Wild Ones, Tri-State Driftless Chapter
Board Meeting
November 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Board members present were: Mary Edwards, President; Lori Thompson, Treasurer; and Marie Chenery, Secretary. Also present were Barbara Kelkhoff, Program Committee Chair and Chapter Member Karen Schloss.

The September minutes were approved via email on October 10, 2025.

Treasurer's Report: We have a total funds balance of $2,651.46 (full report attached). Lori will bring a $100 check for the speaker to the December 6 winter seed sowing class. Barb will complete the form requesting payment for the speaker.

Membership Report: Mary reports as of November 1 we had 36 members; this morning we were at 35. Though our membership is small, we have 76 percent retention.

We discussed the remaining complimentary membership we have, but could not come up with another person to give one to. We like to give them to people we hope would be encouraged to become more involved. We will try to find someone before the end of the year.

Programs Report: The November 8 Stockton, IL social meet & greet was canceled. Instead Mary presented at a church in Galena.

The December 6 winter seed sowing class will be our final program for this year. Our annual meeting January 22 will be the first for 2026.

Mary will send us all a list of ideas she and Barb have been discussing. We won't tell anyone about these until we have confirmed dates and speakers.

Mary will ask the University of Illinois extension if they would like to collaborate with us. The Lake to Prairie Wild Ones chapter does this without an MOU or contract required.

Unfinished Business: No one replied to the request for nominations that Marie emailed to the membership on November 6. Mary asks that we try to think of someone we could personally invite to join our board.

Marie will send out ballots as a slate including the officer positions since we three already know which positions we are each comfortable serving in. Any new nominee would be offered a Chapter Director position without a an officer position.

New Business: While researching election policies, Marie noticed that the Bylaws do not have a provision for how to handle a tie vote except when voting on officer positions after elections. Marie said Robert's Rules of Order suggests a motion fails if there is a tie vote (Article VI, Voting; Section 38, Voting Methods). Marie motioned that in the case of a tie vote for issues other than when voting for officers, the motions will fail. Lori seconded the motion. After a short discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mary would like board and committee members to get together now and again to watch presentations followed by discussion as continuing education. This would not be mandatory, but she feels it will help us grow and better educate the public. Marie will send out a link to the latest Doug Tallamy video that Wild Ones presented, *Next Steps for Nature*.

Mary thinks we should get together to make sure we know what each board and committee member is expected/able to do. She would like to hand off some of what she does based on what Wild Ones National says each member should be doing. We will each review our duties and we will meet at 10:30 December 9 at the Galena Territory Owners' Clubhouse.

Next Board Meeting: We decided to skip the January meeting unless something comes up since we will meet December 9 and will be having the Annual Meeting on January 22. We will then reset the every-other-month schedule to begin in February on the third Tuesday of each month.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. February 17, 2026 via Zoom.

The board meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Marie Chenery
Secretary
(Minutes approved at the February 17, 2026 board meeting)