



Soil & Water Conservation Society Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Teleconference
February 27, 2009

MINUTES

(“Action Required” Items are in red italics)

Call to Order: 9:00 AM by Aaron Lauster – Chapter President

Council Members Attend:

Aaron Lauster	President
Rebekah Dewind	President-Elect
Perry Smeltzer	Vice President
Kelly Goward	Immediate Past President
Jay Blair	Treasurer
Dan Kesselring	Secretary
Becky Otto	Region 1 Director
Kathy Ryan	Region 2 Director
Jean Gagliardo	Region 3 Director
Carrie Vollmer-Sanders	Region 4 Director

Council Members Excused: None (10 of 10 present – quorum achieved)

Others Attending: Sarah VanDelfzijl, Michigan Chapter Coordinator
2009 Annual Conference

Agenda Changes: None. Agenda accepted as presented.

Minutes of 1/30/09: **President Lauster** explained that he had apparently forgotten to appoint a Secretary during the last teleconference, so no minutes were taken. It was discussed and decided to repeat approval, for the record, of three sets of minutes that were supposed to have been approved at that teleconference. The minutes were:

- November 21, 2008, teleconference minutes
- December 10, 2008, Annual Meeting minutes
- December 10, 2008, Special Executive Council Session minutes

Moved by Goward, supported by Vollmer-Sanders, to approve these three sets of minutes. Motion carried.

There will be no minutes from the 1/30/09 teleconference.

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Michigan Chapter

Treasures Report: A printed Treasurer's Report was not available, but Treasurer Blair gave a verbal report: \$761.10 currently in checking; received \$292.29 in dues, and \$30 from the Annual Meeting 50/50 raffle; no change in Scholarship Fund savings account. We will need to transfer \$140 from checking to savings for the annual \$2 per member contribution to the Scholarship Fund. Then \$200 will come out of savings for the Scholarship.

President Lauster then presented the 2009 Budget for review. After discussion and some edits, Blair moved, and Smeltzer seconded, approval of the budget. Motion carried.

Old Business:

ANR Week Seminar: Kesselring had emailed a written progress report. Current registration was at 13 members and 5 non-members. After discussion Smeltzer moved, and Gagliardo seconded, to approve extending the early registration another week, publicizing the event in our display, to be set up on March 6, allowing registration at the door for \$40 (\$20 for students) and allowing for half day registration at \$20. Also, attempt to publicize afternoon attendance at our event to the GAAMPS workshop session that occurs that morning. Motion carried.

Awards: Sarah VanDelfzijl reported on the Awards Committee. Dan Kesselring had been recommended and approved for the Michigan Chapter Commendation award and was also submitted to national for the National Commendation award. Also, the Potawatomi Resource Conservation and Development Council had been recommended for the Michigan Chapter Education Award.

Sarah will prepare an item for the upcoming newsletter.

Aaron made the following appointments for the Awards Committee: Vandelfzijl, Chairperson; Regional Directors, members. He requested that each Regional Director consider possible award nominees for their Regions, both members and non-member individuals and organizations.

Newsletter Committee: *It was suggested that Kesselring might contact previous Scholarship winners to see if we could get follow-up career stories. Also, to email membership requesting stories regarding their careers and the impact that SWCS may have had on those careers.*

We should also promote the SWCS blog in the newsletter.

Dan requested newsletter items by March 6.

Sarah will do an article on the Annual Conference.

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Student Chapter Involvement: President Lauster appointed Ryan, Smeltzer, Otto, Dewind and Kesselring to the Student Chapter Liaison Committee. Smeltzer agreed to chair the committee. *Dan will send the rest of the members a list of the Chapters that used to exist.*

2009 Annual Conference: Goward and VanDelfzijl are members of the Annual Conference Planning Committee. Currently they are waiting for National Headquarters to come out with the preliminary program so that we can update our publicity.

New Business:

2009 Work Plan: President Lauster discussed the draft work plan which had been emailed to Council members previously. Edits were to remove the summer meeting activities from the plan. Moved by Vollmer-Sanders, seconded by Kesselring, to approve the work plan as amended. Motion carried.

Scholarship Committee: President Lauster appointed Dewind, VanDelfzijl and Otto to the Scholarship Committee, and requested that they come up with a plan for carrying out the Michigan Scholarships in Conservation Program. *Dan will send the current guidelines document to Becky.*

ENC Leadership Workshop: The workshop will be held on March 19 and 20. Aaron, Dan, Sarah and Kelly plan to attend. Kelly will contact Gary (ENC Regional Director) for more information on the workshop.

Teleconference Schedule: President Lauster inquired if we needed another teleconference on March 27th, since it would be just a week after the ENC Meeting. It was decided that several Executive Council members would not be at the ENC Meeting, so the teleconference was needed.

Council Member Comments: Smeltzer asked if we have any members in Extension. Kesselring said that we do have some Michigan State University faculty as members, but none from Extension.

Next Teleconference: 9:00 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2009

Blair Moved, Kesselring seconded, to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary

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