

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
SECTION ANNUAL REPORT**

Bar Year: 2012-2013

Section Name: Agricultural Law Section

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Agricultural Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among members engaged in the practice of law serving agricultural clients, with the goal of improving the practice of agricultural law in Michigan.

Section Membership:

As of May 31, 2013, 132 members have joined the Section, which is still in its first year.

Officers and Council Members:

Officers and Council members were elected during the January 23, 2013 Organizational Meeting, held at the State Bar of Michigan in Lansing, Michigan. 49 attorneys attended the organizational meeting. The Section's Bylaws were also adopted during the Organizational Meeting and are attached as Exhibit A.

Officer	Name	Address	Telephone	E-mail
Chair	Liza C. Moore P72240	313 S. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 371- 8281	lmoore@fosterswift.com
Chair-Elect	Kristiana M. Coutu P71769	251 North Rose Street, 4th Floor Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 553- 3547	kmcoutu@varnumlaw.com
Secretary	Trent C. Hilding P68189	6824 E. Lake Montcalm Rd. Edmore, MI 48829	(989) 427- 3436	hildingagservices@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Michael J. Fraleigh P36615	6200 Pine Hollow Drive, Suite 200 East Lansing, MI 48823	(800) 928- 0034	mike.fraleigh@fraleighlaw.com

Council Member	Term
Liza C. Moore P72240	2012-2013
Kristiana M. Coutu P71769	2012-2013
Trent C. Hilding P68189	2012-2013

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Council Member	Term
Michael J. Fraleigh P36615	2012-2013
Jeff G. Haarer P42386	2012-2014
Todd W. Hoppe P67723	2012-2014
Laura E. Volkman P71882	2012-2014
Brion B. Doyle P67870	2012-2013
John R. Dresser P35161	2012-2013
Allison L. Eicher P75385	2012-2013

Council Meeting Schedule:

Meeting Type	Date	Location
Section Organizational Meeting	January 23, 2013	State Bar of Michigan Lansing, MI
Council Conference Call	March 8, 2013	Conference Call
Council Conference Call	April 10, 2013	Conference Call
Council Conference Call	May 15, 2013	Conference Call
Council Conference Call	June 19, 2013	Conference Call
Council Conference Call	July 17, 2013	Conference Call
Council Conference Call	August 21, 2013	Conference Call
Council Conference Call	September 11, 2013	Conference Call *May be in-person. TBD
Annual Meeting	September 19, 2013	Lansing Center Lansing, MI

The Agendas for the March-June 2013 Council Meetings are attached as Exhibit B.

Committees:

The Council created the following Committees, set a goal for each Committee, and asked each Committee to draft a Plan and appoint a chairperson.

Committee Name	Chairperson
Publication Committee	Sally Babbitt P62120
Program Committee	Matthew Johnson P64772
Food Committee	Kurt Brauer P54061
Legislative Committee	Cindy Rhodes Victor P33613

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
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The completed Committee Plans for the Program Committee, Publication Committee, and Food Committee, and framework for the Legislative Committee Plan, are attached as Exhibit C.

General Budget Information:

As of May 31, 2013, the Section's Year-to-Date Revenue was \$3,275. As of May 31, 2013, the Section's Year-to-Date Expenses have been \$598.25. Because the Section is still developing its programs, publications, and meetings (which will be held this summer and fall), the budget is still developing. The Annual Meeting and Program will use some Section funds. The Discussion Listserv through The Modern Firm uses some Section funds.

Events and/or Seminars:

Event or Seminar Title	Date	Location
Annual Meeting and Program	September 19, 2013	Lansing Center Lansing, MI

The Schedule for the Annual Meeting and Program is attached as Exhibit D.

The Section's Committees are planning to (1) hold lunch-and-learn sessions this summer across the state, and (2) publish some articles online this summer. These activities are still being developed.

Many Section members have joined a LinkedIn group for the Section, which is a free way to share information with members. The Section recently started a Discussion Listserv through The Modern Firm.

Recommendations for Next Council:

This year the Council worked to set the groundwork for the new Section. The Council determined that a LinkedIn group and Discussion Listserv would help members and established those fora for discussion. The Council created four Committees: Program, Publication, Food, and Legislative. The Council charged those four Committees with a specific goal, and asked the Committees to create a Committee Plan and appoint a Committee chairperson. The Committees have been working to accomplish the goal for this year. The Council worked to obtain speakers for the Annual Meeting and Program that would be of interest and benefit to the members.

The next Council should build on the framework for the Section developed this year. The next Council should encourage use of the LinkedIn group and Listserv to share information among members. The next Council should work with the Program Committee to hold more lunch-and-learn sessions across the state to encourage member communication. It would be worthwhile to consider programs held in conjunction with other Sections, as well as programs held in conjunction with tours of agricultural facilities. The next Council should work with the Publication Committee to have regularly scheduled publications. The next Council should hold a program at the annual meeting that responds to member interest and provides useful information.

EXHIBIT A

**BYLAWS OF THE AGRICULTURAL LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSES**

Section 1. The Section shall be known as the Agricultural Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

Section 2. The purposes of the Section shall be:

- (a) to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among members engaged in the practice of law servicing agricultural clients, with a view to:
 - (i) improve the practice of agricultural law,
 - (ii) study the principles, regulations, statutes, and legal developments that affect the agricultural community, and to
 - (iii) improve the quality of legal services provided to the agricultural community.
- (b) to serve as a forum and vehicle for the dissemination of specialized knowledge to practitioners engaged in the practice of law in this area by fostering networking and communications among members.
- (c) to coordinate its activities with those of other sections of the State Bar of Michigan whose activities and practice areas are complementary to those of this Section.

To accomplish these goals, the Agricultural Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan will sponsor meetings and conferences of educational value and support the publication of articles that relate to the purposes of the Section.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Any active member of the State Bar of Michigan, upon request to the State Bar of Michigan and upon payment of dues for the current year, shall be enrolled as a member of this Section. Membership dues shall be established by the Council and shall be payable in advance each fiscal year beginning on the first day of October of each year. The Council may set lower annual membership dues for Law Students and Affiliate Members than it sets for the rest of the membership. Any member of the Section whose annual dues shall be more than six (6) months past due shall automatically cease to be a member of the Section.

Section 2. Members so enrolled as active members of the State Bar of Michigan and whose dues are so paid shall constitute the regular membership of this Section. All references in these Bylaws to "members" shall relate and be limited to active members so enrolled. In addition, members of the Law Student Section of the State Bar of Michigan may, subject to any rules of the State Bar of Michigan, become student members of the Section upon payment to the State Bar of Michigan of annual dues, if any, in an amount established by the Council in accordance with Section 1 above. Student members shall have no voting rights and shall not be eligible to hold office in the Section; however, student members shall be encouraged to participate in the work and activities of the committees of this Section as determined by the Chairperson then in office and shall be entitled to all other privileges accorded to Section members by the Section.

Section 3. Unless otherwise determined by the Council and reported to the State Bar of Michigan in writing, newly admitted members of the State Bar of Michigan shall upon application be considered members of the Section until the end of the first full fiscal year of the State Bar of Michigan following the year of their admission to practice and shall not be required to pay dues until after that time.

Section 4. An active member of the State Bar of Michigan who has attained the age of seventy (70) years does not have to pay annual dues provided, however, that application for membership in the Section shall be made annually in writing.

ARTICLE III ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Section 1. The organizational meeting of the Section shall be held during the period of January 1-31, 2013 at a time and place to be determined by the Acting Chairperson hereafter appointed.

Section 2. The Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan hereby appoints Liza C. Moore (P72240) as Acting Chairperson of the proposed Section, to serve in this capacity until the Bylaws of the Section are approved and the Council and Officers of the Section are duly elected as hereinafter provided.

Section 3. All active members of the State Bar of Michigan who have applied for membership in the Section and have paid dues or have otherwise qualified under Article III by November 19, 2012 shall receive written notice of the time and place of the organizational meeting and shall be eligible to vote at the meeting.

Section 4. Voting at the organizational meeting shall be in person and not by proxy.

Section 5. At the organizational meeting, the members shall elect six (6) members to serve as the first Council, and shall elect the 4 officers of the Section. A majority of those present and voting at the organizational meeting shall be sufficient to elect the first Council. The terms of one-half of the six (6) members of the Council elected at the organizational meeting shall be for one (1) year and the terms of the other half shall be for two (2) years.

**ARTICLE IV
ELECTION OF COUNCIL**

- Section 1.** The Council of the Section shall have ten (10) members, consisting of
- (a) the officers, ex officio, elected pursuant to Article V and
 - (b) six (6) members elected to two (2) year terms by the membership of the Section at the annual meeting.

Section 2. No member of the Council who has served for more than four (4) consecutive full 2-year terms shall be eligible for membership on the Council until at least one (1) year has elapsed.

Section 3. If any elected or ex officio member of the Council shall fail to attend three (3) successive meetings of the Council, the Council may declare the position vacant. If a position of the Council becomes vacant for any reason during the term of a member, including resignation or the inability to perform the duties of the position, the remaining members of the Council shall select a replacement, who shall succeed to the position.

Section 4. Prior to the annual meeting, the Chairperson shall appoint a nominating committee to propose nominations for the positions of Officers and members of the Council for election at the annual meeting. Other nominations may be made by members present at the annual meeting.

Section 5. Election of the Council shall be by voice vote of the members of the Section present at the annual meeting, unless voting by written ballot is requested and approved by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting or the outcome of the election by voice vote is indeterminable in which case voting by written ballot shall be required. The members of the Section present at the annual meeting of the Section constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and the action of the majority of the quorum constitutes action of the Section.

**ARTICLE V
ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of the Section shall consist of the following, elected by the members at the annual meeting:

- (a) a Chairperson,
- (b) a Chairperson-Elect,
- (c) a Secretary, and
- (d) a Treasurer.

Section 2. If any office becomes vacant during the period between annual meetings, the Council may select a replacement, who shall succeed to the full duties and responsibilities of the office.

Section 3. Subject to the approval of the members at the annual meeting, it is anticipated that the Chairperson-Elect shall succeed to the office of Chairperson.

Section 4. Elections of the Officers shall be by voice vote of the members of the Section present at the annual meeting, unless voting by written ballot is requested and approved by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting or the outcome of the election by voice vote is indeterminable in which case voting by written ballot shall be required. The members of the Section present at the annual meeting of the Section constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and the action of the majority of the quorum constitutes action of the Section.

ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Chairperson. The Chairperson shall

- (a) Preside at all meetings of the Council,
- (b) Prepare and present at each annual meeting of the Section a report of the activities of the Section for the preceding year,
- (c) Appoint the chairpersons and members of the committees of the Section, and
- (d) Perform such other duties as are customarily associated with the office of chairperson, or as assigned by the Council.

Section 2. Chairperson-Elect. The Chairperson-Elect shall

- (a) Preside at all meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairperson,
- (b) Assume and perform the duties of the Chairperson during the disability of or after the death or resignation of the Chairperson, and
- (c) Be responsible for the development and presentation of an educational program at the annual meeting.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall

- (a) Be the custodian of the books and records of the Section, apart from the financial documents,

- (b) Keep a record of the annual meeting of the Section, and the meetings of the Council, and
- (c) Preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairperson and the Chairperson-Elect.

Section 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall

- (a) Keep a record of the money received and disbursed, and present a report at each meeting of the Council,
- (b) Present a financial report to the members at the annual meeting,
- (c) Prepare and present a proposed budget for the consideration of the Council, and
- (d) Preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairperson, the Chairperson-Elect, and the Secretary.

