

## SWMS Meeting Minutes



January 16th, 2025

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### General

Note: This board meeting was held in person, at Fuddruckers [4855 Pan American Fwy NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109].

The meeting was called to order at 6:10PM by President J Neuman.

#### 1. Opening:

- Motion to approve the agenda was approved and seconded.

#### 2. Announcements from the President and Board Members:

- Winter Series Racing
  - The next combined-day Super Laps, Super Cups, Vintage, and Spec Miata practice race will be Saturday, 1/25/2025.
- SWMS Club Future Survey
  - A. Sanford briefed the following:
    - The survey is online and open for votes.
    - Survey sent to SWMS email list, 315 people.
    - 190 people opened the email.
    - 79 clicked the link in the email to the survey.
    - 53 people voted.
    - At present, approximately 75% of the votes are for option 3: "SWMS as a sports car racing interest/lobbying group."

#### 3. Old Business

- MotorsportsReg
  - Renewals for 2025 SWMS memberships and licensing is now live. \$75 for annual membership and license renewal combination.
- Sponsorships
  - No updates.
- Legal Project
  - Continuing with work towards 501 non-profit updates. No official updates on timeline and/or date of completion.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

- J. Neuman announced that Z. Myers, a long-time club member and prior SWMS Vice President, has volunteered to be SWMS Treasurer.
- Vote:
  - For: All
  - Against: None
  - Decision: Z. Myers approved to be SWMS Treasurer.
- Club and Board members were enthusiastic for Z. Myers to be SWMS Treasurer.
- At present, approximately \$13,000 (and holding steady) in club account.

#### 5. New Business

- 2024 SWMS Awards Banquet (1-Feb-2025)
  - D. Porter has final preparations well in hand.
  - Catering by Garcias Mexican Kitchen.

- Graciously hosted by J. Guthrie at his car museum.
- Approximately \$1,400 in expenses.
- J. Colbert to investigate a small number of trophies.
- Board Resignations
  - Vice President: S. DeBerry submitted his resignation letter, effective immediately.
    - SWMS needs to start the process of selecting a new Vice President.
  - President: J. Neuman announced he would be resigning as President, effective in February.
    - SWMS needs to start the process of selecting a new Vice President.
  - Secretary: A. Sanford confirmed he will continue to serve as Secretary.
  - Action: J. Neuman suggested A. Sanford to email the club with updates, likely in the form of the standard monthly newsletter.
  - J. Colbert strongly suggested the club act to rapidly elect and restore the SWMS Board, otherwise SWMS as a club is a risk of not being an officially recognized club and/or organization.
  - J. Colbert also notified the Board that the NM State website needs updating, a legacy listing of Board members is currently, and incorrectly, listed.
- Future SWMS Club, Continuing Discussions and Topics
  - M. Travers asked what the top two SWMS votes are. A. Sanford responded:
    - 40 votes for option 3: "SWMS as a sports car interest/lobbying group."
    - 5 votes for option 5: "SWMS should merge with RMVR."
  - A large discussion was started on the status of driver training and competition school.
    - J. Neuman asked if attending the Suika schools allowed students to get a SWMS license.
    - S. Marino confirmed that, at present, Suika schools do not result in SWMS licenses, though Suika operates both the HPDE and CS schools, essentially using SWMS-developed content and SWMS's Chief Driving Instructor.
    - S. Marino noted that in general, SWMS is highly supportive of training and happy to partner with Suika to offer a high-quality set of instructions and training.
    - Suika issues a one-time certificate, not a license upon completion of either training.
    - Multiple members questioned how the process might work, and who might offer, a pathway to upgrading a Suika certificate to some type of regional or national license. No consensus at this time.
  - A large discussion was started on the perceived difficulty of obtaining a SWMS license.
    - S. Claunch noted that a few years ago, it took approximately 3 weekends of training and observation to get a SWMS license.
    - S. DeBerry noted that a Suika drift member had difficulty with getting a SWMS license, related to scheduling. It was also noted that feedback "from the community" is that many weekends (6 or more) are supposedly required for a SWMS license.
    - Most members felt a one or two weekend sequence for licensing seemed appropriate. The training content was viewed as excellent, however, the number of steps, requirements, and sessions needed to obtain a SWMS

license seems to have lost a bit of organization and standardization in recent years.

- M. Travers noted that SCCA lost many members and racers in recent years, many SCCA members moved to NASA, where NASA has a relatively straight forward licensing process. He encouraged SWMS to reflect on rules and figure out a way to best balance a limited set of rules with good training and safe operations. He emphasized that in modern times, more rules typically drive less interest and lower car counts.
- A discussion on SWMS license requirements for medicals was held:
  - Multiple members noted that some physicians and doctors no longer sign the SWMS medical form, citing concerns with responsibilities and risk.
  - S. Marino noted that there are DOT-based medical facilities in ABQ that are accustomed to paperwork like the SWMS medical, no issues.
  - There was a question on where the requirement for SWMS licensees to have a medical comes from. A. Sanford and S. Marino to investigate and share findings in a future meeting.
- Action: A. Sanford and S. Marino were nominated to investigate a streamlined licensing process which maintains adherence to VMC rules.
  - A. Sanford to investigate online database options for tracking, issuing, and renewing SWMS licenses.
  - S. Marino to investigate a list of locations in ABQ confirmed to issue SWMS medicals.

6. **Attendance:** J. Neuman, A. Sanford, J. Slenes, J. Colbert, J. Jerger, W. Hollowell, G. Self, S. DeBerry, M. Travers, S. Claunch, M. Tribble

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10PM

The next board meeting is planned to be held in person on 2-20-2025. See separate upcoming email for meeting details.