

Michigan State Bar: Environmental Law Section
Minutes of January 13, 2026 Meeting

- Present: Kyle Konwinski, Paul Beach, Kurt Kissling, Scott Watson, Ross Hammersley, Brian Considine, Seth Arthur, Gabriella Mickel, Nick Maloof, Matt Hall, Noah Hall, Elizabeth Morrisseau.
- Secretary Report: circulated drafts of September 23, 2025, October 22, 2025, December 3, 2025, and December 9, 2025 in advance of meeting.
 - o December 3 had incorrect date in text – title of document was correct. Changed.
 - o Sarver move to approve the minutes – Brian second. Unanimous.
 - o Income for 2025-26 seminar income – receipt is tricky. \$6,269 appears to be the November 2024 annual conference and should be attributed to FY ending September 2025, not for column C budget for 2026 receipts.
 - o Should we increase law student category or make it more general so that we could do non-networking law student activities?
- Administrator Report: nothing to report.
- Treasurer Report / Budget Discussion: Bodwin not able to be here due to conflict.
 - o Discussion of \$4k budgeted for law school networking events.
 - o Group seems fine with \$4k with expectation that this is more than enough for current events schedule.
 - o Maloof moves to approve budget as amended during meeting, Hammersley second. Unanimous.
- Amicus Committee: update on status of prior attempt to vote to approve. We did not have sufficient “yes” votes to move forward with anything.
 - o Konwinski to inform the applicants that we are not moving forward.
 - o Konwinski moves to eliminate the amicus subcommittee and Hammersley second – unanimous.
- Subject Matter Committees:
 - o Air (Kissling):
 - Clearing the air program co-hosted with Michigan Manufacturers Assn. – **June 2, 2026.**

- First planning call is coming up in January.
- West Michigan lead on conference this year on November 5, 2026.
- Sarver: could we encourage law students to attend. Kissling to run by MMA personnel and see what we could do.
- Environmental Litigation (Konwinski):
 - Planning a virtual case law update webinar for the section in late March or early April.
 - Anyone interested in being on the panel please reach out to Konwinski.
- Great Lakes and Inland Waters (Hammersley):
 - Considine and Hammersley have some ideas for webinars or updates to section members. Need to have committee meeting first.
- Hazardous Substances and Brownfields (Enright/Maloof):
 - Maloof has been working on an outline of potential Part 201 topics but still in progress pending connect with Enright.
- Natural Resources, Energy & Sustainability (M. Hall): no substantive update.
- Deskbook Committee (Watson): no substantive update.
- Program Committee (Schebor): not present.
- New Business:
 - Konwinski:
 - Summer Program!
 - Sarver: have connection at Leslie Nature Center (Ann Arbor)
 - Kissling: usually did Clearing the Air in early April – because of MMA now pushing to June 2.
 - Do a poll of section membership to see if moving to Ann Arbor would change attendance in a material way. Prior years attendance has hovered around 20.
 - Include in survey whether people would attend an overnight.
 - RAM Center on Higgins lake used to host – would be a cost issue potentially.

- Discussion of joining on with Real Estate Property Law Section to see if we can be a joiner.
- 2026 Joint Conference – November 5, 2026
 - Reach out to Paul Beach if you want to participate in planning.
- NELMCC seeking volunteer judges.
 - Sarver: looking for moot court judges please email me if you have interest.
- Young lawyer summit sponsorship opportunities
 - Possibly sponsor or cover a person attending who is eligible to attend and could report back on whether this would be worth the cost of sponsorship?