



# Soil & Water Conservation Society Michigan Chapter

## Executive Council Teleconference March 27, 2009

*("Action Required" Items are in red italics)*

- Call to Order:** 9:01 AM by Aaron Lauster – Chapter President
- Council Members Attend:**
- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Aaron Lauster  | President                |
| 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        |
- Council Members Excused:**
- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Rebekah Dewind | President-Elect |
|----------------|-----------------|
- Council Members Absent:** Carrie Vollmer-Sanders      Region 4 Director
- (8 of 10 present – quorum achieved)
- Others Attending:** Sarah VanDelfzijl – Michigan Chapter Coordinator,  
International Conference Committee
- Agenda Changes:** Moved by Dan, supported by Jean that agenda be accepted as presented.
- Minutes:** Moved by Becky, supported by Kelly to approve the 2/27/09 minutes as submitted by email.
- Treasures Report:** The February Treasurer's Report was provided by email. The General Fund Balance was \$439.87. Receipts for the ANR Week Seminar was \$1520. The Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center Bill was \$686.40. The Scholarship Fund Balance is \$11,515.22.
- Moved by Dan, supported by Jean, to approve the Treasurer's Report as provided.

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## Michigan Chapter

Jay stated that the signature cards at the banks were out of date. Moved by Perry, supported by Dan to remove Andy Raymond's and Duane Coffey's names from the signature cards and add Aaron Lauster's and Rebekah Dewind's names to the signature cards. *Jay will make arrangements to get this done.*

*Sarah suggested that the signature card update should be added to the Work Plan as a task to be carried out in January each year. Aaron said he would do that.*

Jay discussed the Scholarship Fund. The funds are held in three CDs and a savings account at Chase Bank. Jay said that a checking account would earn more interest than the savings account. Aaron questioned whether there was a fee for the checking. Moved by Jay, supported by Jean, to move the Scholarship savings account funds to a checking account. Aaron moved to amend the motion to add "if there are no additional fees for the checking account." Supported by Jean. The amendment was approved by voice vote. The motion was approved by voice vote. *Jay will find out if the checking account carries an additional fee and, if it does not, will move the Scholarship Fund savings to a checking account. If the checking account does charge a fee, Jay will not move the funds and will bring the results to the next teleconference.*

Kelly asked about the ENC Region teleconference fund. Jay said that he had received a check for \$50 from Indiana, but not from West Virginia or Ohio. *Jay will get that deposit on the ENC Region Teleconference Fund report.*

**Old Business: ANR Week Seminar Report:** Dan Kesselring reported that there were 47 registrants for the Seminar. One registrant was unable to attend due to illness in the family. Jay and Dan decided to give them a full refund of \$40.

There were 16 feedback forms returned. Most of the feedback was quite positive. Dan had compiled the feedback and emailed it to all members of the Council and the Planning Committee. Dan has sent thank you cards to all speakers, plus Sandra Batie for her support of the Seminar through the Elton R. Smith Endowment in Food and Agriculture Policy. The net return on the Seminar was \$809.74. Dan said that the members only luncheon with the speakers got a bit confusing and should be reevaluated before next year. One non-member asked to join the group, and a member volunteered to give their seat to him. Then the question became whether any other non-members should be allowed in. As it turned out, not all speakers came to the luncheon, so there were 2 or 3 empty seats left.

**Newsletter Item – Wall of Shame:** Dan stated that as far as he knew, everyone who promised a newsletter item had submitted one, so there were no names to put on the "Wall of Shame!".

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**Student Chapter Involvement Committee:** Perry Smeltzer reported that the committee has started discussion recently, and are currently trying to brainstorm ideas on how to proceed. Dan had previously emailed Student Chapter information gleaned from the Chapter History document. He suggested that maybe someone should contact Neil MacDonald, advisor to the Grand Valley State University Student Chapter, to learn how and when that Chapter was established, and why that Chapter has remained active. *Kelly Goward said she would contact him.*

**Work Plan Review:** Aaron said that he had reviewed the Annual Work Plan for March and found that we were up to date on most items except for distributing the membership list to Regional Directors. *Aaron said he would do that.*

**ENC Regional Workshop Review:** Aaron, and other attendees, reviewed and discussed the ENC Regional Workshop held at the Malabar Farm State Park in Lucas, Ohio, last week. Aaron, Dan, Kelly and Sarah attended. Kelly and Sarah gave a report on the upcoming International Conference. The ENC Workshop will be held in West Virginia next year.

**New Business: 2009 Annual Conference Committee Report:** Sarah VanDelfzijl, Michigan Chapter Coordinator, reported that the Conference Preliminary Program is now available. She said that the Committee is now in a standby mode and needs to have a teleconference with Dewayne Johnson to find out what needs to be done next.

Kelly stated that we still need to line up projectors, about 16, for the conference. She said that laptops are readily available, but media projectors are harder to find. She would like to be able to get them all from one location, but may not be able to.

Kelly and Sarah also stated that *they need to have some members show up on Friday, a day ahead of the conference, to assure that everything is ready to go.*

**Next Teleconference:** Due to scheduling conflicts on the fourth Friday in April, the next teleconference will be at **9:00 a.m., Friday, May 1, 2009**

**Meeting Adjourned** by President Lauster at 9:57 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary

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