

APPROVED Minutes Michigan Society of American Foresters, Executive Committee  
March 30, 2009  
Quality Inn, Sault Ste Marie, Michigan

Attendees: Chairman Larry Leefers, Council Representative Greg Russell, Bill Cook, Maria Janowiak, Linda Nagel, Glen Moll, James Ferris, Tom Seablom, Jason Stephens, Bill Hasse, Glenn Moll, Jack Penegor, Jason Hartman, John Hamel, Les Homan, Brenda Owen, Jason Hartman, Les Homan, Bill Hasse, Pete Squibb, Tom Seablom, John Pilon, Mike Elenz, Joyce Angel-Ling, Derrick Coy

Minutes were taken by John Pilon in the absence of MSAF Secretary, Martha Sjogren.

Meeting was called to order at 6:20 by State Society Chairman Larry Leefers.

Welcome and Introductions

**1. Approval of agenda**

.. **Motion** to approve agenda. Jack Penegor/Tom Seablom - motion carried.

**2. Secretary's report and minutes from January 2009.**

Was not discussed since we only have a draft.

**3. Immediate Past-Chair report.**

None due to Ernie Houghton's excused absence.

**4. Council Report - Greg Russell, Council Representative**

- Reported that discussion on Position Statement on High Grading and Diameter Limit Cutting was underway. Research is being conducted to see if a PS should be done.
- Sale of SAF National Office property fell through due to state of economy and issues with county that wants to turn property into historical site.
- Financial status of SAF is stable, but has experienced some losses. There were some retirements that resulted in lag of timely financial transactions. Web-based system is being developed for financial transactions.
- Suggested that councils to consider changing by-laws to allow longer officer terms if they are having difficulty in recruiting new officers.

**5. Treasurer's report: Jack Pilon**

- Budget report was presented. Noted Michigan Forester is over-budget due to last year's bill being paid from this year's budget.
- There was discussion regarding the size and frequency of Michigan forester editions for the balance of the year.
- Meeting logistics: Any proceeds from the spring conference and Education Fund ticket sales are to be split with the Canadians on proportional basis.

.. **Motion** to produce two additional eight-page issues of the Michigan Forester this year. Take \$1,500 from canceled Leadership Academy to cover additional costs as needed. Pete Squibb/Tom Seablom - motion carried.

.. **Motion** to accept treasurer's report as amended to reflect transfer of funds

from Michigan Forester account that Bill Hasse closed. Jack Penegor/Jim Ferris - motion carried.

#### **6. UP Auto Tour:**

Jack Penegor reported a \$1,500 Forester Fund grant was received from SAF National. Discussed material supplies and prices.

.. **Motion** to budget \$2,000 from the Education Fund to purchase signs for the UP Auto Tour. Bill Hasse/Bill Cook - motion carried.

#### **7. Tom Seablom presented Memorial Fund Contribution Criteria.**

This was discussed at the January meeting and it was decided to develop criteria before any contributions could be made. Tom will bring the issue back to the fall meeting for consideration.

#### **8. Policy**

Doug Heym sent email regarding policy statements. He asked that the White Tail Deer policy statement take in account the Chronic Wasting Disease concern.

#### **9. Education Fund**

Chair Mike Elenz is looking for someone to take over as chair.

#### **10. Membership Chair Amy Douglass**

Amy sent report listing people who have not paid their dues and is asking members to contact them and encourage them to maintain their membership.

#### **11. Upcoming SAF Meetings**

a) **Maria Janowiak**, UP Chapter Chair – Spring 2010 conference may be joint meeting with Minnesota and Wisconsin SAF on Recreation and Forest Management. Possibly in early April in Odana, Wisconsin (Bad River Reservation).

b) **Jason Stephens**, LP Chapter Chair – Fall 2009 conference on Oak in the Northern Forest at Grayling Ramada Inn on October 20 and 21.

#### **12. Forest Management Guidelines for Michigan (Green Book)**

Notice was received from Doug Heym that he and others are in the process of editing it.

#### **13. HSD Awards**

Chairman presented examples of National recognition that could be applied to efforts here in Michigan.

#### **14. MDNR Citizen Advisory Council for EUP**

Brenda Owen is seeking someone to replace her.

#### **15. White-tail Deer input**

Pete Squibb is requesting SAF try to get someone appointed to provide input to the DNR Michigan Deer Advisory Team. MFA, MAT, and Tree Farm are currently the only forestry input into identifying issues on deer management in the state. Larry Leefers and Bill Cook will draft a letter request a representative from Michigan SAF on the advisory team.

**16. Bylaws revision**

No report due to Ernie Houghton's excused absence.

**17. Other Issues: Bill Cook**

a) Legislative Event – Explore joint efforts with other organization to address forestry issues. No consensus of when or if to do it. With term limits, not sure of its effectiveness.

b) MSUE put out document on federal stimulus money as it might affect Michigan.

c) PNIF Coalition – MACD has proposal for funding for more foresters to provide more services. Association of Consulting Foresters (ACF) has taken position against it. Bill states that SAF may want to consider discussing with legislators the role of tax dollar use in forestry in Michigan. What practices should government fund on private lands?

**18. CIF Report:**

Les Homan stated CIF has an interest in collaboration with SAF.

**19. MSU Liaison:**

Larry Leefers – MSU Chapter has “Feed a Forester” social event with faculty and others. MSU Chapter is sponsoring a series of three global warming evening seminars. Students are producing maple syrup as a fundraiser.

**20. MTU Liaison:**

Linda Nagel – MTU Xi Sigma Pi Honor Society is sponsoring an urban forestry symposium. Students organized a spring jubilee banquet.

**21. UP Chapter Report:**

Maria reported UP Chapter bylaws are being revised.

**22. LP Chapter Report:**

Jason Stephens – Announced that a first Thursday social meeting will be held every month. There has been a speaker arranged to give a presentation on Metz Fire of 1908 at BJs in Gaylord on May 29. Legislators will be invited.

**23. Les Homan gave a vote of thanks to Mike Elenz for the very good job he did at Education Fund chair.**

**24. Bill Hasse and Dennis Renken are working on SAF Fellow nominations.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:24.

Old Business to cover at Fall Meeting:

1. Minutes from January 2009 organizational meeting need to be approved.
2. Memorial Fund Contribution Criteria - Tom Seablom
3. Bylaws Revisions – Ernie Houghton