



Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Virtual Meeting

Thursday, July 11, 2024

MINUTES

(“Action” Items are in red *italics*)

Call to Order: At 12:01 p.m. by Steve Schaub, President

Roll Call:

Officers Present:	Steve Schaub	President
	Sarah Fronczak	President-elect
	Katie Droscha	Past President
	Heather Varboncoeur	Vice President
	Daniel Kesselring	Secretary
	Kelly Goward	Treasurer
	Dan Busby	Region 1 Director
	Tess Van Gorder	At Large Director

(8 Officers present – quorum achieved)

Others Present: Gerald Miller, Chair, Professional Development Committee
Glenn O’Neil, Chair, Membership and Outreach Committee

Officers Absent: Zachary Curtis Region 2 Director
Gary Boersen Region 3 Director

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

06/13/2024 Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the previous Executive Council meeting were appended to the agenda. Moved by Sarah Fronczak, supported by Katie Droscha, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.

Motions approved by email prior to this meeting: None.

Treasurer’s Report: Kelly Goward had submitted the 7/10/24 Treasurer’s Report by email. The balances as of 7/10/24, based on available bank statements, were: General Fund \$8,409.27; and Scholarship Fund \$16,338.10. Moved by Katie Droscha, supported by Sarah Fronczak, to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. Motion passed by voice vote.

Disbursements Needing Approval: None presented.

New Business:

Mid-Year Chapter General Fund Budget Review: Kelly Goward reviewed the July Budget Report for the status of the General Fund Budget. One item she noted was the Council’s action to contribute to a Michigan Envirothon winner’s transportation expenses for the National Envirothon. Envirothon support had been in the budget in the past, but not this year, so she put in the miscellaneous line even thou that had only \$20 budgeted. The other option was the outreach line which was budgeted for \$100, but that was intended for expenses relating to sponsorships or exhibit booths. Concensus was to leave it that way for now and make adjustments later, if needed.

Fall 2024/Spring 2025 Academic Year Scholarship Offering Decision: Dan Kesselring reviewed a spreadsheet showing the current status of the Scholarship Fund. He said it seemed likely a \$750 Scholarship could be offered, but not a \$1000 Scholarship. President Schaub requested that, due to time constraints, this be put on the August agenda, and that the Scholarship Committee should come up with a recommendation.

Nominations Committee Appointments: President Schaub stated that he had started looking for Nominations Committee members, and was interested in getting some younger members involved. He has asked one younger member to consider chairing the committee.

Old Business:

Lake City Bonfire Night Event: Sarah Fronczak and Dan Busby reported on progress. *Dan Busby will continue to represent the Executive Council in coordination for this event.*

International Conference Silent Auction: Discussion re: Michigan Chapter contribution to the International Conference Silent Auction. Moved by Katie Droscha and supported by Heather Varboncoeur to send a check for \$100 to the International Conference Silent Auction host chapter in lieu of items for Silent Auction since no one can transport an auction item and it's too late for shipping. Motion passed by voice vote. *Kelly Goward will handle the mailing to the proper recipient.*

Work Plan Reminders – Work Plan Items for July and August, and remaining items from prior months, were appended to the agenda.

Committee Reports:

Professional Development: Gerald Miller, Chair, reported that the committee does not have any event plans for the rest of the summer. He asked Executive Council members to think about possible options for an event and let him know of any ideas. He suggested he would also need someone to help spearhead such an event. Dan Busby commented about a Soil Health Academy event in the state, and wondered if we should have a presence there. *Dan B. will find out more about the event.*

Miller commented that the MACD Annual Conference will be held November 6, 7 and 8.

Legislative:

State Legislators: Limited activity due to the election season. Jerry commented on the 87th Anniversary of Conservation Districts.

Federal Farm Bill Budget. Same as for State due to the election season drawing attention.

Membership and Outreach:

Newsletter: Glenn O'Neil announced that items for the Summer Newsletter are due by July 28.

Membership Status: Currently 52 members.

Land Judging Guide Ad Hoc Committee: Dan Kesselring reported no activity due to summer workloads for key members.

Policy Committee: Chair Katie Droscha reported that she had good response to her appeal for members, and that her current intent is to have the committee review the Bylaws in detail.

Committee Assignments Review: The Committee listing was **updated 08/08/24** and is available on our Website at

<https://www.miglswcs.org/app/download/7124127463/2024+Executive+Council+and+Committees.pdf>

Open Discussion: Dan K. asked which committee should review and recommend on the Scholarship availability question – the Scholarship Committee or the Finance Committee. Steve Schaub suggested both.

Next Executive Council Meeting: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Thursday, August 08, 2024.

Adjournment: Moved by Kelly Goward, supported by Daniel Kesselring, to adjourn this meeting. Meeting Adjourned at 1:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary