



Soil & Water Conservation Society

Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Teleconference May 29, 2009

MINUTES

("Action Required" Items are in red italics)

Call to Order: 9:09 a.m. by Aaron Lauster – Chapter President

Officers Attending:

Aaron Lauster	President
Perry Smeltzer	Vice President
Jay Blair	Treasurer
Dan Kesselring	Secretary
Kathy Ryan	Region 2 Director
Jean Gagliardo	Region 3 Director

(6 of 10 present – quorum achieved)

Excused:

Rebekah Dewind	President-Elect
Kelly Goward	Immediate Past President
Carrie Vollmer-Sanders	Region 4 Director

Absent: Vacant Region 1 Director

Others Attending: Gaylynn Kinter

Agenda Changes: None. Agenda accepted as presented.

Minutes of 5/1/2009: Dan had emailed a draft of the minutes, but then followed up with the addition of an omission concerning a discussion about commemorative pins for the International Conference. Also, Jay clarified a question about the discussion of A/V Equipment for the Conference. Moved by Jay, supported by Jean, to accept 5/1/09 teleconference minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

Treasures Report: Jay provided a Treasurer's Report by email. Dan said that the Chapter Total amount wasn't correct. The correct amount is \$12,473.36. Jay stated the current checking account balance is \$1,381.18. Dan moved, and Kathy supported, that the Treasurer's Report be approved as edited. Motion passed.



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Old Business:

Newsletter Update: Dan suggested that we delay our second newsletter of the year until after the International Annual Conference in July, since there is very little news to report right now, but will be plenty in July. Consensus was to continue with the periodic emails as needed and delay the newsletter. *He requested that if anyone has something that they need to get out to the membership now, they should send it to him for distribution.*

Student Chapter Involvement Committee: Perry reported that he has discussed the Student Chapter issue with a recent graduate from MSU. He said that a key is to get support from someone in MSU faculty. Dan suggested possibly contacting Sandra Batie, a current SWCS member and Professor in the Ag Economics Dept. Aaron suggested getting in contact with another student organization, perhaps the Agronomy Club, and sponsoring a meeting. Aaron also suggested contacting Gary Steinhardt, Regional Rep. and Purdue University Student Advisor, for advice. After further discussion it was decided to learn from others at the International Conference, and then decide how to proceed after the Conference.

Aaron said we should focus on MSU after the Conference, and that Aaron, Perry, Kathy and Dan are the Committee for doing this.

Work Plan Review: Aaron said that we are on schedule in the work plan, but that the Work Plan does not reflect the International Conference activities we are also currently involved in. He stated that the Work Plan calls for appointing the Annual Meeting Committee (the President-Elect chairs this) the Nominations Committee and the Elections Committee in June. *He asked if anyone is interested in serving on any of these Committees, to let him know.*

Apparel Update: Sarah VanDelfzijl had sent everyone an email that the polo shirts for the upcoming International Conference had been ordered, and the amounts that each person owed her for their shirt. *She requested that we mail our checks to her home address rather than her work address.*

Scholarship Committee: Kelly Goward had emailed the Executive Council that she had received one request for a Scholarship to the International Conference, from Melissa Buzzard at GVSU. Moved by Kathy, supported by Jean, that we approve a Scholarship for Melissa in the amount of \$300. Motion passed. *That amount to be taken from the Chapter General Fund rather than the Scholarship Fund. Kelly will be notified to contact Melissa.*



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Commemorative Pins: Moved by Dan, supported by Jean, for *Gaylynn to contact the pin supplier that Kelly had reported to us to see if they could still deliver pins in time for the Conference, and, if yes, to order the pins in an amount not to exceed \$800.* Motion passed.

Highway Cleanup: Gaylynn reported that the May cleanup went well with 8 people attending, and that it only took about 90 minutes. *The next highway cleanup will be on September 11th.*

A/V Equipment: Jay reported that Karen Blair has secured sufficient laptops for the Conference, but only about half the projectors needed. *Aaron said he could bring a projector and would contact Mike LaPointe to see if he can also supply a projector. Jay will get a list from Karen showing where projectors are coming from and send it to the Executive Council.*

New Business:

Board Vacancy: Aaron reported that he had not yet contacted anyone about filling the vacant Region 1 Director position. Mike LaPointe and Marilyn Shy are the currently suggested options.

Speaker's Forum Gifts: Kelly had emailed a request that the Michigan Chapter provide honorarium gifts for the speakers at the Fellow's Forum at the Conference. She suggested that since the Forum topic was the Emerald Ash Borer invasion, that we get pens made from Ash wood. She has a supplier that will provide 6 pens for \$30 each, and donate a 7th for the silent auction. Moved by Dan, supported by Kathy, to purchase the pens for \$180. Motion passed. *Kelly will be notified to purchase the pens.*

Silent Auction: Gaylynn requested some funds for receipt books for the silent auction. Moved by Kathy, supported by Jean, to authorize Gaylynn up to \$20 for supplies for managing the silent auction. Motion passed.

Conference Tours: Aaron reported that Kelly is planning a walk through on the Tours on June 19th. *Anyone who will be involved in the tours is asked to join her. Contact Kelly for time and location.*

Next Meeting: *The next teleconference will be on June 26th. Aaron stated that this will be a "Logistics" teleconference which all Executive Council members need to attend if at all possible.*

Meeting adjourned by Lauster at 9:52 a.m.

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary