

Michigan State Bar: Environmental Law Section  
Minutes of February 24, 2026 Meeting

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- Present: Beth Gotthelf, Teodor Dhespollari, Lauren Teichner, Kyle Konwinski, Paul Beach, Kurt Kissling, Scott Watson, Ross Hammersley, Brian Considine, Gabriella Mickel, Nick Maloof, Matt Hall, Scott Watson, Loren Safta, Erica Sarver, James Enright, Jenna Hitchkiss, Scott Sinkwitts, Paul Beach, Lee Johnson, Todd Schebor, Edu Enin-Okut, and Jill Kamp.
- Secretary Report: circulated draft of January 13, 2026 in advance of meeting. January 13, 2026 meeting, motion to approve by Nick Maloof, seconded by Ross Hammersley. Motion carries.
- Administrator Report: nothing to report. Discussion of passing of Jeff Haynes. Motion for amount not to exceed \$200.00 for Flowers and a memorial tree planted for Jeff Haynes, Motion by Bodwin, seconded by Hammersley. Motion carries.
- Treasurer Report / Budget Discussion: Nothing new to report. Budget passed last meeting.
- New Business:
  - o Summer Program
    - Konwinski: Looking into locations for Summer Program
    - Gotthelf: suggestion of Higgins Lake
    - Kamp: Somewhere in the middle, north
    - Kamp: will look into locations and costs for each
    - Maloof: we should reach out to the Real Estate Section.
    - Kamp: will prepare a survey as to the summer program to send to all members.
  - o Environmental and Insurance Co-Sponsoring Event
    - Kowinski: This event will be at Oak Point Country Club, April 23, 2026, there will be panel followed by a happy hour.
    - Kissling/ Maloof: This date conflicts with a number of other section meetings/ programs. Consider a different date.
    - Kowinski: Will reach out to suggest April 30, 2026.

- Young Lawyers Sponsorship Opportunities
  - Kowinski: Young Lawyers want to co-sponsor an event. Maybe an event in late fall or winter
  - We will circle back to this in the fall.
- Wayne Environmental Law Section and Toledo Environmental Law Section Presentations
  - Teodor (Teddy) Dhesspollari – 3L at Wayne State Law School, President of Environmental Law Society
    - Current State of Environment Discussion (funding request) – this will focus on challenges to local governments, Line 5, Scope of MEPA, hosted at Wayne State in person, we are requesting \$250.00 for food and beverages. Hammersley motion to approve, Second Maloof, motion carries.
    - Community Clean-up- \$150.00 community clean-up, partner with community programs, belle isle conservancy, the \$150.00 will pay for reusable gloves, containers, etc.. – Bodwin Motion to approve, Beach seconds, motion carries.
  - Jenna Hotchkiss, President of Environmental Law society at University of Toledo College of Law
    - Requesting money for additional events, NELMEC – moot court team, environmental focused, Team costs \$1500.00. Motion to put this on our agenda at April meeting and invite Jenna by Sarver, Second Bodwin, motion carries.
    - Student involved fellowship for great lakes water conference, put on a great lakes water conference, law student fellowship, \$1,000 dollar stipend, \$500.00 resources. Kowinski motion to approve \$500.00, Sarver, Second, motion carries.
- Michigan State University College of Law Event
  - Scott Sinkwitts MSU law event with the Environmental Law Section to happen within the next two months.
  - Maloof makes motion to not to exceed \$1,000 for this event, Hammersley seconds, motion carries.
- Subject Matter Committees (updates, if any):

- Great Lakes and Inland Waters (Hammersley):
  - Hammersley working on a webinar on the Consumers Energy sale of dams throughout the state, committee meeting on that topic shortly.

Adjourn meeting at 1:02 PM.