



Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Virtual Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 2024

MINUTES

(“Action” Items are in red *italics*)

Call to Order: At 12:00 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
	Kelly Goward	Treasurer
	Daniel Kesselring	Secretary
	Dan Busby	Region 1 Director
	Gary Boersen	Region 3 Director
	8 Officers present – quorum achieved)	

Others Present:	Glenn O'Neil	Membership and Outreach Chair
	Gerald Miller	Professional Development Chair

Officers Absent:	Zachary Curtis	Region 2 Director
	Tess Van Gorder	At Large Director

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

09/12/2024 Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the previous Executive Council meeting were appended to the agenda. Moved by Kelly Goward, supported by Heather Varboncoeur, 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 submitted the October 9 Treasurer's Report by email. The reported balances as of 10/09/24 were: General Fund \$7,881.57; and Scholarship Fund \$17,119.88. Moved by Dan Busby, supported by Gary Boersen, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.

Disbursements Needing Approval: None presented.

New Business:

Annual Meeting Agenda: Steve asked Dan Kesselring to explain the requirements for the Annual Meeting agenda. Using screen share to show the 2023 Annual Meeting agenda, Dan pointed out the normal requirements for an official Annual Meeting, and then the option for some type of professional and educational development additions. Steve asked officers for suggestions for the additions. Several comments were made for options. *Steve requested further research for some of them.*

Finance Committee Membership: Dan K. explained that the Finance Committee membership is currently just he and Kelly Goward. He said it had been helpful in the past to have a non-officer from the chapter

membership also on the committee, but the previous member in that capacity has decided to retire from SWCS. *Steve requested suggestions from the officers and will look at the membership list for ideas.*

Chapter Awards Form and Publicity Questions: Dan K. reported that the Chapter Awards Program form was approved by the Executive Council in 2011, is available on the Chapter website, and is in the Chapter's Work Plan. He had provided links to the form and the accompanying explanation document on the website. He asked for permission to publicize the program. Steve asked if there were any questions or objections from officers. Hearing none *Steve directed Dan K. to publicize the program to Chapter membership.*

Old Business:

Giving Tuesday, December 3, Project for the Scholarship Fund: Katie Droscha reported that the Policy Committee and the Scholarship Committee had discussed any possible legal questions regarding this kind of campaign. The conclusion was that they found no reason it would not be in compliance with both the Chapter Bylaws and the Scholarship Program Bylaws. Dan K. stated that he has attempted to email a question to the Ohio and Indiana Chapters asking them how they finance their Scholarship Programs, but has not heard back yet. Steve stated that an appeal for nominations would be limited to Chapter members, and would be voluntary. *Steve asked Zachary Curtis to come up with a text to distribute to Chapter members and submit it to Dan K. for distribution. In addition, Zach and Dan K. will come up with the link and format for the website.*

Work Plan Reminders: Work Plan Items for October and November, and remaining items from prior months, were appended to the agenda.

Committee Reports:

Professional Development: Gerald Miller, Chair, reported that the ANR Seminar committee has held its first meeting, and has scheduled a second meeting for October 18. There are several possible presentations and topics to research.

Legislative: Gerald Miller, chair, reported.

Federal Farm Bill. Congress is now recessed until after Labor Day. Jerry discussed a letter to Congressional members that has been developed by the National Wildlife Federation and the Isaac Walton League and has been made available for organizations to sign onto. He suggested that the Executive Council consider having the Chapter also sign. Dan Busby said he would send the letter link to all Officers for consideration. *Steve asked all Officers to read the letter and comment to him.*

Membership and Outreach:

Membership: Glenn O'Neil reported that the membership currently stands at 49. He said there currently aren't any new members coming on. Steve stated that there are a number of new members joining the new conservationist's training program which should result in some new members.

Outreach: *Glenn said he would like items for the Fall Newsletter by November 7.*

Policy: Current items were covered under the Giving Tuesday report.

Scholarship: Zachary Curtis reported by email that some scholarship application and support items had been received, but none are complete yet. *He asked officers to do anything they could to publicize the scholarship availability.*

Committee Assignments Review: The Committee listing was **updated 08/08/24** and is available on our Website at <https://www.migswcs.org/app/download/7124127463/2024+Executive+Council+and+Committees.pdf>

Open Discussion: None.

Next Executive Council Meeting: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Thursday, November 14, 2024.

Adjournment: Moved by Dan Kesselring, supported by Katie Droscha, to adjourn the meeting. President Schaub adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary