



Soil & Water Conservation Society Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Teleconference December 7, 2009

("Action Required" Items are in red type)

Call to Order: 9:11 AM by Rebekah DeWind – Chapter President Elect

Council Members Present:

Aaron Lauster	President
Rebekah DeWind	President Elect
Kelly Goward	Past President
Jay Blair	Treasurer
Dan Kesselring	Secretary
Kathy Ryan	Region 2 Director

Council Members Excused: Carrie Vollmer Sanders Region 4 Director

Council Members Absent: Perry Smeltzer Vice President
(6 of 10 present – quorum achieved)

Others Attending: Jean Gagliardo

Agenda Changes: There were no changes to the agenda. Jay made a motion to approve the agenda, Kelly seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes of 11/2/2009: There was a question under the treasurer's report. There was a discussion that a motion was not necessary regarding where the International Conference Silent Auction funds were to be deposited. Kathy made a motion to approve the minutes with that question removed. Jay seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The October beginning checking balance was \$4,368.97, there was \$3,989.30 received from national for the International Conference, \$176.35 in the ENC teleconference account, \$140.13 in the website account, and \$54.30 in disbursements for the teleconference account for an ending balance of \$7,987.49. There was \$811.48 in the savings account, \$4.88 in interest earned, \$5,499.36 transferred from closed CDs, and \$5,000.00 transferred to a Chase checking account for an ending balance of \$1,315.73. There is \$4,800.00 in a CD and \$5,200.00 in the Chase checking account for a scholarship fund total of \$11,315.73. Kelly made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Kathy seconded. Motion passed.



Soil & Water Conservation Society Michigan Chapter

New Business:

Official Committees – In 2010, Rebekah would like to get a better handle on committee activities and work on keeping better in touch with each committee. It seems like there are a lot of loose ends and Rebekah would like to move forward with a better direction. The Policy Committee will be active this year reviewing and updating bylaws, including the election procedure. There was also a discussion of SWCS having representation on external committees. We need to maintain a list of which committees/organizations we have representation with, who those representatives are, and what the activities of those committees are. We also need to determine what committees we need to continue participating in and if there are others we want to be involved with. Dan has a list of external committees as of 2006. *He will send this list to the executive council for review and discussion at the next conference call.*

ENC Conference – Rebekah gave a reminder that the ENC leadership development workshop is scheduled for the week of March 15, 2010. More information should be available after the first of the year.

Advertising opportunities for members – There was a discussion about whether or not to allow members to advertise their business on the chapter website and newsletter. A new member recently contacted us about promoting his business to chapter members. It was decided that if we offer advertising to one member, then it should be offered to all, similar to how we offered sponsorships for the website. *The issue will be put before the policy committee to develop a policy.*

Old Business:

2009 Annual Meeting

Awards – Both awards will be presented at ANR week.

Election – Dan received 29 ballots, the highest in several years. They will be mailed to Tina Clemons, elections committee chairperson, today.

Attendance of Executive Council – Rebekah asked who was planning on attending the annual meeting. Dan, Jay, Jean, Rebekah, and Kelly will be attending. Kathy may attend for just the annual meeting, and Aaron will not be attending.

Scholarship Proposal - Is on the ballot. Will be discussed further at the annual meeting.

Agren (pick up and drop off) – Kelly will be picking up Tom and Jamie on December 15 and Larry Foote will be taking them back to the airport on December 17.

ANR Week – Dan sent our chapter mailing list to the ANR week committee. The registration fees have been set. There are lots of potential speakers, but no contacts have



Soil & Water Conservation Society Michigan Chapter

been made. Peter Bray, who gave us the idea for the program, would like to have 5 minutes on the agenda.

Student Chapter Involvement Committee – Rebekah announced that Perry Smeltzer no longer wishes to continue as chairperson of this committee and that Kelly Goward is now the chairperson. Kelly is working on developing a mentoring program for the GVSU student chapter. Dan has a copy of the NRCS mentoring handbook and will email it to Kelly to use as a template. There are also plans for 2010 to expand student chapters to other universities. Jean Gagliardo has a contact at Northern and Rebekah has a contact at Michigan Tech. Jean was added as a member of the committee.

Council Member Comments: none

Next Teleconference: January 29, 2010

Meeting adjourned by Rebekah at 10:06 a.m.

Acting Secretary

Kelly Goward, Past President