

**PSHRA MI CHAPTER
REGULAR MEETING**

May 7, 2026

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A Regular Meeting of the PSHRA MI Chapter was held on May 7, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. via Zoom.

MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER BOARD PRESENT:

HEATHER DERY; DIRECTOR
JARED GAJOS; PRESIDENT ELECT
LISA SUIDA; DIRECTOR
RACHEL MATTI; PRESIDENT

Not Present

KAREN BATHANTI; DIRECTOR
KAITLYN TIMM; DIRECTOR

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. President Elect Gajos called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

2. ROLL CALL

- a. All members were present with the exception of Directors Bathanti and Timm.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- a. **Motion:**
 - i. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Director Suida with a support motion by Director Dery.
- b. **Roll Call:**
 - i. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. The motion was carried (4-0).

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

- a. **Motion:**
 - i. A motion to approve the minutes was made by President Matti with a support motion by Director Dery. The motion was carried (4-0).

1. BOARD BUSINESS

- a. Director Suida led the discussion in re: the April in-person FMLA panel with Brown & Brown, Guardian and Bodman and described the event as a packed house with great presenters. Board members proposed and expressed support for improving future event engagement through the use of a microphone, the Slido application for collecting topic ideas from attendees, and a sign-in sheet to capture attendee information for post-event follow-up such as slide distribution.
- b. President Matti presented the Monthly Treasurers Report for review. For the month of April, the starting balance was \$8313.02, and the ending balance was \$13,416.48. All expenses were associated with monthly service costs. The board was informed of a pending reimbursement to Director Dery for promotional items.
- c. President Matti introduced the topic of 2027 Strategic and Budget Planning. The Board will hold at least two in-person strategic planning meetings during the summer of 2026. Director Dery will create and circulate a poll to determine scheduling availability. President Elect Gajos will prepare a strategic consideration document to accompany the meeting invitation(s).
- d. President Elect Gajos raised the topic of creating StarChapter member accounts for our sponsors. Director Suida confirmed she would obtain a definitive sponsor list from Director Bathanti to create the remaining accounts. President Matti clarified the process for initiating a group invoice for Small Team Bundle membership.
- e. Director Dery reported that the LinkedIn page follower account increased to 314. Admin access has been granted to President Elect for the month of May to invite contacts. President Matti will be granted Admin access in June and the remaining members in subsequent months to increase follower count.
- f. President Matti, President Elect Gajos and Director Dery presented a brief overview of the status of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Michigan Career Educator and Employer Alliance (MCEEA). The board approved the MOU, which involves a one-year reciprocal membership. Director Dery will provide Director Suida with a member list for MCEEA prior to the partnership going live.
- g. The status of the Guardian partnership was reviewed with no concerns. President Matti will contact Director Bathanti for additional sponsorship information.
- h. The status of the Rehmann partnership was reviewed with no concerns. President Matti will contact Director Bathanti for additional sponsorship information.
- i. President Elect Gajos shared an overview of organizations that may be interested in partnering with the chapter in various capacities. The board agreed to review opportunities in their individual capacities.

- j. Director Dery raised the topic of plans for the next in-person mixer. The board discussed scheduling a mixer in Lansing to coincide with the new MCEEA partnership, tentatively for the last two weeks of July. The topic will be discussed at the next board meeting to make a final decision.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The board discussed strategies for recruiting a Director of Programming, leading to the proposal of the creation of a programming subcommittee, reporting to the Director of Programming or designee. A motion was made by President Matti and passed unanimously (4-0) to establish the subcommittee. The subcommittee's estimated commitment is one meeting per month. Director Dery will draft a message to be sent to members and announced on social media for Director Suida's review. Director Suida will serve as the direct point of contact for members interested in joining the subcommittee.
- b. Director Dery raised the need to identify and schedule the June and July sponsorship events. President Matti will work with Director Bathanti to provide details to Directors Dery and Timm for scheduling purposes.
- c. Director Dery reported a fellowship opportunity through the national organization to assist with funding for PSHRA certification and sent it via email to the board.

3. ADJOURNMENT

- a. **Motion:**
 - i. Motion to adjourn was made by Director Suida and supported by Director Dery.
- b. **Voice Vote:**
 - i. A voice vote was taken on the motion. All "ayes" recorded. The motion carried (4-0).
 - ii. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.