

### **Dates to Remember, December 3, 2025 Board Meeting**

- December 8, 1:30 – 3 pm, Monday, Membership Meeting, The Locomotive PM 1225
- December 11, 2 pm, StraightLine Zoom meeting
- December 12, 11 am to 1 pm, Friday, Lunch at Brody
- December 15, deadline for gifts to office
- December 16, 9 am – 3 pm, Wrap Party
- January 7, 10 am, Board Meeting
- January 9, 11 am to 1 pm, Friday, Lunch at Brody
- January 12, 1:30 – 3 pm, Monday, Membership Meeting, MSU Dairy Barn Initiative
- January 20, 1:30 pm, STEM Building and Mass Timber Tour

### **MSURA Board Meeting Minutes: December 3, 2025, 10 am**

In attendance: Dave Brower, Bill Anderson, Jacqie Babcock, Sandy Buike, John Forsyth, Mike Gardner, Richard Houang, Dan Mackey, Bob Patterson, Cheryl Pell, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Rick Vogt, Kate Wight

**Called to Order:** 10:02 am

#### **Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote:**

R. Vogt moved to transfer \$1,800 currently budgeted to cover postage for the newsletters to printing of the newsletters. M. Gardner seconded. The motion passed.

#### **Review/Approve Minutes of November 5, 2025 Board Meeting**

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

#### **President's Report (Dave Brower)**

- **Second April board meeting** will occur on **April 29, 2026**.
- **MSU Shares Initiative:** At a meeting that took place on November 6, 2025, re-engaging with the Capital Area United Way was discussed. The 2025 MSU Shares Campaign for retirees terminates the end of January 2026. Plans are to promote our re-engagement in the January newsletter. We will coordinate fund-raising efforts with the university for their fall 2026 MSU Shares Campaign. An announcement will be included in the August / September newsletter.
- **Alumni Collaboration:** A meeting with the Alumni Office will be scheduled over the next month or two.

#### **Vice-President's Report (Sandy Buike, Angie Brown)**

- **December 8, 2025 Meeting Planning:** Bill Struck, Steam Railroading Institute (SRI), will share information about the Pere Marquette 1225. He plans to bring hot chocolate, mugs, holiday ornaments, and gifts from SRI. B. Anderson will bring cookies. S. Buike will bring membership meeting materials. J. Robertson has arranged for volunteers.
- **Big 10 2027 Conference Planning:** Venue for holding the conference in late July, 2027 will be chosen after results of cost analysis on bids from Kellogg, the Graduate, and the Marriott are compared among D. Brower, E. Crawford, and B. Patterson. S. Buike will ask Kellogg about the cost of larger rooms and the timing of plans for renovation of the bathrooms in their smaller rooms.

### **Treasurer's Report (Bob Patterson)**

**11/30/2025 Financial Report Review and Approval\*\*:** B. Patterson presented the November 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)**

- **MSU Center for Survivors:** The gift list is almost completely claimed. Deadline for bringing gifts to the office is December 15. Wrap party will be on the 16th, from 9 am to 3 pm.
- **Michigan Flag Presentation:** This event is scheduled for February 17, 2026, at 10 am.
- **Lugnut Outing:** Date has been changed to August 22, Saturday. Forty-four tickets have been set aside for us. The down payment of \$206 has been made. The price per ticket will be \$47.
- **Burcham Hills Wine Tasting Event:** This event is scheduled for May 20, 2026, from 1:30 to 3 pm. D. Brower will provide information to R. Vogt and C. Pell for inclusion in the newsletter and e-Notices.
- **Wharton Center Event:** Consider a spring event, in March or April. Setting of date is pending a call back from Wharton Center.
- **Carillon Concert:** J. Babcock will work towards setting a date, likely in July, 2026

### **MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey)**

In compliance with recent changes to Federal Law, after-tax Roth contributions will apply to employees effective in January 2026. Search for Benefits Director is ongoing. Donna Donovan has been named VP of Human Resources.

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

Representatives from MSURA, FEA, Prime Time, and the Provost's office continue to discuss possibilities. The group is targeting September 2026 to introduce courses.

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

### **Scholarship Committee (Bruce Smith)**

Deadline for completed scholarship applications will be March 1, 2026.

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

Deadline for nominations for Volunteer of the Year Award will be March 27, 2026. 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)**

Aim for a thank you event, perhaps at Brody, that will occur in June, 2026. Consider a more definite date at January meeting; M. Gardner will check with Brody to avoid a date conflict with other large group events that may be scheduled.

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

### **Retiree Lunch on Campus (Mike Gardner)**

Lunch at Brody will take place on December 12, 2025, at 11 am; lunches will continue the second Friday of each month, from 11 am to 1 pm. Future Dates: January 9, February 13.

### **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 the President, Provost, and Vice Presidents early in 2026. Preliminary plans are to send the background description of MSURA that includes its history, structure, mission, scholarship aid program, and public service contributions. D. Brower shared this during our November board meeting.
- 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 the Big10 meeting? D. Mackey will get contact names for these organizations so that we can pursue further.
- We may also approach existing underwriters for additional funds for the 2027 Big 10 Conference.

### **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:** R. Vogt and R. Houang are reviewing a document that outlines university requirements. Objective for completion is Summer 2026.
- J. Forsyth will explore adding a camera and speaker to laptop in our office.

### **Other Items**

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

**Next Board Meeting: January 7, 2026, 10:00 am**

\*\* See additional information in the following page(s).

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight  
MSURA Secretary

December 31, 2025

### **Report submitted by Bob Patterson, Financial Report**

November 2025 revenues totaled \$72.92. Nominal income was Interest income and donuts and coffee.

Expenditures for November totaled \$1,189.08, which was primarily for \$785 in annual liability insurance, and \$206 for 2026 Lansing Lugnuts game deposit. This resulted in a deficit for the month of \$1,116.16.

As stated in the notes for November 2025 the MSURA Endowment has a balance of \$221,294.16, an increase of \$50 due to a single donation. The related income account has a balance of \$3,362.70, unchanged from the previous month.

### **Report submitted by Jacqie Babcock, Events and Membership**

1. Thank you messages were sent to all attendees at the November membership meeting.
2. The Williamston Theatre gathering was a big success. Seventeen people met for lunch at Nikos Taverna and six additional people joined the group at the theatre. Rob Roznowski, MSU Theatre professor and Director of the play, *A Sherlock Carol*, and Karen Kangas-Preston, costume designer, met us briefly at the restaurant. Those at Nikos Taverna liked the convenience and good service at the restaurant (just across the street from the theatre), enjoyed Rob and Karen joining us, and the talk-back after the performance. It was also mentioned that having lunch before the performance so everyone could drive home while it was still light was a good change from previous years. A few photos were sent to Rick and Cheryl.
3. As of 12/1/25 there are seven people signed up for the STEM building tour on January 20, 2026. The deadline is mid-January. I am staying in touch with the contacts at the STEM building for their planning purposes.
4. I have the list of recent retirees (the last year) and have an email ready to go but am missing a couple of small details that need to be confirmed. I had hoped to be able to report the contacts had been completed but it will be another day or so. I will confirm when this task is completed.

### **Report submitted by Chris DeFouw, Interest Group**

In November 2025, forwarded by email "Battle Flags of Michigan Film Premiere" information to Al LeBlanc to disburse to the Military History Study Group. Interest Group information (page 8 of August-September 2024 Spartan Senior Newsletter) was available at the handout table at the November Membership Meeting.