

WEST DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

State of Illinois
Lake County
Township of West Deerfield

DATE: March 25, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the West Deerfield Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Alyson Feiger. Clerk Molly Michaels took roll call. Present in the room were Supervisor Feiger and Trustees Ron Levitsky and Ellie Sylvan. Trustee Weisberger was present via phone, having had to travel due to a family emergency. Trustee Somers could not be present at the beginning of the meeting but joined those in the meeting room at 7:43 p.m.

MINUTES

The draft minutes from the February 17, 2026 Board meeting were discussed. Trustee Levitsky moved to approve the minutes, and was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. There being no further discussion, Clerk Michaels took a raised hand vote for those in the room and a voice vote for Trustee Weisberger. Supervisor Feiger (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Sylvan (aye) and Trustee Weisberger (aye). Trustee Somers was absent for the vote. All being in favor the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **For discussion and potential action:** West Deerfield Township Support of the Illinois America250 Commemoration.

The Board continued the discussion of potential ways to participate in the America 250 celebrations (aka the “Semi-Quin”), and these discussions will continue at future meetings.

Supervisor Feiger noted that the Township will be participating in a June activity at the Patty Turner Center. This activity is a dramatization about the Declaration of Independence with actors playing George and Martha Washington.

As noted previously, we will also participate in the 4th of July parade, and will consider a themed give-away such as a pencil or stickers.

We will continue to evaluate other activities, such as having a booth at the Deerfield Historical Society’s events in the Fall. Trustee Levitsky will review the Abraham Lincoln’s Third Military Draft lesson plan documents on our website to pull together an outline of a potential activity.

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NEW BUSINESS

- B. For discussion and potential action:** Draft Resolution 2026-2: Recognition of May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month

Clerk Michaels reviewed the request from West Deerfield Township resident Daniel Barrie to formally recognize May as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in the Township. Following brief discussion, Trustee Levitsky moved to approve Resolution 2026-2, and was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. Clerk Michaels took a raised hand vote for those in the room and a voice vote for Trustee Weisberger. Supervisor Feiger (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Sylvan (aye), Trustee Weisberger (aye). Trustee Somers was absent for the vote. All being in favor the motion was approved, and Resolution 2026-2 is now approved.

The Township will make full-page handouts about ALS available in the Township Building during the month of May, and will also publicize this via the Township website.

- C. For discussion and potential action:** Approve Community Service Committee funding recommendations

Supervisor Feiger reviewed the Community Service Committee funding recommendations with the board, noting that funding amounts are based on the Township residents' utilization of the services as well as our involvement with the program. Following brief discussion, Trustee Levitsky moved to approve the funding recommendations as presented, and was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. There being no further discussion, Clerk Michaels took a roll call vote: Supervisor Feiger (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Sylvan (aye), Trustee Weisberger (aye) and Trustee Somers (aye). All being in favor the motion to approve the funding recommendations was approved.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Feiger noted she will present the draft budget to the Board at the next Board meeting on April 14, 2026. A budget workshop will be held approximately two weeks later.

The "wellness retreat" activity for the Supervisor office staff was successful and very much appreciated by the staff.

A "first amendment audit" was conducted in the Township Office within the past month and went well. It did not appear that the auditor had any difficulty finding the information that is required to be readily available to the public.

The Township office staff have all taken the AgeGuide Dementia Friendly General Training as well as the Retail Training, to ensure that the Township office is as accommodating to those with dementia as possible.

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ASSESSOR'S REPORT

None.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Sylvan attended a recent presentation on homelessness hosted by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and summarized some of the topics for the Board.

- 1) There is a 100-day challenge to limit homelessness, and Supervisor Feiger noted that West Deerfield and Avon Townships are the first two participants in this challenge. There are meetings every week.
- 2) A single database to catalogue interventions is being started, with the goal of being able to assess the effectiveness of different interventions in different situations.
- 3) There is also an effort underway to identify people to are at risk of homelessness and intervene to avoid that outcome.
- 4) The homeless population was 80% male until very recently; now it is 50% male and 50% female.

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

The Board discussed the Dementia Friendly Initiative and its current status. The next Committee Meeting is on April 21. There is a need to know what to do when trying to help people with dementia who do not have family members/care partners who can assist them. It would be useful to know who to contact if we are concerned about a resident. The Board also discussed the potential value of surveying local businesses regarding their experiences with people with dementia to identify what could assist them. Trustee Levitsky noted that someone is working on consolidating the schedule of all of the local Memory Cafes, which will be a valuable resource for those caring for someone with dementia.

AUDIT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS

Following brief discussion, Trustee Levitsky moved to approve payment of the bills as presented, and was seconded by Trustee Somers. There being no further discussion, Clerk Michaels took a roll call vote: Supervisor Feiger (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Sylvan (aye), Trustee Weisberger (aye) and Trustee Somers (aye). All being in favor the motion to approve payment of the bills was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Trustee Levitsky moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. Clerk Michaels took a raised hand vote for those in the room and a voice vote for Trustee Weisberger. Supervisor Feiger (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Sylvan (aye), Trustee Weisberger (aye) and Trustee Somers (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held April 14, 2026, at the West Deerfield Township Center, 601 Deerfield Road, Deerfield IL, 60015, starting immediately following the Annual Meeting that will start at 7:00 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Molly Michaels
Township Clerk