**ARTICLE VII
DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Section 1. The Council shall

- (a) Have general supervision and control of the affairs of the Section subject to the Supreme Court Rules Concerning the State Bar of Michigan and the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan and the Bylaws of the Section,
- (b) During the interim between meetings of the Section, have full power to do and perform all acts and functions, which the Section itself might do or perform,
- (c) Authorize all commitments or contracts, and shall authorize or approve the expenditure of all monies, and
- (d) Formulate and state the position of the Council on any matters relating to the Section's purposes.

Section 2. A majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A vote of the majority of those Council members present and voting shall be required for action by the Council.

Section 3. Between scheduled meetings of Council, the Chairperson of the Section may, and on the request of any member of the Council, shall

- (a) Schedule and convene a special meeting of the Council, or

- (b) When the calling of a formal Council meeting is not practical, submit in writing to each member of the Council any proposition on which the Council may be authorized to act. Members of the Council may vote on such proposition by communicating their vote to the Secretary by any prompt or convenient means. The Secretary shall retain a record of the proposition submitted, when, how, at whose request submitted, and the vote of each member thereon.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Membership of committees is open to any member of the Section. Officers and Council members may also serve on and act as chairpersons of committees. The Council shall determine the number of members of each committee.

Section 2. In addition to the committees described below, the Council may from time to time create any ad hoc or permanent committees that it considers necessary to further the purposes of the Section.

Section 3. Food Committee. The Food Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the status of and developments in the law pertaining to the laws regarding Food.

Section 4. Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for promoting membership in the Section among members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Section 5. Program Committee. The Program Committee shall be responsible for the planning and presentations of educational programs.

Section 6. Publication Committee. The Publication Committee shall be responsible for the preparation and publication of newsletters to be distributed to the members.

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

Section 1. The Council shall meet not less than quarterly. A majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum. A majority of those present and voting shall be sufficient to take action on any matter before the Council. Members may attend in person or by telephone.

Section 2. The annual meeting of the Section shall take place during and in the same venue as the annual meeting of the State Bar of Michigan. The members of the Section present at any annual meeting or special meeting of the Section constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and the action of the majority of the quorum constitutes action of the Section.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Council or Section may be called by the Chairperson.

**ARTICLE X
MISCELLANEOUS**

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Section shall be the same as that of the State Bar of Michigan.

Section 2. All bills incurred by the Section, before being forwarded to the Treasurer or to the Executive Secretary of the State Bar of Michigan for payment, shall be approved by the Chairperson or by the Treasurer, or, if the Council shall direct, by both of them.

Section 3. No salary or compensation shall be paid for serving as a Section officer, member of the Council, or member of any committee.

Section 4. Any action of this Section must be approved by the Representative Assembly or the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan before the same becomes effective as the action of the State Bar of Michigan. Reports or recommendations of this Section or its committees may be released, announced, or published only as provided in the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan, Article VIII and Article IX.

**ARTICLE XI
AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Council, or by a petition signed by not less than five (5) members of the Section. The Council shall cause a complete and accurate text of the proposed amendments to be published in the *Michigan Bar Journal* or otherwise communicated to members of the Section not less than thirty (30) days before the annual meeting.

Section 2. Proposed Amendments shall be submitted to the membership at that annual meeting and shall be adopted upon a majority vote of those members present and voting.

Section 3. No amendment so adopted shall become effective until approved by the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan.

CERTIFICATION

Trent C. Hilding, Secretary of the Agricultural Law Section, certifies that these bylaws were adopted by a majority vote of the members, a quorum being present, at the organizational meeting of the Agricultural Law Section, held on January 23, 2013.

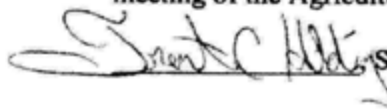
 Secretary

EXHIBIT B

MEMO

FOSTER SWIFT
FOSTER SWIFT COLLINS & SMITH PC | ATTORNEYS

TO: Agricultural Law Section Council
FROM: Liza Moore
DATE: February 27, 2013
RE: Agenda for March 8, 2013 Council Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER

BUSINESS

1. Financial Overview

Please find the attached financial information for our Section. I am sharing this information so you have an idea of the financial resources immediately available to us when you are considering future Section work.

Additional information about how bills are paid by the Section, etc. is available online at <http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/FAQ.cfm> Note that the State Bar of Michigan charges for various services. Please see the following links for more information about those fees:

[Services Contact Sheet](#)
[Core Services at No Charge](#)
[Enhanced Services](#)
[Additional Services Cost](#)

2. Committees

Please let me know your thoughts on committee work. What the Bylaws (See Article VIII) say about committees:

Section 1. Membership of committees is open to any member of the Section. Officers and Council members may also serve on and act as chairpersons of committees. The Council shall determine the number of members of each committee.

Section 2. In addition to the committees described below, the Council may from time to time create any ad hoc or permanent committees that it considers necessary to further the purposes of the Section.

Section 3. Food Committee. The Food Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the status of and developments in the law pertaining to the laws regarding Food.

Section 4. Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for promoting membership in the Section among members of the State Bar of Michigan.

Section 5. Program Committee. The Program Committee shall be responsible for the planning and presentations of educational programs.

Section 6. Publication Committee. The Publication Committee shall be responsible for the preparation and publication of newsletters to be distributed to the members.

This list of committees is flexible. We had to identify some committees when we drafted the bylaws.

Who has expressed interest in committee work so far (in no particular order):

Mark Kellogg; Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap, PC

Mary Ligon; Wez Ligon, Attorney at Law PLC

Robert Pineau; Kerr Russell & Weber, PLC

Cindy Rhodes Victor; The Victor Firm PLLC

Donna Mallonee; Heritage Legal Services PLLC

Sally Babbitt; Chalgian & Tripp Law Offices PLLC (*newsletter*)

Kurt Brauer Warner Norcross & Judd LLP (*would like to liason with the Environmental Law Section*)

Matt Johnson; Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Kate Redman; Olson Bzdok & Howard PC

Clayton Johnson; Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner PLC

Hon. Jim Erhart; 90th District Judge (*emailed that he wanted to be kept updated*)

Sarah Harwood; Abbott Nicholson PC

Wendy Walker-Dyes; Faegre Baker Daniels LLP

Kurt Olson; Olson Law Office

James Shek; James Shek Attorney At Law (*said he reserved the Lakeshore-Ciao event center in South Haven for dates other than July 4 or Blueberry Festival weekend*)

Keith McEvoy; Gielow Groom Terpstra & McEvoy

Jacqueline Hand; University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (*Urban Farming*)

3. LinkedIn

I had Samantha Meinke create this group as a cost-effective and easy way to share information with membership. If you intend to join the group, please do so by the date of our March meeting. At that point, we will invite all members of the section to join. Please share your ideas for discussions on the group.

4. Listserv

Some of you and several members have expressed interest in a Listserv. Below are links to State Bar information about ListServs and social media. Note that Listservs have monthly fees and several options are available. We will need to discuss which options are best for our Section.

[Social Networking Policy PDF](#)
[Communication Division Services](#)
[Listserv Information PDF](#)
[List of Lists](#)
[General Information/Help](#)
[User Guide](#)
[Owner & Moderator Guide](#)

5. Newsletter

Are you interested in the Section developing a Quarterly newsletter?

6. Program

Are you interested in the Section holding programs in addition to the program we committed to do at the Annual Meeting in September (likely Thursday, September 19, 2013 in the morning)?

5. Other Discussion

Other topics you would like to discuss today?

6. Next Conference Call

Let's set a date for our next conference call and identify follow-up actions that need to be taken prior to that call.

ADJOURN

MEMO

FOSTER SWIFT
FOSTER SWIFT COLLINS & SMITH PC || ATTORNEYS

TO: Agricultural Law Section Council
FROM: Liza Moore
DATE: April 9, 2013
RE: Agenda for April 10, 2013 Council Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER

BUSINESS

1. Annual Meeting and Program

On Thursday, September 19, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Agricultural Law Section will hold its annual meeting and a program as part of the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. Let's discuss moving forward with the program speakers this month. My ideas: State of Agriculture featuring industry and government speaker(s); How Agricultural Experts Help Attorneys and Clients featuring industry experts; and Panel Discussion featuring Section attorneys for a legal issue or two.

2. Committees

I have a list of attorneys who are interested in the food, program, publication and legislative committees. This week or next, I would like to charge those individuals with some tasks for the committees. Let's discuss what we expect those committees to accomplish. My ideas for potential goals:

Publication: Summer newsletter/article series published online through the Section's Listserv/LinkedIn/State Bar website.

Program: Summer roundtable lunch and learn sessions at several locations throughout the state.

Legislative: Summer publication or roundtable event.

Food: Summer publication or roundtable event.

3. Update on Listserv and LinkedIn

As you know, I asked the State Bar to approve The Modern Firm's quote. I received approval today and sent an email to Brendan Chard asking him to set up the list. Hopefully the list will be up and running very soon. 53 attorneys have joined the LinkedIn group. Please feel free to post information to the group (articles, events) that you feel would be relevant to members.

4. Other Discussion

Other topics you would like to discuss today?

5. Next Conference Call

Let's set a date for our next conference call and identify follow-up actions that need to be taken prior to that call.

ADJOURN

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MEMO

FOSTER SWIFT
FOSTER SWIFT COLLINS & SMITH PC II ATTORNEYS

TO: Agricultural Law Section Council
FROM: Liza Moore
DATE: May 15, 2013
RE: Agenda for May 15, 2013 Council Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER

BUSINESS

1. Committees

On April 26, 2013, I charged the committees with setting up an initial conference call, selecting a chairperson, and completing a short plan, which I asked them to complete by May 14. I copied you on the initial emails. Update:

The Program Committee has held a conference call and completed the plan (attached). Matthew Johnson is the chair.

Sarah Harwood organized the Food Committee's conference call. They plan to have another call on May 23, and Ms. Harwood asked committee members to submit ideas to her by May 22. I expect to receive a plan from them soon after.

The Publication Committee will hold their first conference call on May 17. Sally Babbitt and David Skidmore have taken the lead in organizing the call. I expect to receive a plan from them soon after.

Cindy Victor volunteered to organize the Legislative Committee's conference call, but I have not heard from her. I sent her an inquiry today.

2. Update on Listserv and LinkedIn

The Modern Firm finally created the discussion Listserv for the Section. On May 10, 2013, I had the State Bar of Michigan send an e-blast to all members of the Section with email addresses inviting them to join. I also posted the information to the Section LinkedIn page. In case you missed the message, please click this link <http://groups.michbar.org/wvs/subscribe/aglaw> to subscribe to the listserv. Enter your email address at the prompt and click "submit." I have had to manually approve every member to the list and verify their membership prior to approval. Please advise if you are willing to become a moderator to help with these sorts of tasks. So far, only 41 members (out of our ~130 total members) have joined. The LinkedIn group has about 53 members.

3. Annual Meeting and Program

As we discussed at the last meeting, on Thursday, September 19, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Agricultural Law Section will hold its annual meeting and a program as part of the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. Let's discuss the program speakers again briefly.

4. Other Discussion

Other topics you would like to discuss today?

I posted this to the LinkedIn page, but as an fyi, the Iowa State University Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation will be holding a Summer Seminar on June 13-14 in Traverse City, Michigan. For more information and to register, please visit:
<http://www.calt.iastate.edu/summer2013michigan.html>

If you are aware of other programs or events that are of interest to members, please share.

5. Next Conference Call

Let's set a date for our next conference call and identify follow-up actions that need to be taken prior to that call.

ADJOURN

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MEMO

FOSTER SWIFT
FOSTER SWIFT COLLINS & SMITH PC | ATTORNEYS

TO: Agricultural Law Section Council
FROM: Liza Moore
DATE: June 19, 2013
RE: Agenda for June 19, 2013 Council Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER

BUSINESS

1. Committees

Please find the attached Committee Plans from the Program Committee, the Publication Committee, and the Food Committee. Cindy Victor will be emailing me the Legislative Committee Plan today or tomorrow (per a phone call with her today).

With regard to the Publication Committee, I talked with Sally Babbitt, Sarah Harwood, and Cindy Victor today about the articles. I advised them that the Council had not set firm deadlines for the publication of articles or length of articles; however, as described in the Plan, we expected publication of some articles this summer. Publication will be online on the Section's website and via email to all members. I asked Sally if she wanted an e-blast sent to members soliciting authors; she said no. She said that 3-4 people have volunteered to write articles and she will start with those articles.

I have placed a call to Kurt Brauer regarding the Food Committee and Matt Johnson regarding the Program Committee. With regard to the Legislative Committee, when I talked with Cindy Victor, she said that they would plan to provide Legislative Updates for publication.

Action Item: I would like a member of the Council assigned to each Committee. I would like that member to follow-up with the Committee Chairs and provide us with monthly updates.

2. Update on Listserv and LinkedIn

The Modern Firm finally created the discussion Listserv for the Section. On May 10, 2013, I had the State Bar of Michigan send an e-blast to all members of the Section with email addresses inviting them to join. I also posted the information to the Section LinkedIn page. In case you missed the message, please click this link <http://groups.michbar.org/www/subscribe/aglaw> to subscribe to the listserv. Enter your email address at the prompt and click "submit." I have had to manually approve every member to the list and verify their membership prior to approval. Please advise if you are willing to become a moderator to help with these sorts of tasks. So far, only 50 members (out of our ~130 total members) have joined. The LinkedIn group has about 53 members.

3. Annual Meeting and Program

As we discussed at the last meeting, on Thursday, September 19, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Agricultural Law Section will hold its annual meeting and a program as part of the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan.

Confirmed Speakers:

Video Greeting (short)

Senator Stabenow

State of Agriculture (~15-20 minutes)

James E. Byrum, President, Michigan Agri-Business Association

Session 1-Government's Role and Responsibilities (~45-50 minutes)

Jim Johnson, Director Environmental Stewardship Division, MDARD

Brad Deacon, Emergency Management/Administrative Law Coordinator, MDARD

Jeff Haarer, Producer Security and Ag Products Manager, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division, MDARD

Christine White, Michigan Executive Director, USDA FSA

Session 2—What an Expert Can Do for You and Your Clients (~45-50 minutes)

Barb Dartt, GROW the Family Biz

(In discussions with MSU Product Center, an accountant, and MSU Extension)

4. Mission Statement

We need a Mission Statement as part of the Section Annual Report. Let's discuss.

5. Amicus Brief Request

Cindy Victor emailed me a request to have the Council consider an amicus brief regarding one of her cases involving the Right to Farm Act. Let's discuss.

6. Next Conference Call

Let's set a date for our next conference call and identify follow-up actions that need to be taken prior to that call.

ADJOURN

EXHIBIT C

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
AGRICULTURAL LAW SECTION

PROGRAM COMMITTEE PLAN

Committee Members:

Allison Eicher;
Cindy Rhodes Victor;
Jacqueline Hand;
Mark Kellogg;
Todd Hoppe;
Mary Louisa Ligon; and
Matthew Johnson (chair)

Goals:

- Develop greater interaction and information sharing among members of the Agricultural Law Section through organized roundtable lunch meetings at different locations across Michigan in 2013.
- Develop programs for 2014 to help educate members of the Michigan bar regarding agricultural law.

Actions Needed to Accomplish Goals:

- Obtain a list of the members of the Agricultural Law Section and determine geographic location of the members.
- Determine the city or geographic locations for the roundtable discussions.
- Find host sites in those geographic locations for the roundtable discussions.
- Determine the date of for the roundtable discussions.
- Arrange for food and other accommodations for the lunch.
- Develop agenda and broad talking points for the discussions.
- Determine methodology for participants to provide feedback to the Program Committee for future events.

Dates of Committee Meetings/Conference Calls:

- Further conference calls to be held as needed. Further correspondence regarding the above objectives to occur via e-mail.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
AGRICULTURAL LAW SECTION

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE PLAN

Committee Members:

Sally Babbitt: Chair	Robert Pineau
Brian Doyle	Dave Skidmore
Sarah Harwood	
Cindy Rhodes Victor	

Goals:

Prepare articles about agricultural law issues for publication online through the Section's website this summer.

1. Bowman v Monsanto	Cindy
2. EPA Manure Spreading Laws	Sarah
3. Composting Case and atty fees	Sally
4. 2012 Caselaw update	Dave Skidmore

Actions Needed to Accomplish Goals:

1. Find out deadlines, length, & format for articles
2. Set deadlines for each article
3. Circulate articles to committee for review, edits, & comments

Dates of Committee Meetings/Conference Calls:

TBD when article deadlines are received.

Other:

Completed May 17th 2013
by: Sally Babbitt

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
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FOOD COMMITTEE PLAN
(VERY ROUGH DRAFT: May 23, 2013)

Committee Members:

Kurt Brauer (Chair); Sarah Harwood; Mark Kellogg; Kate Redman; Michael Fralieggh; Kurt Olson; Liza Moore (ex officio).

Goals:

1. Prepare two articles each quarter relating to food issues for publication online through the Section's website this summer.
2. Prepare updates on current events as necessary to keep the section informed about current developments. Post to website.
3. Provide an update on food issues at the annual meeting (September 19, 2013).
4. Provide speakers from the Committee to periodic meetings.
5. Provide a report of activities to Council Chair.

Actions Needed to Accomplish Goals:

1. A. Identify the publication schedule, including postings to (Sara Harwood).
b. Circulate sign-up sheet with publication schedule.
c. Coordinate with committee to review before publication.
2. a. Review status of legislation and monitor current events (Mike Fralieggh).
b. Committee Members are encouraged to send information to Mike Fralieggh to coordinate.
3. a. This is an outgrowth of item 2, see above.
b. Provide written update for distribution at meeting. Prepare list of update items at the annual meeting (Mike Fralieggh/Kurt Brauer).
4. Coordinate with Program Committee to provide speakers/attendees from Committee. (Mark Kellogg)
5. Written report to be prepared. (Kurt Brauer)

Dates of Committee Meetings/Conference Calls:

1. For the first year, monthly conference calls to discuss current issues (Sarah Harwood will coordinate). Last Thursday of the month at 9:00.

Other:

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE PLAN

Committee Members:

Goals:

Prepare some articles about recent legislative action for publication online through the Section's website this summer.

Actions Needed to Accomplish Goals:

Dates of Committee Meetings/Conference Calls:

Other:

EXHIBIT D

Agricultural Law Section Annual Meeting & Program

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 at the LANSING CENTER

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Meeting

Election of Officers and Council
Business

9:30 a.m.

Video Greeting

United States Senator Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman of the
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

9:35 a.m. -9:50 a.m.

State of Agriculture

James E. Byrum, President, Michigan Agri-Business Association

10:00 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.

Session 1 – Government’s Role and Responsibilities

Jim Johnson, Director, Environmental Stewardship Division,
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development

Brad Deacon, Emergency Management/Administrative Law
Coordinator, Executive Office, Michigan Department of
Agriculture and Rural Development

Jeff Haarer, Producer Security and Ag Products Manager, Pesticide
and Plant Pest Management Division, Michigan
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Christine White, State Executive Director, United States
Department of Agriculture, Michigan Farm Service Agency

10:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Session 2 – What an Expert Can Do for You and Your Clients

Barb Dartt, GROW: The Family Business Advisors

E. Lynn Pohl, Boge, Wybenga & Bradley, P.C.

Dennis Stein, Saginaw Valley District Farm Management
Educator, Michigan State University Extension

William Knudson, Product Marketing Economist, Michigan State
University Product Center for Agriculture and Natural
Resources