



# Soil & Water Conservation Society

## Michigan Chapter

### Executive Council Teleconference

May 7, 2010

### MINUTES

**(“Action Required” Items are in red italics)**

- Call to Order:** 9:03 a.m. by Rebekah Dewind, Chapter President
- E. C. Members Attending:**
- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Rebekah Dewind         | President         |
| Jean Gagliardo         | President-Elect   |
| Jason Kimbrough        | Vice President    |
| Aaron Lauster          | Past President    |
| Dan Kesselring         | Secretary         |
| Mike LaPointe          | Region 1 Director |
| Abby Smith             | Region 2 Director |
| Kelly Goward           | Region 3 Director |
| Carrie Vollmer-Sanders | Region 4 Director |
- (9 of 10 present – quorum achieved)
- Excused:** Jay Blair Treasurer
- Absent:** None  
(9 of 10 present – quorum achieved)
- Others Attending:** None
- Agenda Changes:** Moved by Aaron, supported by Jean, to approve agenda. Motion passed.
- Minutes of 6/22/2009:** Moved by Aaron, supported by Kelly, to accept minutes as presented. Motion passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Moved by Kelly, supported by Dan, to approve the Treasurer's Report as email by Jay.  
Discussion: Carrie expressed concern that the Treasurer's Report was difficult to understand without explanation from Jay. She thought there could be a more understandable format. ***Carrie said she would talk to Jay about possible changes in the Treasurer's Report format.*** Motion passed with the understanding that Carrie would consult with Jay on the report format.



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### Old Business:

**Summer Tour:** Jean reported on planning progress. Mike asked if there had been any advance publicity so that people could get the date on their calendars. Dan stated that the date was on the website, but that was all. *Jean will prepare an email announcement on the Summer Tour and send it to Dan for forwarding to the membership, the East North Central Leadership Team, Ontario and Wisconsin.* Dan said the next newsletter will go out in early June and should have complete details.

**Organic Tour:** Jason reported that he is now working on contacts and details. He confirmed that October 1 is the projected date for the tour. *Jason will prepare a heads-up email on the Organic Tour and send it to Dan to forward to the Chapter membership and others.*

**2010 International Conference:** Rebekah discussed progress on the NRCS staff approval process. She said a memo should be going out soon. The Early Registration deadline is June 2. Rebekah will be the Delegate to the House of Delegates. Jean is tentatively the alternate.

**Silent Auction Donation:** Rebekah asked for suggestions for the 2010 International Conference Silent Auction donation from the Michigan Chapter. *Jason will check on the possibility of getting a gift basket for the International Conference Silent Auction from Wine Country in the Grand Traverse area.*

**Committee Update:** Dan had emailed an update of the Committee list based on the decisions from the last Executive Council meeting. Dan briefly reviewed the Committee list and suggested, because of recent events, that the Newsletter Committee be changed to the Outreach Committee, and that the Newsletter, Website and Tabletop Display, and related functions, be incorporated into that committee.

Jean moved, Abby supported, that the Newsletter Committee be renamed the Outreach Committee. Motion passed.

Rebekah asked if all of the Committees were chaired by Executive Council members. Dan said yes, except the Audit Committee.

Jean moved and Carrie supported approving the Committee list, with Chairs and members, as revised. Motion carried.

### New Business:

**Scientific Paper Publication (Website):** Dan had previously notified the Executive Council that he had received an inquiry or request from a Chapter Member concerning the possibility of publishing an article on the website. Among previous discussions was an email from the SWCS Headquarters Journal of SWC Editor with the suggestion that opinion or general information articles could be appropriate for the website, but that



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scientific papers probably should be forwarded to SWCS Headquarters for review and possible publication in the Journal.

*The consensus was that Dan should contact the member regarding the potential website publication and ask them to prepare their article and forward it to him for review by the Executive Council.*

*Kelly will start developing a draft policy on publishing articles on the website for the Policy Committee to review, but the consensus was that the Policy should remain open until we gain a little experience with the kind of articles people may wish to publish.*

**Michigan Envirothon Donation Request:** Dan had previously notified the Executive Council, by email, that the Michigan Envirothon Board of Directors had asked if the Michigan Chapter SWCS would be interested in donating 6 books of their choice that would be awarded to 6 members of the Envirothon Team that wins the Soils/Geology portion of the Michigan Envirothon Contest to be held May 12 and 13. Dan and Kelly had suggested several possible publications.

Kelly moved, Mike supported, that the Chapter donate \$50 to the Michigan Envirothon Board to be used toward the purchase of 6 copies of the book “Dirt-The Erosion of Civilizations”, by David Montgomery, for donation to the Envirothon Team that wins the Soils/Geology portion of the Michigan Envirothon Contest. Motion passed.

*Dan will notify Jay to send a check to the Michigan Envirothon Board, and will notify the Michigan Envirothon Board of the donation and book selection.*

**East North Central Region Leadership Team Teleconference:** Rebekah reported on the ENC teleconference held on Wednesday, May 5. Michigan will be hosting the ENC Region Leadership Development Workshop in 2011. The Regional Director asked that Michigan start making plans so that folks in the Region can get the date on their calendars. He also recommended that a technical component be considered so that members may benefit from technical training and possible agency support for the Workshop. Members suggested Kellogg Biological Station and Ft. Custer Military Reservation as possible sites. Available lodging is one other consideration.

*An ENC Workshop Planning Committee has been established and will start working on the ENC Workshop.*

**Next Teleconference:** Since several members were not going to be available on the next scheduled teleconference date, it was decided to determine a new date by email exchange.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary



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### ACTION ITEMS

- *Carrie will talk with Jay about possible changes in the Treasurer's Report format.*
- *Jean will prepare an email announcement on the Summer Tour and send it to Dan for forwarding to the membership, the East North Central Leadership Team, Ontario and Wisconsin.*
- *Jason will prepare a heads-up email on the Organic Tour and send it to Dan to forward to the Chapter membership and others.*
- *Jason will check on the possibility of getting a gift basket for the International Conference Silent Auction from Wine Country in the Grand Traverse area.*
- *The consensus was that Dan should contact the member regarding the potential website publication and ask them to prepare their article and forward it to him for review by the Executive Council.*
- *Kelly will start developing a draft policy on publishing articles on the website for the Policy Committee to review, but the consensus was that the Policy should remain open until we gain a little experience with the kind of articles people may wish to publish.*
- *Dan will notify Jay to send a check to the Michigan Envirothon Board, and will notify the Michigan Envirothon Board of the donation and book selection.*
- *An ENC Workshop Planning Committee has been established and will start working on the ENC Workshop.*