Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Teleconference
Friday, June 5, 2020
MINUTES
(“Action” Items are in red italics)

Call to Order:  10:02 a.m. by President Tim Harrigan

Roll Call:
Present: Tim Harrigan  President
Glenn O'Neil  President-elect
Katie Droscha  Vice President
Kelly Goward  Treasurer
Dan Kesselring  Secretary
Rebecca Bender  Region 1 Director
Zachary Curtis  Region 2 Director
Gerald Miller  Region 3 Director
Dan Busby  At Large Director
(9 present – quorum achieved)
Excused: John Freeland  Past President
Absent: None
Others: None

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

5/1/20 Minutes: The minutes of the previous teleconference were appended to the agenda. Jerry moved to approve the minutes as presented. Glenn supported the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly had submitted the Treasurer's Report for May by email. The balances are: General Fund $4,488.62; and Scholarship Fund $15,818.05. Moved by Dan K., supported by Glenn, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion passed by voice vote.

Disbursements: None presented.

Motions approved by email prior to this teleconference: None

New Business:

Iowa SWCS Chapter Silent Auction: Dan K. suggested that the Michigan Chapter could donate to the Iowa Chapter the amount that the Michigan Chapter would normally spend on merchandise to donate, since an Iowa sponsored Silent Auction will not happen this year. Hugh Brown had suggested this alternative last year because our donated items didn't normally auction at as high a level as our expense, however, we went ahead with donating purchased items in order to have the Michigan Chapter name shown at the auction. Dan K. also stated that the Silent Auction at the 2019 Pittsburgh Conference wasn't nearly as large as the Michigan Chapter sponsored Silent Auction in 2009. Moved by Jerry to send a check for $100 to the Iowa Chapter. Supported by Katie. Motion carried by voice vote. Kelly will arrange to get the check to the Iowa Chapter.
Communication from Grand Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau: Dan K. had received an email from the Grand Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau regarding a followup to previous discussions about having the SWCS International Conference in Grand Rapids. Consensus was to follow up with headquarters concerning the potential for a future event in Grand Rapids. Kelly volunteered to contact Ankeny. Glenn and Zach volunteered to assist with discussions if Ankeny expressed interest. Jerry spoke on the necessity of bringing other parties that might be involved, such as NRCS and Districts, to the table well before making a commitment to an event date.

Newsletter Publication Schedule: Dan K. asked what the new publication schedule will be for the newsletter. Rebecca said that the newsletter will now be published quarterly in July, October, January and April, so the deadline for article submissions would be the first of those months.

Old Business:

Nomination Committee appointments: Dan K. emailed a Chapter membership list and the names of the 2019 Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee is to be appointed ASAP. Jerry said that he had recruited Elaine Brown Bartholic to represent Region 3 on the Committee.

Committee Reports:

Professional Development:

Maple River Watershed RCPP and MACD Summer Conference: In lieu of presenting a workshop at the MACD Summer Conference, Katie has proposed recording a virtual workshop to be posted on our website. Consensus was to carry out this option. Katie and Glenn will coordinate to get this done.

Systems based planning: Zach reported the group is planning to publish a one page brochure.

Membership and Outreach: Dan K. reported that membership remains at 52 with some lapsed memberships being offset by renewals and new.

Legislative:

State: Jerry reported that most of the action in Lansing was focused on disputes between the Governor and the Legislature in Lansing.

Federal: Jerry also discussed the “Growing Climate Solutions Act”, a federal proposal being co-sponsored by Senator Stabenow and 3 other U.S. senators.

Work Plan Update: The Work Plan Items for June, and the remainders from previous months were appended to the agenda.

Member Comments: Dan K. commented that the Michigan Chapter's 75th anniversary will be in 2022. Maybe the Executive Council should consider planning something different for an Annual Meeting. Dan K. also commented that the Chapter Strategic Plan covered 2015 through 2019, so it needs to be reviewed and updated.

Next Teleconference: Next teleconference is July 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:02 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary