

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
March 4, 2025**

CALLED TO ORDER by Spring Duffey, at 6:04 p.m., 1648 S. Eastwood Dr., Woodstock, IL.

**MLCSWCD DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Critchell Judd  
Andrea Pracht  
Ken Book  
Dean Farr

**SWCD STAFF PRESENT**

Spring Duffey  
Ryan Bieber

**MLCSWCD DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Bob Haraden

**NRCS STAFF PRESENT**

None

**ASSOCIATES PRESENT**

None

**GUESTS PRESENT**

None

**ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)**

Spring Duffey opened nominations for the Board positions. Dean Farr moved to keep the positions the same as last year, with Critchell Judd as Chairman, Andrea Pracht as Vice Chairman, Bob Haraden as Treasurer, and Ken Book as Secretary. Andrea Pracht seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 6:05 pm, Spring Duffey turned the meeting over to Chairman, Critchell Judd.

**CHANGES (ADDITIONS) TO AGENDA:**

- “Council 16 Meeting Report” and “AISWCD Zoom Meeting Report” were added to “Public Participation”.

**MINUTES OF THE February 4, 2025, BOARD MEETING**

The Minutes of the February 4, 2025, Board Meeting were reviewed. Dean Farr moved to approve the minutes. Andrea Pracht seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**BUDGET ANALYSIS**

We are eight months into our FY2025 fiscal year, the totals are as follows: 61.9% of budgeted income and 57.9% of budgeted expenses.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The board requested that a reminder be sent to McHenry County for our allocation, if not already completed by Lisa Rhoades. Additionally, the Profit & Loss Detail report was missing the dollar amounts and the board would like Lisa Rhoades to check into why it occurred, so future reports will be accurate.

The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. Ken Book moved to approve the Treasurer’s report. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## STAFF REPORTS/TIME SHEET APPROVAL

Staff Reports were reviewed. Dean Farr moved that the Staff Reports and Time Sheets be accepted. Ken Book seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. **Statement of Economic Interest:** We received notification that Bob Haraden and Ken Book still needed to complete the questionnaire.
  
- B. **Pheasants Forever Banquet:** McHenry County Chapter Banquet, May 22, 2025, at the McHenry VFW Post.

FOIA REQUESTS: None

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- A. **Council 16 Meeting Report:** Critchell Judd gave a report on the meeting held in DeKalb County, including the IDOA ICOVERS program, AISWCD Lobby Day on March 19<sup>th</sup>, SB2387, and Magnolia's Wetland Mitigation Banking program.
  
- B. **AISWCD Zoom Meeting Report:** Critchell Judd gave a report on the Zoom meeting hosted by AISWCD Executive Director, Elliot Clay and Board President, Dale Schumacher. Elliot Clay outlined the AISWCD's lobbying efforts including attempts to restore FY25 funding levels to \$8.5 million, FY26 funding request of \$10.5 million, and SB2387 which would tax land converted from agricultural use and provide a stable funding source for SWCDs.

## NATURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION REPORTS:

- A. **25-008-4669** (McHenry County) Conditional Use Permit for semi-truck storage and variance to utilize grindings instead of pavement.

Ken Book moved to approve the NRI reports with comments. Andrea Pracht seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Local Work Group Meeting, March 14, 2025, Lost Valley Visitor Center:** Spring Duffey went through the agenda, power point document, round table discussion sheet, attendee list, and menu. We will utilize Cesaroni's for lunch and coffee, and Riverside Bakery for donuts and cookies. Andrea Pracht indicated she can pick up the Riverside items.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Dean Street Mowing Quote Selection:** Out of the 3 requests and reminders, Spring Duffey only received 1 quote.

Ken Book moved to approve the Langton Group mowing quote of \$80.00 per visit. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- B. **Donation to our Envirothon Competition:** Spring Duffey asked the board to donate to both the local and State Envirothon competitions.

Andrea Pracht moved to donate \$200.00 to the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon Competition and \$100.00 to the Illinois Envirothon Competition. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- C. **North Cook SWCD Status and Council 16 Chairmanship:** Critchell Judd shared the conversation he had with Jim Singer, North Cook SWCD Chairman, regarding their financial hardship. Due to this hardship and the uncertainty of their district, Jim Singer will most likely not seek reelection as the Council 16 Chairman. Critchell Judd indicated that he would like to seek the nomination and outlined the additional duties that would be added to our staff for agendas, correspondence and minutes. The board agreed that this is something he should pursue.

- D. **Dean Street Sign Project:** Critchell Judd discussed the need to redo the landscaping around our Dean Street sign to provide more visibility. He and Spring Duffey have been in talks with the 4-H Just Wing It group, and they would like to assist the scouts with the project. Spring Duffey will ask the Wing It group to develop a native planting plan to be presented at our next meeting.

**Executive Session (Personnel Matters):**

Ryan Bieber indicated that he has taken a position with Winnebago County, Wisconsin. His last day will be March 26, 2025. The board thanked him for his service to the district.

Andrea Pracht moved to go into executive session for the purposes of personnel matters, at 7:44 PM. Dean Farr seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with Critchell Judd, Ken Book, Dean Farr, and Andrea Pracht voting in favor and the motion carried. Spring Duffey also participated in the session.

Ken Book moved to come out of executive session at 8:04 PM. Dean Farr seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with Critchell Judd, Ken Book, Dean Farr, and Andrea Pracht voting in favor and the motion carried.

Ken Book moved to approve having Spring Duffey offer Aidan Woltman the position of Resource Conservationist at the compensation and benefits discussed in Executive Session. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Andrea Pracht moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Book, Secretary