

Michigan Chapter SWCS
Executive Council Virtual Meeting
Thursday, September 12, 2024

MINUTES

(“Action” Items are in red italics)

Call to Order: 12:01pm, by Steve Schaub, President

Roll Call:

Officers Present: Kelly Goward-Treasurer
Sarah Fronczak- President-elect
Zachary Curtis- Region 2 Director
Tess Van Gorder- At Large Director
Katie Droscha- Past President
Heather Varboncoeur- Vice President
Steve Schaub- President

(7 Officers Present- quorum achieved)

Others Present: Glenn O’Neil

Agenda: President asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Hearing none, he declared agenda approved.

Minutes from previous meeting: Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed. Katie Droscha moved to accept the minutes, Zachary Curtis supported. Motion passed by voice vote.

Treasurer’s Report: Kelly Goward reported that the Vanguard balance continues to increase. Expenses for Sarah’s Lake City event went under the summer tour. Kelly also stated that our numbers look good for this time of year. Tess VanGorder moved to accept the treasurer’s report. Supported by Sarah Fronczak. Motion passed with a voice vote

New Business:

Chase Bank CD Renewal: Kelly Goward brought up the Chase Bank CD; it is up for renewal and will expire as of 9/15. Kelly proposed investing \$3,000 instead of \$4,000 to give us a better buffer for upcoming expenses. Discussion of whether there was a better option for our checking account that doesn’t require a \$2,000 minimum balance to avoid fees. Zach Curtis moved to keep the 9 month CD and add \$3,000 from checking. Supported by Heather Varboncoeur. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Giving Tuesday/Scholarship Fundraising: Discussion on how we fundraise and accept donations for this activity. Several members brought up the idea of a “giving Tuesday” campaign. Zach Curtis volunteered to prepare materials for this and lead the effort. Katie Droscha recommended that the scholarship committee meet with the policy committee to ensure the

campaign follows our by-laws. Steve Schaub requested the answer from the policy committee regarding our by-laws before our next meeting. *Zach will follow-up via email and we will vote on the campaign at the next meeting in October.*

Old Business:

2025 ANR Seminar Site Booking: Kelly Goward sent the ANR Seminar location and date request to AgroLiquid. March 7th is our proposed date. We are waiting to hear back from Agroliquid.

Nominations Committee Appointments: Patty McNinch and Mila Resetar

August Lake City Event Results: Sarah Fronczak reported that 8 people attended. Event was not as big as it was expected to be.

Work Plan Reminders:

Scholarship form update and announcement: Zach Curtis presented. Stated that the award amount will stay at \$750. The application has been updated and Zach will start contacting institutions with the updated form. Selection will be made by November 20th and applications are due by November 6th. The requirement for 3 letters of support has been changed to 2 letters.

Committee Reports:

Professional Development Committee: Jerry Miller reported. Seminar planning is ongoing.

Legislative Report: Jerry Miller sent an email stating that the Farm Bill is not likely to be passed until after the election, at the earliest.

Membership and Outreach: Glenn O'Neil reported that the newsletter was sent out this month for the summer. Current Membership is at 49 and we are not gaining any new members.

Policy Committee: No updates

Open Discussion: Date for annual meeting will be December 12th, 2024, from 10am-12pm. *Katie Droscha will email members with the date and time.* Steve Schaub moved to allow Katie to send the email announcement with support from Sarah Fronczak. Motion passed with a voice vote. Jerry Miller has a couple of speakers lined up for the educational session immediately following our annual meeting. Scholarship award and election results will also be announced at the annual meeting.

Next Executive Council Meeting: 12:00-1:00pm, Thursday, October 10th, 2024.

Adjournment: President Steve Schaub adjourned the meeting with support from Zach Curtis at 1:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Varboncoeur, Acting Secretary