



**Illinois  
Native  
Plant  
Society**

*Illinois Native Plant Society*

PO Box 271  
Carbondale 62903

**Minutes  
State Governing Board Meeting  
November 11, 2024**

**Call to order**

Board President Emily Dangremond called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

**Board Members and Guests Present**

Board Members Present: Emily Dangremond, Susanne Masi, Nancy Smith, Becky Croteau, Kelsay Shaw, Kate Ahrens, Eric Ulaszek, Daniel Pohl, Brian Charles, Carolyn Villa, Floyd Catchpole, Trish Quintenz, Paul Marcum, Joe Armstrong, Nick Seaton

Guests: Daniel Lara-Newman

**Quorum**

The Board achieved a quorum of 94% attendance.

**Minutes**

**Board Member Kelsay Shaw moved to approve the minutes of the IPNS Governing Board for September 9, 2024 as emended. Board Member Floyd Catchpole seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board Members Daniel Pohl, Paul Marcum and Carolyn Villa abstaining.**

October minutes are finalized and posted [here](#).

**President's report**

**INPS Address** Board President Emily Dangremond explained that INPS has two publicized addresses to receive postal mail and neither of them are convenient to the INPS Treasurer.

**Board Member Trish Quintenz moved and Board Member Kate Ahrens seconded the motion that INPS authorize Board Treasurer Becky Croteau open a new post office box in Springfield and that the Board authorizes closure of all other publicized mailing addresses. The motion carried.**

**Code of Conduct** Board President Emily Dangremond reiterated that the draft Code of Conduct will be provided to board members for review. The zero-tolerance policy will outline a multi-person violation reporting path, including the Chapter Presidents and the Board President.

**Board Elections** Board President Emily Dangremond requested expressions of interest in several open board positions. The Board discussed sending an email form for membership to elect 2025 Board Members by email in early December 2025. The positions open are Vice President, Secretary and three (3) at-large positions.

**Bylaws Update** The Board agreed to take up the change of duration of the terms for at-large Board members from three years in the bylaws to two years at the December meeting.

### Treasurer's report

**2023 Chapter Payments** The Board determined that each Chapter receives 25% of each member's dues. Board Member Kelsay Shaw arranged to work with Treasurer Croteau to finalize the amounts for 2023 payments to the chapters. Some care is required to account for lifetime members.

**Separate Grant Account** The Board directed Treasurer Croteau to use her discretion to set up a separate account to manage grant disbursements.

**Grants Budget and Disbursements** Board Vice President Susanne Masi proposed a 2025 Grant Budget of: \$12,000 for Research Grants - to accommodate 4 full \$3000 grants. \$10,000 for Survey Grants - to accommodate 2 full \$5000 grants \$22,000 total

**Board Member Floyd Catchpole moved and Board Member Kelsay Shaw seconded motion to approve the 2025 Grants Budget as presented. The motion carried.**

**Webmaster Debit Card** INPS Board Treasurer Becky Croteau reported that, with the Board's awareness, she will investigate setting up a debit card that INPS Webmaster can use to renew software and make other online purchases as needed. The debit card would be maintained with a reasonable cap, if supported by the INPS bank

**Chapter Quarterly Reports** INPS Board Treasurer Becky Croteau reported that state law has changed and more frequent reporting from the Chapter Treasurers is required. Board Treasurer Croteau will provide a form to streamline reporting, which in most instances, will be *pro forma*.

## Website and Membership Report

**Answering Queries** Board Members Kelsay Shaw and Kate Ahrens provided updates that the organization needs to maintain a list of email addresses for those who could answer specific queries.

**Web Configuration** Board Member Ahrens described progress with membership data renewal and configuration updates, and requested that the team record known events requiring registrations in the [shared document provided](#).

**Assistant Webmaster** Board Secretary Nancy Smith mentioned that she would be checking on Daniel's references and would conduct a vote to appoint him as Assistant Webmaster by email.

**Classroom Membership** Board Member Shaw asked for clarification on accepting school classrooms as members. The Board provided direction that, unless there prove to be concerns, the Institution Membership level would be appropriate.

## Annual Meeting

**Date** Board Member Nick Seaton proposed the dates of May 30th and June 20th for their annual gathering, with a preference for the latter due to the chaotic nature of May 30th. The group agreed to finalize the date at the December board meeting.

**Lodging** The Board discussed lodging options for the annual meeting.

**Recognition for INPS Founder** The Board discussed including a special recognition at the upcoming Annual event in honor of Dr Robert H. Mohlenbrock, who passed away on November 5, 2024.

Board Chair Dangremond offered to send condolences to the family on behalf of the organization.

## New Business

None

## Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 7:14 PM by Board President Emily Dangremond.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held by Zoom on Monday, December 9, 2024 at 5:30 PM.