



# Council Board Meeting

## DRAFT

Thursday, January 29th, 2026

6:30pm – Zoom Meeting Due to Weather



1. Welcome

Meeting started at 6:35 PM

2. Communication from LC Board, MSU Staff regarding Treasurer and Swine Specie Chair

One applicant for swine specie chair but they do not have enough meetings.

3. Updates

a. Swine Species Chair, Treasurer

b. Swine

State level is advising that we can not have a swine program without a specie chair in place. All registrations have to be halted if swine Specie chair is not filled. All plans for the Swine project or Swine barn have to be halted until a specie chair is in place.

c. Treasurer

No funds can be spent after the Livestock Meeting on Monday February 2, 2026 if no Treasurer is in place. There can be no fair if there is no treasurer.

4. Proposal for filling empty LC Board Positions

- MSU previously said bylaws can not be suspended, however under a last resort solution they are allowing this as an option.

Bylaw VI could be temporarily suspended to move forward regarding eligibility requirements. Suspending “In good standing” which pertains to the minimum of 3 livestock council meetings in order to apply for open positions. These restrictions are preventing the group from fulfilling open positions.

ROBERTS Rule of Order generally doesn’t permit suspending bylaws HOWEVER the MSU Educators are advising we may do so in this case.

Should we chose to do this, we will follow the bylaw voting standards. 2/3 of majority must vote yes to move to temporarily suspend bylaws.

If bylaw suspension does not pass, the group can not expend funds or make any treasurer actions until treasurer position is filled. The group also can not move forward with anything regarding the Swine project, barn or registrations.

- Suggestion that MSU Take names at the door at Mondays meeting, in order to know the number of people who will/ can vote (GOLD Members volunteers only & 4H online youth list)
- MSU will provide ballots and will be collecting and counting the votes
- President of the LS Council will be the last vote, only in order to break a tie.

If no one steps up, and bylaws are voted to be suspended, bylaws can be suspended for a period of time, not just for the evening of the meeting. But it is not advised. Still can not spend funds or move forward with Swine project.

- 4 steps: Recommend to suspend Bylaw, Nominate, Filling positions, reinstate Bylaw

❖ Bylaws suggested to be evaluated and updated in the fall of 2026.

- Come this fall Bylaws will need to be edited/ amended “In good standing, added language regarding attendance of meetings will need to be added so that the bylaws will not need to be suspended in the future.
- If bylaw suspension does not pass when voted on, the LS Council group can not expend any funds and or complete any treasurer actions until treasurer position is filled and the group can not move forward with Swine projects or registrations. It will be left in a position that only an eligible person can fill according to current bylaws.

Open discussion will take place at the council meeting February 2, 2026 to determine on if we will vote to suspend bylaw VI, to help fulfill open positions.

**\*\*Council Board agree to vote on Article VI, Bylaw, at meeting on Monday February 2, 2026.**

**Motion to vote on Suspending Bylaw article VI**

**Motion: Gretchen Sauvage**

**Second: Shayna Conger**

All members voted yes in ZOOM Chat, with none opposed.

5. Additional questions:

- KERI: Is anyone willing to step into treasure positions from the board. No people would like to at this time.
- Kathy Easter: Asked if we could change the conduct of Council Meetings  
Mentions of comments and how people are treated who are in Livestock Council positions and how we could make it a better experience, youth focused, and how to have more people willing to step up.  
MSU answered: they will be attempting to help with backlash and inappropriate comments at future meetings.
- Can we go without a deputy treasurer? Yes but then there will be no one to run the auction.
- Gretchen: Why does a bank statement need to be reconciled before shared at meetings?  
Keri answered: push back from unreconciled reports, not in bylaws. Can pull unreconciled reports and send them out however that is not practical accounting practice. Bank statement is not available until the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- Can Email for Applications be submitted before motion to suspend article 6 bylaw goes through? Yes, in preparation for the meeting and then if bylaws are not temporarily suspended, applications will be discarded.
- Can there be Paper Applications available at the door for people to fill out if Article 6 is temporarily suspended? Answered: MSU is willing to help with this.

How Monday February 2, 2026 meeting will look:

Need List from MSU to verify if person is gold level volunteer, if bylaw is not suspended.

Vote on Article VI bylaw, temporary suspension.

Volunteers from the floor, will only be speaking to council board members.

How long will we suspend article VI bylaw, if voted yes?

**\*\*Motion to set time frame for Bylaw Suspension, if passed, bylaw VI will be Suspended until Sunday February 22, 2026.**

**Motion: Gretchen Sauvage**

**Second: Lisa Ralph**

**Motion passed.**

All members voted yes on ZOOM, with none opposed.

6. Adjourn

Meeting ended at 8:07 PM

**Motion to Adjourn: Lisa Ralph**

**Second: Shayna Conger**