



Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Zoom Conference

Friday, April 14, 2023

MINUTES

(“Action” Items are in red *italics*)

Call to Order: At 3:01 p.m. by Steve Schaub, President-elect. Steve then handed the gavel to Katie Droscha, President, when she called in.

Roll Call:

Officers Present:	Katie Droscha	President
	Steve Schaub	President-elect
	Gerald Miller	Vice President
	Kelly Goward	Treasurer
	Dan Kesselring	Secretary
	Zachary Curtis	Region 2 Director
	Tess Van Gorder	At Large Director
	(7 Officers present – quorum achieved)	

Others Present: None

Officers Absent:	Shelby Burlew	Past President
	Gary Boersen	Region 3 Director
	Dan Busby	Region 1 Director

Agenda: Katie asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as presented. Hearing none, Katie proceeded with the published agenda.

02/24/2023 Minutes: The minutes of the previous conference were appended to the agenda. Steve mentioned that the minutes should show that he had asked if the date of the initial Vanguard investments could be added to the Vanguard Report header along with the dollar amount currently shown. Steve Schaub moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Gerald Miller supported the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

Motions approved by email prior to this teleconference: None.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Goward had submitted the Treasurer's Report by email. The balances were: General Fund \$7330.96; and Scholarship Fund \$15,880.37. Moved by Gerald Miller, supported by Tess Van Gorder, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion passed by voice vote.

Disbursements Needing Approval: None presented.

New Business:

How long should copies of event presentations be maintained on our website?: Dan K. asked how long should we make copies of seminar, workshop and other presentations available for viewing on our website. We currently have presentation file copies back to 2011 on the webpage. Is there a possibility of these presentations getting outdated by new knowledge?

Also, more recently we have had some presenters voice some reluctance to posting, and one 2022 Seminar presenter opted to not have their presentation posted. Our posts of presentations alone are in pdf format, as opposed to Powerpoints, etc., but there are also some taped presentations.

After discussion, Gerald Miller moved that copies of presentations be held on our website for 2 years, and that older presentations be moved to an archive file located on some other site, like a Google Drive. Motion supported by Zachary Curtis. Motion passed by voice vote. *Dan K and Kelly Goward will work on establishing a suitable storage location and moving the questioned files to that location.*

Michigan FFA Land Conservation Contest staffing: Dan K reported that the Michigan FFA Land Conservation Contest will be held on Friday, April 21, at Michigan State University and that Michigan Chapter Members Karry Trickey, Gaylynn Kinter and Heather Varboncoeur have volunteered to assist. Dan K said that he would not be assisting this year. The Michigan Chapter SWCS has been involved in this event since 1954. Heather Varboncoeur is a new volunteer for this event. Gaylynn Kinter has been involved for close to 40 years. Karry Trickey has been involved for several years now. Dan K recruited Heather and Karry.

Old Business: None.

Committee Reports:

Professional Development:

2023 ANR Seminar: Jerry reported that thank you letters had been sent to all presenters, and that Dan K had reported registration of 15 Chapter members, 16 non-members, 6 guests and 6 speakers, for a total of 43 people. Due to a snowstorm, actual attendance was reduced by 7, and the opening speaker had to be brought in remotely. The remote link-up hadn't been planned ahead of time, so the agenda was adjusted to bring that speaker on later.

MiSWCS Contribution to MACD Summer Conference: Katie reported that Dr. Jason Rountree, Professor of Animal Science, Michigan State University, who was one of our Seminar speakers, has been invited to repeat that presentation at the MACD Summer Conference, June 5 and 6.

Summer Workshop/Tour: Katie and Jerry reported that they are making arrangements with the BrightMark company for a half day workshop and field trip focused on "The Castor Project" that is being developed for converting animal waste to natural gas. The workshop is being planned to be indoors, and the field trip to be by carpool.

Systems-Based Planning: Zach reported that efforts are currently being made to get a Large Water Users Committee established.

Membership and Outreach: The deadline for submission for the Spring newsletter is yet to be determined.

Membership Status is currently 49 members.

Legislative: Jerry reported with comments about a Farm Bill discussion session and Urban Agriculture.

Committee Assignments Review: The Committee listing was updated 03/29/23 and available on our Michigan Chapter SWCS Google Drive at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p8_v66bGocJ1X5GNtSVTTqV2ZtK5l_CX/view?usp=share_link

and on our Website at

<https://www.miglswcs.org/app/download/7124127463/2022+Executive+Council+and+Committees.pdf>

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

Next Executive Council Conference: 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 12, 2023.

Moved by Tess Van Gorder to adjourn this Conference. Supported by Zachary Curtis. Motion passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary