

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION COUNCIL**

**January 12, 2023
4:00 pm EDT**

VIA in Person at Dykema's Lansing Office and Zoom Teleconference

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 4:01 pm.

Section administrator Mary Anne Parks was present, as were the following Council Members and Officers in person or by phone or video: Sinkwitts (Chair), K. Kissling, N. Maloof, E. Shell, T. Bodwin, Schebor (Chair-elect), A.M. Sanford, K. Konwinski, James Enright, and R. Hammersley (Secretary/Treasurer). A quorum of council members was present (six required).

1. Approval of Minutes - Motion to approve by Kissling, second by Konwinski; passes unanimously
2. Secretary/Treasurer Report (Hammersley) - Hammersley provided a brief overview of the financials; a query was raised regarding budget adoption, but per Kissling and Parks that will be addressed at the next meeting (2nd quarter);
 - a. Motion by Konwinski, second by Maloof to renew Zoom contract for meetings; passes unanimously;
 - b. Motion by Hammersley, second by Bodwin to renew constant contact contract; passes unanimously;
3. Administrator's Report (Parks) - Attending meetings re. fall joint conference, spring conf. planning, and periodic communications. Awaiting cost-sharing information from joint air conf., and Kissling expects to receive more information shortly on this.
4. Chair Report (Sinkwitts) – Broad goals:
 - Wants to streamline/consolidate committees and update membership/leadership for new folks;
 - Retiring deskbook;
 - Outreach & more contact with law schools to create pipeline into section
 - More in-person programming going forward

K. Konwinski may have recent emails reaching out for such contact; Sinkwitts encourages everyone with law school contacts to reach out to help facilitate events going forward.

Perhaps regional events (Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids (maybe TC);

E. Shell knows folks in SE Mich. and could help track folks down; also interested in finding moot court judges for March event with practices weekly in advance as well.

→ Sinkwitts passed along an idea to have a follow-on social event after an upcoming meeting, etc.

5. Summer Conference: was held last June for first time in a while due to the pandemic Good turnout, and hopeful interest for another this summer; Sinkwitts will pursue filling the Program Committee Chair role, and happy to assist with summer and/or fall meetings;

6. Subject Matter Committees

- a. Air (Kissling) - Event upcoming, Tuesday, April 18th 2023 → currently reaching out to sponsors, and working out the agenda; potential to piggy back business meeting (3 - 4 pm) for section following the air meeting, followed by potential social hour; west michigan usually hosts the joint conf. and K.K. will reach out to confirm;
- b. Hazardous Substances (Enright/Maloof) – Committee leadership has been discussing topics; interested in Governor's bills re. economic incentives, brownfield redevelopment; could also discuss part 115 amendments re. solid waste – discuss changes and how they may impact practice (likely latter half of first quarter – late Feb./early March – try to avoid early April to avoid conflicts with clear the air)
- c. NRES (Sadler) – Sinkwitts will reach out to discuss leadership with Ms. Sadler and/or ideas for committee going forward;
- d. GLIW (Schroeck/Hammersley) – nothing going on at the moment; committee meeting upcoming to discuss potential events, etc.
- e. ELAP – Per S. Steiner written update: The ELAP Committee was not very active last year. Our Co-Chair Margrethe Kearney has moved on after many years of service to the Committee and the Council . It will be a priority to find new leadership for the ELAP Committee in 2023 and hopefully gain additional members. We are in the process of updating our membership roster and will have an organizational call/virtual meeting to discuss possible programs or other activities after that is completed.
 - i. Kurt Kissling noted Nick Leonard has rotated off, so perhaps some new EPLC attorney(s) might be interested (John Petoskey, etc.)

7. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Desk Book (K. Martorano) – no one on call; any value to continue to update? Do we need this as a standing committee? Just let it sit with caveat that it is out of date? Sinkwitts to reach out to KM w/ ideas;
- b. Program – Following up on prior discussion, we are still seeking a chair here; committee is usually focused on summer + annual meeting, plus help with webinars; please reach out to S. Sinkwitts to express any interest;
- c. ELJ (A. Urban has moved on to Virginia); looking for new leadership here as well; writing contest and scholarship awards used to happen, but contest & awards were halted for financial issues; used to be 2-3 issues per year; discussion of historical uses, and perhaps a need for fresh take on how to serve practitioners better?

- i. J. Enright referenced Wisconsin Bar's blog as an alternative model, rather than full "journal"; M. Parks discussed Admin. law journal format with wider distribution as well;
- ii. Admin. law journal folks do it monthly and spend ~\$300/mo. To sustain that expense for formatting articles and distributing.

8. New Business

- a. Ad Hoc Member Outreach Cmte. (Konwinski) – any opportunity to connect with enviro-related issues handled by other SBM committees, perhaps OakCoBar, etc. (Maloof & Sinkwitts); M. Parks will check on K. Kissling query re. check payment to SBM. K. Kissling wondering whether morphing this outreach committee into a standing committee (moot court judging, social events/mixers, etc.)? How best to separate from Program cmte. work?
- b. Future Meeting Schedule – Meeting after Clearing the Air in April, live from MMA; then probably business meeting after June summer program; then probably sept. annual meeting with elections.

Motion to Adjourn made by Maloof; seconded by Baldwin → Unanimous approval.

Adjourned at roughly 5 pm.