penalty. Dan B. supported the motion, but would like it amended to have the existing interest in the 12 month CD rolled into the MCCU Savings account. Jerry agreed to this addition. Motion passed as modified. *Dan K. will contact MCCU.*

## **Old Business:**

**House of Delegates appointment:** Not sure who will be attending the International Conference. Decision postponed until next teleconference.

**Annual Conference Silent Auction Donation:** There was discussion during the last teleconference that our gift contributions had not received bids high enough to cover the actual cost and that maybe we should just make a donation to the host Chapter. However, Dan K. questioned that this choice would eliminate the Michigan Chapter from being publicized during the auction, and would eliminate the potential for publicizing Michigan products. Dan B. suggested seeking donations of gift certificates for Michigan products, and the gift certificates could be offered in the silent auction. That would eliminate the shipping costs, and would still publicize Michigan products. *Dan B. volunteered to contact some Michigan businesses for donations of gift certificates and forward information to the officers before the next teleconference.*

## **Committee Reports:**

**Professional Development:** Jerry Miller, Chair.

**MACD Summer Conference:** Committee member Katie reported that Jeremiah Asher, Associate Director, MSU Institute of Water Research, will lead a breakout session on Groundwater Withdrawal Impacts. Katie asked if there is a possibility of having a kiosk or booth where one or more laptops could be set up to allow attendees to try out certain interactive IWR software programs for conservation planning. Dan K. asked what the cost of a booth space would be. *Katie will check on the cost and report back.*

**Summer Tour:** Katie and Jerry reported on options being considered. One option suggested is a tour of the Maple River Watershed project for which the Chapter is a partner. Dan K. suggested that this could be one way for the Chapter to honor its supporting role commitment. *Katie and Jerry will continue working on this option along with Jon Bartholic.*

**March, 2020, Seminar Venue and Date:** Consensus during the last teleconference was to have the Seminar at AgroLiquid in St. John's again. Dan K. asked if we need to get a date locked in. *Dan K. will contact Tim Harrigan for his preference on a date.*

**Maple River RCPP update:** Jon Bartholic and Katie reported on a potential rollout of the project involving NRCS and others.

**Membership and Outreach:** Dan K. reported in Rebecca's absence. Membership is basically holding steady, but not increasing. Also, the effort to get 2 new members through a gift

membership drawing at the MAEAP 5000<sup>th</sup> Verification Celebration did not work quite as anticipated. Rather than having applicants who were interested in membership entering the drawing at the Chapter's booth, the drawing included all who attended the Celebration. Dan K. said one of the winners provided an email address, so they would get all of the emails from Ankeny and the Michigan Chapter. However, the other winner did not provide an email address, so Dan K. will be snail mailing printouts of various published materials about twice a month.

**Legislative:** Jerry reported on State House Resolution 84 supporting Stewardship Week.

**Member Comments:** Dan K. reported that the State FFA Land Conservation Skills Contest was assisted by SWCS members Gaylynn Kinter, Karry Trickey and Dan K. Others included Carol Wade, NRCS retiree; Martin Rosek, NRCS State Soil Scientist; Jim Crum, MSU Professor; and two MSU Students.

Dan B. offered to assist with Maple River RCPP program/field day in the fall if we are to host one. He does know some farmers in that area that have taken advantage of the NRCS /RCPP. His friends son Braxton is a new farmer and working with NRCS right now.

**Next Teleconference:** 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 7, 2019.

Move by Jerry, supported by Dan K., to adjourn the teleconference. Adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary