

Dates to Remember, November 5, 2025 Board Meeting

- November 5, 10 am, Board Meeting
- November 10, 1:30 – 3 pm, Monday, Memb’p Meeting, Technology Scams, MSUFCU
- November 14, 11 am to 1 pm, Friday, Lunch at Brody
- Mid-November, receipt of family description and gift ideas list from Center for Survivors
- November 15, 11:30 am, Saturday, lunch prior to play, Williamston
- November 15, 2 pm, Williamston Theater, “A Sherlock Carol”
- December 3, 10 am, Board Meeting
- December 8, 1:30 – 3 pm, Monday, Memb’p Meeting, The Spartan Locomotive
- December 11, 2 pm, StraightLine Zoom meeting
- December 12, 11 am to 1 pm, Friday, Lunch at Brody
- Mid-December or earlier, wrapping party and gift pick-up of Center for Survivors gifts

MSURA Board Meeting Minutes: November 5, 2025, 10 am

In attendance: Dave Brower, Etta Abrahams, Bill Anderson, Sandy Buike, Eric Crawford, John Forsyth, Mike Gardner, Richard Houang, Bill Humphrey, Dan Mackey, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Rick Vogt, Kate Wight

Called to Order: 10:02 am

Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote : No items were introduced that required discussion and a vote.

Review/Approve Minutes of October 8, 2025 Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes was made by J. Forsyth and seconded by M. Gardner; minutes were approved.

President’s Report (Dave Brower)

- **Eat-At-State Meal Passes:** Eighteen passes are now available.
- **Support Letter Sent:** Support letter on the **MSU Project on Healthy Aging and Digital Leisure** was shared with board members. We’ll learn more about the project and its offerings at some time in the future.
- **Updated Contact List Available:** New copies are in the MSURA office.
- **MSU Shares Initiative:** At a meeting scheduled for November 6, 2025, re-engaging with the Capital Area United Way will be discussed. More details will be provided at the December board meeting.
- **Alumni Collaboration:** A meeting with the Alumni Office will be scheduled over the next couple of weeks.

Vice-President’s Report (Sandy Buike, Angie Brown)

- **November 10, 2025 Meeting Planning:** Jamie Smathers, VP of Fraud Protection at MSUFCU, will share information about current scams, how technology is involved, and measures for fraud prevention. This meeting will not be available via Zoom; B. Smith will record it for later viewing. Volunteers will be in attendance to assist as needed.
- **Big 10 2027 Conference Planning Update:** Bids have been received from the Graduate, the Marriott, and the Kellogg Center. Bids will be discussed at an upcoming planning meeting scheduled for November 11, 2025 at 1:30 pm.

Treasurer's Report (Bill Humphrey)

10/31/2025 Financial Report Review and Approval:** B. Humphrey presented the October 2025 financial statement. A motion to approve the report was made by K. Wight; M. Gardner seconded the motion. Report was approved.

Events Report (Jennifer Decker, Bill Anderson, Pam Marcis, Dave Brower, Chris DeFouw, Rick Vogt)

- **MSU Center for Survivors:** Formerly called MSU Safe Place, we will again adopt a family. We expect to receive gift lists for a family in the next couple of weeks. Gift pick-up will be during the second week of December. B. Anderson will coordinate.
- **Michigan Flag Presentation:** R. Vogt will ask P. Marcis to follow-up, confirm, and finalize plans.
- **Lugnut Outing:** A check for 10% of the total cost will hold Friday, August 7, 2026, as the date for the outing. The price per ticket will be \$47.
- **Burcham Hills Wine Tasting Event:** A date for this event will be set at a meeting scheduled for November, 7, 2025.
- **Senior Prom:** Though worth pursuing, tabled for now.
- **Wharton Center Event:** Consider a spring event, in March or April. A full tour is preferred to meeting with cast members of a performance. D. Brower will work with Wharton Center to set a date.
- **Homecoming Parade and Party:** Two aspects need further planning for the 2026 event. We need to resolve parking and transport from and to cars for those participating in the parade, whether they ride the float or walk. We will also need to find another source for the truck and the float trailer, assuming we will have a float. Planning will begin in January.

MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey)

Open enrollment is complete. Thank you to those who volunteered to help at the Benefits Fair.

MSURA College / Age Alive Update: (Bruce Smith, Lori Strom)

- Representatives from MSURA, FEA, Prime Time, and the Provost's office have met to discuss possibilities for a 'college' program. Another meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2025.
- Clare Luz has again assumed the role of Director of Age Alive.
- Links to the Prime Time brochure will remain on our website.

Annual Meeting, May 5, 2026 (Pam Marcis, Liz Thomas, Dave Brower) Nothing new to report

Scholarship Committee (Bruce Smith)

First meeting will take place in February / March. B. Smith is exploring ways to find and contact past recipients, to get their stories for inclusion in the newsletter.

Volunteer of the Year Award and Nominations (Bill Anderson)**

A meeting in January will resolve particulars of the volunteer of the year award announcement and nomination form for publication in the February / March newsletter and distribution at membership meetings. The award recipient will be chosen in April from those nominated. C. Pell will again prepare the certificate; recipient of the award will receive the certificate and a \$100 gift certificate for the Kellogg Center State Room.

Membership (Jacqie Babcock)** See report following minutes.

Volunteer (Jeanette Robertson, Chris DeFouw) Nothing new to report

Interest Groups (Chris DeFouw)** See report following minutes

Retiree Lunch on Campus (Mike Gardner)

Lunch at Brody will take place on November 14, 2025, at 11 am; lunches will continue the second Friday of each month, from 11 am to 1 pm. Future Dates: December 12, January 9.

Communications/Underwriters (Cheryl Pell, Rick Vogt, Jacqie Babcock)

- **Mailings to University Administrators and Deans:** With the objective of re-establishing a connection with MSU's administrators and deans, we will begin sending our newsletters to them. R. Vogt will determine if we can send via university mail. The newsletters will be sent to titles rather than named individuals. E. Crawford will help to keep the list current.
- D. Brower distributed for review a background description of MSURA that includes its history, structure, mission, scholarship aid program, and public service contributions. The background description will be included in the February / March newsletter. The intent is that the February / March newsletter will be the first one that is sent to university administrators and deans.
- Knowing that we will need additional funds to host the 2027 Big 10 Conference we continue to discuss pursuing additional underwriters. Possibilities include: TIAA; Fidelity; Delta Dental. Would these companies be willing to help fund either the Big10 meeting or our annual meeting? Should we also ask our existing underwriters about their interest in funding these specific activities?

Office Management (Liz Thomas) Nothing new to report

Remember: L. Thomas will be retiring as Office Manager at the end of the 2025-2026 year.

MSURA Technology, website (John Forsyth, Rick Vogt, Richard Houang)

- **Update on MSURA Website Project:** Work is ongoing. Objective for completion is Summer 2026.
- No software updates are required at this time.

Other Items

MSURA shirts (Brown): The question about availability of shirts with long sleeves is pending.

Meeting adjourned at 11:29 am.

Next Board Meeting: December 3, 2025, 10:00 am

** See additional information in the following pages.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight
MSURA Secretary

November 9, 2025

Report submitted by Bill Humphrey, Financial Report

October 2025 revenues totaled \$85.84, nominal income was Interest income and donuts and coffee.

Expenditures for October totaled \$2,935.82, which was primarily for newsletter postage and printing, \$429.79 and \$864.63 respectively, office supplies of \$757.25 and homecoming cost of \$646.40. This resulted in a deficit for the month of \$2,849.98.

As stated in the notes for October 2025 the MSURA Endowment has a balance of \$221,244.16, an increase of \$100 due to a single donation. The related income account has a balance of \$12,507.74, an increase of \$9,145.04 in October due to the FY25-26 distribution.

Report submitted by William Anderson, Volunteer of the Year Award

The subcommittee will be formed to nominate and select the 2026 MSURA Volunteer of the Year Award. The subcommittee will meet in January to review wording for the announcement in upcoming MSURA Newsletters and E Notices as well as announcements at the February and March members meeting.

The subcommittee will also prepare a one-page nomination form which will be available at the sign-in table at the February and March members meetings. The deadline for nominations is March 27, 2026.

The subcommittee will meet in April to review and select an award winner. The award will be presented at the May Retirees Association Annual Lunch.

Report submitted by Jacqie Babcock, Events and Membership

1. The Williamston Theatre outing has 17 people registered for lunch before the play. That's a nice number for lunch but more are welcome, of course. It's possible additional people have purchased tickets for the performance without lunch. I'm looking forward to seeing this play.

As an aside, Williamston Theatre is holding a script discussion on Nov 4 at the East Lansing Library. I did let those registered for lunch know about the script discussion if they were interested.

2. "Thank you for attending" emails have been sent those attendees at the September and October membership meetings.

Report submitted by Chris DeFouw, Interest Group

Copies of the Interest Groups information from the August-September 2025 Spartan Senior Newsletter were made available to attendees at the October Membership Meeting and the HR Benefits Fair. The yarn that was in the MSURA office was delivered to the Knitting Group.