



Soil & Water Conservation Society

Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Teleconference

February 25, 2011

MINUTES

(“Action Required” Items are in red italics)

- Call to Order:** 9:04 a.m. by Jean Gagliardo, Chapter President
- E. C. Members Attending:**
- | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Jean Gagliardo | President |
| Kent Dankenbring | President-Elect |
| Jason Kimbrough | Vice President |
| Aaron Lauster | Past President (appointed) |
| Dan Kesselring | Secretary |
| Jay Blair | Treasurer |
| Michael LaPointe | Region 1 Director |
| Scott Hughey | Region 2 Director |
- Excused:** Kelly Goward Region 3 Director
- Absent:** John Freeland Region 4 Director
- (8 present – quorum achieved)
- Others Attending:** Rebekah Dewind, Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, 2011 SWCS International Annual Conference, National Capital Chapter.
- Agenda Changes:** No changes. Agenda accepted.
- Minutes:** Moved by Scott, supported by Jason, that the 1/28/2011 teleconference minutes be approved as presented.
- Treasures Report:** Jay did not provide a printed report. However, he reported that there was currently \$4042.95 in the General Fund checking account. *Jean asked Jay to prepare a printed report for the next teleconference.*
- Information/Volunteer opportunities for International Conference:** Jean introduced Rebekah Dewind, former 2010 President of the Michigan Chapter and now a member of the National Capital Chapter. Rebekah discussed the current status of local arrangements and requested any officers who were planning to attend to sign-up as a volunteer, and for the Michigan Chapter Executive Council to encourage other Chapter members to attend and volunteer. *Rebekah asked if Dan could forward the appeal for volunteers to the East North Central Region Leadership team.* (The National Capital Chapter is in Region 1



Soil & Water Conservation Society

Michigan Chapter

which is adjacent to the East North Central Region.) Rebekah said they currently have only about half the volunteers that they will need.

Rebekah also reported that there were 45 Symposiums planned, and that the Preliminary Program would be coming out soon.

Old Business:

2011 ANR Week Seminar: Committee Chair Kelly Goward was unable to attend this teleconference and had previously sent the following email updating us on the current status. “The agenda and menu are finalized and we have all abstracts and bios from the speakers. All materials are on the website. I did hear from Betsy Smith, EPA, today and due to the Congressional debate on the Federal Budget and the Continuing Resolution, there is uncertainty whether or not they will be allowed to travel due to furlough. They won't find out until March 4. I'm not really sure what this means for our program, especially since I assume this applies to Carl Lucero, USDA-OEM, as well. With the sponsorships, I think we can easily cover at least one person's travel expenses, but probably not both. Speaking of travel, both Betsy and Carl would be flying in (if they can) and will need rides from the airport. Once travel plans are finalized, we'll need someone to pick them up from the airport and bring them to their hotel (assuming they would both fly in on Tues). Also someone to bring them back to the airport. I seem to recall that Vicki Anderson has helped with this in the past. I have not contacted her yet, but I will. If anyone has any other ideas of someone in Lansing that might be able to help, please let me know. Last thing, I will not be available during the day to run the A/V equipment (I'll be there to setup and tear down), so someone else, besides Dan and Jean since they already have enough to do, needs to run the A/V. Any takers?”

Dan stated that if a Government shutdown occurs, Betsy and Carl probably would not be allowed to attend. With that possibility facing us, we need to have a contingency plan. It was decided that Dan and Kelly need to make some contacts to see if there is a possibility of substitutes, or if any of the other speakers can fill in the gaps. Three possible alternatives were suggested: (1) get PowerPoints from Betsy and Carl, maybe with notes, so that the presentations could at least be shown; (2) contact the Michigan Department of the Natural Resources and Environment to see if they might have a substitute presentation; (3) see if Betsy and Carl might be able to tape their presentations for backup. *Dan will start by contacting Betsy and Carl.*

Dan also reported that he and Jay had worked together to get a PayPal account established for the Chapter. A PayPal “Buy Now” button is now on the Chapter website for ANR Seminar registration. Dan has tested it with his own registration.

2011 East North Central Leadership Development Workshop: Kelly also emailed the following: “We're planning Marshall for the location, exact location yet to be determined. The dates are May 5-6, indoors afternoon of the 5th, outdoors morning of the 6th. Thursday afternoon topics include SWCS strategic plan, resources for EC members, and



Soil & Water Conservation Society

Michigan Chapter

the oil spill. Gary Steinhardt suggested the strategic plan topic as they would like our feedback. Sarah VanDelfzijl suggested the resources topic since that seems to come up a lot with the leadership committee and the HQ staff (she will take the lead on planning this and the oil spill, with her and Michelle DeLong as speakers on the oil spill). We also need to include an update from HQ as well as updates from the state chapters. I don't know how much time each topic needs, but here is my initial thought:

Thurs, 1-5pm

1 hour - strategic plan

1 hour - resources for EC members

2 hours - oil spill

(these would have to be adjusted to allow for breaks)

During dinner - HQ and chapter updates

Fri, 8am-12pm

1 hour - indoor presentation (or HQ and chapter updates)

3 hours - field (Dan is currently taking the lead on planning this)

Gary mentioned pulling together an ENC conference call after they had the national board conference call, but I haven't heard anything from Gary yet. It was supposed to be in Feb. *If Kelly doesn't hear from Gary by the ANR week program, she'll get in touch with him again.*

New Business:

2011 Committee assignments: Jean stated that she had received commitments for several Committees, but had a few more contacts to make. *She will update the committee list and get it to Dan. Jean will also contact Gaylynn Kinter about the Membership Committee.*

Annual Work Plan Review: Jean reviewed the February action items and determined that good progress was being made. However, the Scholarship Committee still needs to develop plans to carry out their functions.

Members Comments: Dan suggested that now that we have a PayPal account, we have the opportunity to put a "Donate" button on our website. There was concurrence that this was a good idea.

Next Teleconference: 9:00 a.m., Friday, March 25, 2011

Meeting Adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary