SEC Form 4

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287

Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| 1. Name ar | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Lifeway Foods, Inc. [LWAY] | | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director X 10% Owner | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|----------------|---|---|--|--|---|--------------|---|--------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| (Last) | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/20/2022 | | | | | | | | | X | | r (give titl | le | Othe belov | r (specify |
| 6431 OAKTON STREET | | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) MORTO GROVE | N IL | IL 60053 | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | filed by M | - | oorting Pe an One Re | |
| (City) | (St | ate) (Z | Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 - N | on-Deriva | ative | Secui | rities | Ac | quire | d, Di | sposed of | , or E | Benefic | ciall | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | | | | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/) | rear) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 5) | | | and Securities Beneficially Owned Followin | | s illy ollowing | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) o (D) | Price | . | Reported Transact (Instr. 3 a | ion(s) | | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock, no par value 04/20/20 | | | | 22 | | | Α | | 23,694(1) | A | \$(|) | 2,026,748 | | | D | | | |
| Common Stock, no par value 04/2 | | | | 04/20/20 | 22 | | | | A | | 125,000(3) | A | \$0 | 0 2,151 | | ,748 | | D | |
| Common Stock, no par value | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22,216 | | 216 | I | | Footnote ⁽⁴⁾ |
| Common Stock, no par value | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4,6 | 36 | | I | Footnote ⁽⁵⁾ |
| Common Stock, no par value | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 500,000 | | I | | Footnote ⁽⁶⁾ |
| | | Та | ble II | | | | | | | | oosed of, o | | | | Owned | t | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | Exec if any | eemed ution Date, , th/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | Expi | ate Exer ration C hth/Day/ | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Inst 3 and 4) | | De Se (In: | . Price of Perivative Security Instr. 5) | 9. Numb derivativ Securitie Beneficia Owned Followin Reported Transact (Instr. 4) | re es ally g d tion(s) | 10. Ownersh Form: Direct (D or Indire (I) (Instr. | Beneficial Ownershi (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exer | cisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents a grant of restricted stock earned under the Company's 2019 Long Term Incentive Program for the 2021 performance period and issued pursuant to the Company's 2015 Omnibus Incentive Plan. All such shares vest immediately upon issuance. The issuance of such shares is dependent on receipt by the Company of consent and agreement by DanoneWave PBC ("Danone") that such issuance will not constitute a breach of violation of or constitute "New Securities" under that certain Stockholders' Agreement, dated as of October 1, 1999, by and among the Corporation, Danone, Michael Smolyansky and the other stockholders of the Corporation listed therein, as amended by that certain letter agreement dated September 24, 1999 and as further amended from time to time (the "Stockholders' Agreement").
- 2. Adjusted to reflect a correction to an inadvertent overstatement of 4,07748,154 shares of common stock in Reporting Person's grant and beneficial ownership on his previously filed Form 4.
- 3. Represents a grant of time-based restricted stock earned under the Company's 2021 Long Term Incentive Program for the 2021 performance period and issued pursuant to the Company's 2015 Omnibus Incentive Plan. Such shares 41,667 vest immediately upon issuance vest immediately, 41,667 vest on April 20, 2023 and 541,666 vest on April 20, 2024 and will be issued upon vesting, contingent on the Reporting Person's continued service on the vesting date and receipt by the Company of consent and agreement by Danone that such issuance will not constitute a breach of violation of or constitute "New Securities" under the Stockholders' Agreement.
- 4. Held for the benefit of minor children.
- 5. Held by the Reporting Person's spouse.
- 6. Held by Smolyansky Holding LLC of which the reporting person is the beneficial owner of 50%. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares except to the extent of any pecuniary

interest therein.

/s/ Julie Smolyansky 0

07/13/2022

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.