

The meeting of the Judges Committee was called to order by Committee Chair, Fran Soukup, at 7:05 PM CST on January 23rd, 2025. Fran Soukup, Jerrika Mumford, Tami Lash, Cathie Kindler, and Sherri Tallmon were in attendance.

Tami motioned to approve the agenda. Cathie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

*Minutes of the last meeting were approved via email. Jerrika will send them to the ILR for posting to the website.*

The committee welcomed Sherri Tallmon as the newest member.

Nominations were opened for Chair & Secretary. Jerrika nominated Fran as Committee Chair. Fran accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Cathie seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Cathie nominated Jerrika as secretary. Jerrika accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Fran seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Jerrika will write to the ILR office with the election results.

### **Old Business:**

Fran shared that the ILR office mailed the 2025 Guidelines books to judges/apprentices who have paid their dues. The committee also received a list of judges/apprentices who have not yet paid their dues. The committee discussed that many of those who have not paid are new judges/apprentices. There have also been reports of issues paying through the website. Fran will send an email reminder to those on the list.

Nick Hauptly joined the call at 7:18 PM to discuss the open book test. Nick & Jerrika finalized the open book test questions and updated the answers to reflect the updated page numbers in the guidelines. Nick shared the open book test & tracking spreadsheet with the committee. Nick offered to assist in the administration of the open book test. Tami motioned to approve Nick to assist with the open book test. Sherri seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Nick reported both the Open book test and the updated judges/apprentices newsletter were both sent to the ILR office. Fran will follow up to request both OBT and newsletter be sent out to paid judges/apprentices.

Nick updated the committee on planning progress on the upcoming judges clinic being held in May in Georgia. Nick discussed the clinic evaluation tool. He is developing criteria to allow for a more helpful and insightful evaluation. He has made good progress but is still working on it. He will send a draft to the committee for feedback. Nick left the call at 7:32 PM.

The approval of Anna Reese as a permanently certified judge & a teaching judge is pending approval from the Governing Board. The Governing Board is waiting for new members to be elected and has not yet set a meeting date.

The judging issue discussed during an executive session at the December meeting will be discussed at the next Governing Board meeting.

Fran shared updates regarding the committee's suggestion of allowing apprentice evaluations from ALSA if the judge is also an ILR-SD Teaching Judge. Fran discussed the committee's suggestion with the ALSA Judges Committee Chair, Mary Jo Miller. Mary Jo will bring this to the ALSA Judges Committee for further discussion.

The next meeting was tentatively set for March 6th at 7 PM central time. Tami motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sherri seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Adjourned at 7:42 PM CST.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerrika Mumford