



Advisory Committee

(appointed by Board of Directors)

In-Person and via Zoom

Fox Waterway Agency
45 S Pistakee Lake Rd
Fox Lake, IL 60020

----- Minutes -----

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Smarto

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

2.0 Roll Call

Secretary Basten

Present: Pat Smarto, Anne Basten, David Corrigan, Rob Bryson, Rob Rinkenberger, John Fischer, Mike Missak, and Don Schnurr

Staff Present: Rob Bowman

Others Present:

Absent: Police, Al Golbach, John McGuire, Neil Moulis, and Ken Fruh

Excused Tom Fernstrom and Jason Hetterman

3.0 Review of Minutes and subsequent comment/corrections/approval

The Draft minutes of September 7, 2023, were provided to the members in advance for review or approval.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of September 7, 2023, as presented.

Motion: David Corrigan

Second: Rob Bryson

Motion carried

4.0 Reports

4.1 FWA Update

Rob Bowman reported on two months of Board meetings: Friends of Lake Catherine's request for financial assistance on an aerator was tabled; Christine Wooten's permits were not reinstated for 2023; IDNR police officers were given certificates of acknowledgment for their dedication to safety; Pat Smarto, Rob Bryson and Anne Basten were recognized for their work on the watershed plan; Board approved the 2024 meeting schedule and holiday schedule; approved the 2024 sticker; work on the amended Commercial sticker ordinance continued; fire alarms were being installed in the office; All buoys were removed and ordered replacements; and the hydraulic dredge was still out for repairs; the 2024 draft budget was discussed; Mike Missak was appointed to the Advisory Committee.

4.2 Regional (Upper/Lower/Lakes)

Nothing to report.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Watershed Project / Upcoming Meetings

Chairwoman Smarto reported that the “Minor Maintenance Dredging” presentation was the most attended and the consensus is that this presentation should be presented annually. The next presentation would be November 9th on septic systems and septic system maintenance. Rob Bryson reviewed the final goals from the plan for the group.

5.2 Clean Up Ideas / 2024 Plans

Chairwoman Smarto had reached out to potential volunteers for additional ideas.

5.3 Data Collection on Lake/McHenry County Phosphorus Ordinances

Anne Basten explained that we were looking for Committee members to volunteer to research the current regulations related to Phosphorus in Lake & McHenry Counties. No volunteers stepped forward, so Anne recruited two volunteers from the stakeholder group who have started their research.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Welcome new member Mike Missak

Earlier in the evening, several committee members introduced themselves to Mike Missak and welcomed him aboard. Mike briefly reviewed his background and why he volunteered to join the committee.

6.2 Review and finalize the 2024 meeting schedule

Chairwoman Smarto referred to the provided draft schedule and the consensus was to set the July date to July 11, 2024. Suggestions for boat tour sites are: Algonquin Spillway with DNR, Boone Creek or Nippersink Creek.

The balance of the Committee meeting dates were:

February 1, 2024

April 4, 2024

May 2, 2024

September 5, 2024

A motion was made to recommend adoption of the Fox Waterway Advisory Committee meeting dates as discussed.

Motion: Anne Basten

Second: John Fischer

Motion carried

6.3 Nominations for new Vice Chair

November 2, 2023 Approved February 1, 2024

Chairwoman Smarto announced that Laura King was stepping down from the Vice Chair position and asked if anyone was interested in serving. No one spoke up at this time so Pat asked if anyone changed their mind, to get a hold of her.

7.0 Member Comments

There was a recommendation to consider making changes to the dredging decisions to try and coordinate support for dredging channels that are working on stabilizing their shorelines to prevent frequent repeat dredging needs.

Illinois Clean Marina Certification through IDNR was presented. Later it was determined that the program currently only pertains to marinas on Lake Michigan although they may consider expansion.

The Green Living Expo at McHenry County College was announced for the coming Saturday.

Rob Rinkenberger talked about how Wisconsin uses a clearing house for phosphorus credits. Not currently done in Illinois.

8.0 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

9.0 Adjournment – 8:27 p.m.

Motion: Rob Bryson

Second: Rob Rinkenberger

Motion carried