

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

**September 18, 2019
3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**State Bar of Michigan Office Building
306 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933**

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Chair Martorano called the meeting to order at 3:38pm.

Council members and officers present in person: Martorano (Chair); Enright (Chair-elect); Helminski (Secretary/Treasurer); P. Collins, Schebor, Sadler, Sinkwitts, Kearney; Barbash-Riley, Donohue.

Council members and officers present by phone: Schroek

A quorum of council members was present (six required, nine were present).

Section administrator Mary Anne Parks was present.

Others present: Newlon, Scutt, Barbieri, A. Collins, Henne, Maloof.

1. Approval of June 2019 meeting minutes

Enright moved to approve the minutes; Sinkwitts second; Motion unanimously approved.

2. Secretary/Treasurer's Report (Helminski)

Helminski provided report and requested that all requests for reimbursement be submitted by end of the month as that is the end of the State Bar's fiscal year.

3. Administrator's Report (Parks)

Parks reported that she has been working on planning this Annual Meeting and the Joint Conference to be held in November with East/West Michigan Air & Waste Management Association. The Joint Conference is on November 14, 2019. The agenda is in process and registration is open or will be opening soon. Parks also has been supporting the Great Lakes and Inland Waters Committee for its webinar. Parks has also been supporting many membership communications and social media posts.

4. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Desk book (Haynes/Martorano)

Martorano has been added to this committee to work on long-term solutions for this resource.
 - b. Program Committee (Schebor/Kearney)

This committee planned the program that preceded this Annual Meeting.
 - c. Environmental Law Journal (Urban)

Latest issue was published on September 17, 2019. A. Collins reported they are considering transitioning to summer/winter schedule. Current issue is thirty-nine (39) pages and has very high quality articles.
5. Subject Matter Committee Reports
 - a. Air (Kissling/Collins)

They are actively participating in Joint Conference planning.
 - b. Hazardous Substances and Brownfields (Enright/Helminski)

This committee has only conducted one webinar this year. They are looking to transition leadership because moving both committee leaders are moving into council leadership positions.
 - c. Natural Resources, Energy and Sustainability (Sadler/Lundgren)

The administrative law section will be putting on webinar that will of interest to this committee and Sadler will liaison between the two.
 - d. Great Lakes and Inland Waters (Schroeck/Hammersley)

This committee held a webinar about a month ago on Great Lakes water levels. More webinars are being considered.
7. Nominating Committee Report and Vote to Elect New Officers and Council

Enright reported that there were technical difficulties distributing nominating committee information to members to meet deadlines as per By-Laws and instead information sent to Council ahead of time and Enright presenting all information during the meeting.

Per the By-Laws, the Chair-Elect automatically succeeds to Chair. Helminski is nominated for Chair-Elect and Sadler for Secretary/Treasurer. A vote by email was held and passed that granted an extension beyond the two three-year terms allowed in the By-Laws for council members. The full slate of officers and council-members proposed by the nominating committee is in **Attachment 1**. This proposal increased the number on the council from ten members to thirteen.

Enright requested nominations from the floor. None were presented.

Henne made motion to approve the slate of candidates proposed by the nominating committee. Barbieri second. The Motion was unanimously approved.

8. Outgoing Chair's Report (Martorano)

Martorano expressed her gratitude to being elected to counsel and now being Chair and for the great work conducted by Council and the committees. Martorano passed the gavel to Enright.

9. Incoming Chair's Introduction

Enright presented plaques for Watson, McClure, Sadler, and Schroek for their work on Council. Enright expressed thank you to Martorano for her work as Chair. Enright expressed that this Section is about service to its members: publications and programs. Other sections remark about how much this section accomplishes. The Section's work is accomplished through committees. Only about half the members on committees are council members, and we need more committee help. For membership, the trend is declining. This may be function of demographics, but the Section needs to reassess needs for new members. Barbash-Riley has agreed to look into membership to additional lawyers and other ideas for Section recruitment.

10. Questions/Discussion

There was no additional questions or discussion.

Meeting adjourned 4:15pm.