



# Michigan Chapter

## Executive Council Zoom Conference

Friday, July 16, 2021

### MINUTES

(“Action” Items are in red *italics*)

**Call to Order:** 10:01 a.m. by Glenn O’Neil, President

#### Roll Call:

<b>Officers Present:</b>	Glenn O’Neil	President
	Shelby Burlew	President-elect
	Katie Droscha	Vice President
	Tim Harrigan	Past President
	Kelly Goward	Treasurer
	Dan Kesselring	Secretary
	Zachary Curtis	Region 2 Director
	Gerald Miller	Region 3 Director
	<b>(8 Officers present – quorum achieved)</b>	

**Others Present:** None

<b>Officers Absent:</b>	Rebecca Bender	Region 1 Director
	Dan Busby	At Large Director

**Agenda:** Glenn asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as presented. Dan K. asked for 2 additions under new business: 1) Amount of the Scholarship to be offered for the Fall 2021/Spring 2022 Scholarship; and 2) When to open the March 2021 Seminar Webinar recordings to all. Gerald asked to add the 2022 ANR Seminar under Professional Development Committee. Glenn asked if there were any objections to these additions. Hearing none, Glenn declared the agenda approved.

**6/4/2021 Minutes:** The minutes of the previous conference were appended to the agenda. Gerald Miller moved to approve the minutes as presented. Tim Harrigan supported the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Kelly Goward had submitted the Treasurer’s Report by email. The balances are: General Fund \$5682.24; and Scholarship Fund \$17,266.88. Moved by Zachary Curtis, supported by Tim Harrigan, to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Disbursements:** Kelly presented the option of renewing our Zoom subscription by July 31 to take advantage of a 20% discount offer - \$119.92 vs \$149.90. Moved by Katie to approve this disbursement of \$119.92 by July 30. Supported by Gerald. Motion passed by voice vote.

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

**New Business:**

**Environmental Law and Policy Center Question:** Glenn reported that he had received a communication from the Environmental Law and Policy Center concerning suggested publicity about the Chapter's support for the designation of three new Wilderness areas and one addition to an existing Wilderness area in the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Glenn suggested publicizing only on our website, in our newsletter and on our Facebook page. Hearing no objections, Glenn declared approval.

**Scholarship Amount decision:** Dan K. stated that the Annual Work Plan currently calls for a decision on the amount of the Fall 2021/Spring 2022 Scholarship to be offered. Since we had not received an eligible application last year, Dan K. suggested that the amount could be higher this year, maybe \$750 or \$1000. Zach asked if we could start publicity earlier. After discussion, Gerald moved to approve a \$750 Scholarship offering. Katie supported. Motion passed by voice vote. In addition, consensus was that Zach can proceed to publicize the offering.

**Seminar Webinar recordings availability:** Dan K. stated that in the past we have made pdf copies of Seminar presentations available on our website. Since last March's Seminar Webinars were recorded, we made those recordings available only to registrants. The question is: Do we eventually make those recordings available to the general public and, if yes, when? After discussion, the decision is to make the recordings available to registrants for 6 months, then post a link to the recordings on our website for "find and access" availability, but not to actively publicize that open access. *In addition, Dan K. will add a reminder of this to the Chapter Annual Work Plan for future reference.*

#### **Old Business:**

**Maple River RCPP Deliverables:** Katie Droscha reported on the Chapter's partnership responsibilities.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Strategic Planning Ad Hoc:** Glenn discussed the Michigan Chapter SWCS leadership survey results. The full analysis of the survey is on the Michigan Chapter SWCS Google Drive under Strategic Planning. *Glenn will be contacting Committee chairs in an effort to activate some of the committees.*

**Professional Development:** Jerry Miller, Chair

**MACD Summer Conference MiSWCS breakout session followup:** Katie reported that the MiSWCS virtual session on Climate Change was attended by 65 registrants.

**Systems Based Planning:** Zachary Curtis reported that Katie is now participating with this group and referred to Katie for this report. Katie reported that the Committee is now meeting twice a month and is continuing work on a future Webinar.

**Future Events questions:** Jerry reported that he had submitted a brief article, asking for Chapter members suggestions, in the last newsletter, but has had no responses to date.

**MACD Fall Convention and MiSWCS participation:** Katie reported that in her discussions with the MACD planning committee, MACD leadership had asked for MiSWCS to bring something different, or not a continuation or extension of previous Chapter events. A couple suggestions were something related to farmer led watershed groups and networking conservation.

**2022 ANR Seminar:** Jerry reported that he had sent an email to 2021 Committee members asking them if they wanted to continue on the committee for 2022 Seminar planning. He said that nobody declined, so he's assuming that the 2022 Seminar

Committee membership is: Tim Harrigan, Chair; Kelly Goward, Katie Droscha, Steve Schaub, Jon Bartholic, Zachary Curtis, Shelby Burlew, Dan Kesselring and Glenn O'Neil.

**Membership and Outreach:**

**Newsletter:** Next issue to be September or Summer. Article deadline August 15.

**Membership Status:** Currently 54 members.

**Legislative:** At the Federal level, Jerry reported that EPA is currently working on revisions to the Waters of the United States Rule. Also, the U.S. Senate passed the Growing Climate Solutions Act led by Senator Stabenow. The Act was supported by 175 Ag and Environment groups. Next step is action by the U.S. House of Representatives.

At the State level, legislature is debating ongoing District support funding and MAEAP Trust Fund renewal.

**Work Plan Update:** Items for July were appended to the agenda.

**Next EC Conference:** Next EC conference is 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 6, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary