



Fall 2025 House of Delegates Meeting

21-Mar-2025 7:00PM

Illinois District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA Inc. House of Delegates

Mar 21st 2025

Mission Statement – *The Illinois District fosters a state of close harmony by bringing the joy and excitement of music to all people.*

Vision Statement – *To keep everyone singing throughout their lives.*

Location: Brickyard 5, Doubletree Hotel, Bloomington IL

Time: 7:00 PM

Called to order: 7:05 PM

Call to Order

1. Roll Call / House of Delegates quorum – yes or no – Mike Isely
 - 19 members present, out of a potential total of 44.
 - Quorum minimum requirement of 30% (= 13). With 19 present we have 43%, quorum established
 - [See Appendix titled “Attendance” for detailed attendance record]
2. Reading of Mission & Vision Statement – Terry Ludwig
 - (see above)
3. Welcome – Ben Dirks
4. Approve Agenda – Mike Isely
 - **Motion: Approve Agenda**
 - ♦ **Offered by: Pat Claussen;, Jeff Bowyer**
 - ♦ **PASSED**
5. Minutes of previous HOD Meeting (Sep 27th, 2024) – Mike Isely
 - **Motion:**
 - ♦ **Subject: Approve Fall 2024 HOD Minutes**
 - ♦ **Offered by: Jeff Bowyer, Timothy Ferguson**
 - ♦ **PASSED**



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6. Approve Consent Calendar – Mike Isely
 - Note: No CDD report submitted
 - **Motion: Approve Consent Calendar**
 - ◆ **Offered by: Doug Finkbiner, Terry Ludwig.**
 - ◆ **PASSED**
 - Accept the following reports, CSLT else moved to Old Business:
 - ◆ President’s Report [Attachment: “02a-rpt-president.pdf”]
 - ◆ Membership Report [Attachment: “03a-rpt-membership.pdf”]
 - ◆ Marketing Report [Attachment: “04a-rpt-marketing.pdf”]
 - ◆ Contest & Judging Report [Attachment: “05a-rpt-drcj.pdf”]
 - ◆ Events Report [Attachment: “06a-rpt-events.pdf”]
 - ◆ IDEA Report [Attachment: “07a-rpt-idea.pdf”]
 - ◆ Chapter Support and Leadership Training Report [Attachment: “08a-rpt-cslt.pdf”]
 - ◆ Historian’s Report [Attachment: “09a-rpt-historian.pdf”]

TREASURER’S REPORT

7. Treasurer's Report – Leif Wildman
 - \$80126.49 cash balance
 - [Attachment: “01a-rpt-treasurer.pdf”]
 - **Motion:**
 - ◆ **Subject: Receive the Treasurer’s Report**
 - ◆ **Offered by: Jim Morgan, David Garret**
 - ◆ **PASSED**

OLD BUSINESS

8. Harmony College Midwest – Mark Servos / Nathan Gross
 - [Attachment: “10a-rpt-hcmw.pdf”]
 - “Well we’re here!”
 - Event starts tomorrow morning
 - Working on quartet and clinician for 2026, to get further ahead
 - Numbers-wise, pretty similar to last year
 - 90 registrations (46 individuals plus 11 quartets)



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- Question about timing for this event in the future – Feb or Mar?
 - ◆ March is better weather-wise
 - ◆ February avoids spring break conflicts, other qualifying contests
- 9. Chapter President's Council – Mike Isely
 - [Attachment: "11a-rpt-cpc.pdf"]
 - We meet over zoom every 2 months
 - ◆ Next meeting is May 11th
 - ◆ Ask Bill Rathmann <bltjc1@sbcglobal.net> for the details (or check the google group...)
 - Google group exists as well
 - ◆ bhs-illinois-chapter-presidents-council@googlegroups.com
 - ◆ All current chapter presidents have been invited to join
 - ◆ See Mike Isely <isely@isely.net> or <isely@pobox.com> if you aren't there and wish to join.
 - Basic overview of CPC's activities summarized
 - Interchapter event coming up:
 - ◆ **When:** Saturday 12-April-2025, 1pm-4pm
 - ◆ **Where:** DuPage County Fairgrounds, Bldg #2, 2015 Manchester Road, N County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL 60187 (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/hUeqgp8oUvyYCcaP9>)
 - ◆ **What:** Afternoon of fun, camaraderie, singing, tags – get to know barbershoppers outside of your own chapter!
 - ◆ This is on the district event calendar
 - ◆ All chapters invited – Free event!
 - ◆ Bring your own refreshments & food (NO ALCOHOL)
 - ◆ We invite all choruses to come show off their stuff!
- 10. Four year plan – Ben Dirks
 - Making strides on a lot of things – including the CPC
 - HCMW close to breaking even
 - More social events – like the interchapter event the CPC is setting up
 - Glenn and Ben are working on creating a larger following on our social media platforms
 - Should post this plan on the website, with status updates
- 11. Website update – Glenn Mills
 - Website has been cleaned up further
 - Active development going on
 - Send email to marketing@illinoisdistrict.org for additional feedback



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- Make the district a co-host on facebook when posting an event – this will generate an email which Glenn will use to help market the event.
- Question: Would it be useful for a CPC-style group of marketing leaders from each chapter to work with Glenn? Quite possibly. Talk to Glenn to follow up. John Q Morris has offered to help coordinate this.

12. CDD Report – Ben Dirks

- Nothing really to report here
- There is a short “director track” at HCMW however
- Looking for a new CDD VP

NEW BUSINESS

13. IDEA Trustee nomination – Jeff Bowyer

- Earl Meseth is stepping aside for the remainder of his term
 - ◆ He had been reappointed last Fall for a 5 year term
 - ◆ Trustees would like to appoint Terry Ludwig to complete his term
- **Motion:**
 - ◆ **Subject: Appoint Terry Ludwig as IDEA trustee to serve out remaining term from Earl Meseth’s resignation**
 - ◆ **Offered by: Jim Morgan, Timothy Ferguson**
 - ◆ **PASSED**

14. Fall Convention – Jeff Bowyer

- Nothing to add that isn’t already in the report
- Contracts signed for Fall 2025 and Fall 2026 for the hotel, BCPA similarly penciled in
- Friday night quartet contest will be at the BCPA not the church, starting this Fall 2025
- Chorus contest this Fall will offer 2 different riser configurations (7 vs 11 risers)
- Chorus competition being considered for the morning instead of the evening
 - ◆ Feedback here that this may be a negative for choruses that come from out of town
 - ◆ But there are numerous pros / cons brought up here. This needs further discussion.

15. District-wide survey – Ben Dirks

- “If you don’t know you can’t grow”
- Surveys coming up to “take the temperature”, likely focused primarily on chapter leadership.
- First survey will come out before the Fall convention.

16. Chapter Liaisons – Ben Dirks

- Board members are assigned to each chapter as a liaison.
- List will be posted on the web site.

the Illinois District
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a state of close harmony

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17. Dues Discussion – Ben Dirks

- It's been a long time since the dues situation was examined.
- Probably time to look at this again.
- Time for a discussion.
- Idea about raising dues and making the convention registration free.
- A more substantial discussion should be expected in the Fall HOD.

18. Fall 2025 HOD Date – Mike Isely

- Fri Sep 26, 2025 1pm

Adjourned: 8:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Isely – Secretary



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Appendix: Attendance

(taken computationally from delegate sign-in spreadsheet)

Chapter Delegates			
P/L/A	Chapter Name	No.	Delegate
P	Arlington Heights, IL	E002	* Calvin Cheng
A	Aurora, IL	E003	* Lester Grossman
P	Belleville, IL	E005	Jim Morgan
P	Bloomington, IL	E007	David Garrett
A	Macomb, IL	E008	Craig Rigg
P	Northbrook, IL	E009	Nichelle Pajeau
A	Danville, IL	E013	* Bryan Schroeder
A	Decatur, IL	E014	James Barr
A	Coles County, IL	E017	+* Leif Wildman
A	Elgin, IL	E018	* Keith Rosborough
P	Rockford Metro, IL	E019	* Richard Schultz
P	Lake County, IL	E021	* Timothy Ferguson
A	Bureau County, IL	E024	* John Swanson
P	Chicagoland West Suburban, IL	E030	Trenton Ferro
A	Peoria, IL	E044	* Michael Cosner
A	Chicago Metro, IL	E045	* Bonnie Jones
A	Rockford, IL	E047	* Dan Adler
A	Rock Island, IL	E048	!
A	Will-Cook, IL	E050	* Neil DeVore
P	Sterling Rock Falls, IL	E052	Paul McCracken
A	Waterloo, IL	E054	* James Heise
P	Springfield, IL	E061	Patrik Claussen
P	DuPage Valley, IL	E066	* Kevin Connell
A	Kishwaukee Valley, IL	E067	!
A	Carbondale, IL	E075	!

(total = 10 / 25)

* Chapter did not specifically declare a delegate; substituting Chapter President

+ Delegate appears in multiple places or is a District Governance Board officer or a Past President; thus will still only have ONE vote!

! No information provided by this chapter (missing declared chapter officers), thus no delegate



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Governance Board		
Present	Name	Role
P	Benjamin Dirks	President
P	Glenn Mills	Executive VP
P	Mike Isely	Secretary
P	Leif Wildman	Treasurer
P	Doug Finkbiner	At-Large (Membership)
P	Jeff Bowyer	At-Large (Events)
P	Terry Ludwig	At-Large (C & J)
P	John Q. Morris	At-Large
N/A	(Terry Ludwig)	Imm Past President

8 out of 8

*John Q Morris added by motion during the meeting, not part of initial quorum

Active Past Presidents (not on Gov. Board)	
Present	Name
	Mike Bagby
N/A	(Jeff Bowyer)
	Bob Cearnal
	Dave Cowin
P	Rich Hansen
	Jeff Lathom
N/A	(Terry Ludwig)
	Earl Meseth
	Brett Mulford
	Bob Squires
	Will Thorndike
	Jim Waldorf
	Syl Wetle

1 out of 11

8+1+10 = 19 present

8+11+25 = 44 total possible