



Fox Waterway Agency

Telephonic Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

Recording Secretary: David McArdle

1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call 7:10 p.m.

Chairman Blake

Present: Directors Chris Allen, Chuck Haling, Jason Hettermann, Bill Hellyer, Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl, and Chairman Wayne Blake

Absent: None

FWA Also Present: Agency Attorney David McArdle, Executive Director Joe Keller, Field Superintendent Rob Bowman, Advisory Committee Randy Sweet

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Approval of Minutes

Director Haling made a motion to approve the February 26, 2020 and March 25, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Meyer, Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer, and Stochl

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.0 Treasurer's Report & Acceptance of Bills & Other Financials

4.1 Approval of Treasurer's Report

Director Meyer provided the Treasurer's Report which reflects a cash balance of \$1,000,444.31.

Director Meyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Meyer, Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer, and Stochl

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.2 Approval of Bills

Director Meyer presented the bills for payment totaling \$270,374.43, including accounts payable, debits and hand written checks already issued for the month.

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$270,374.43. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Meyer, Haling, Hetterman, Hellyer, and Stochl

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.3 AR Report--None**5.0 Old Business****5.1 Army corps of Engineers update.**

Director Stochl informed the Board that the ARCOE report should be completed by mid-Summer.

5.2 Update on headquarters wharf project and Wall Street Property development progress.

Director Allen informed the Board that the rip-rap/warf project are 90% done and all that is left is boat ramp completion. With regard to Wall Street, it is on schedule with the dump ramp and silt fence installed.

6.0 New Business**6.1**

MOTION: Director Hettermann made a motion to approve WRP for the Blarney Island Boat Races. The motion was seconded by Director Allen and after discussion, roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Meyer, Haling, Hetterman, Hellyer, and Stochl

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.2

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to approve FWA Permanent budget noncompliance with the Illinois Municipal Budget Act. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer and after discussion roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Meyer, Haling, Hetterman, Hellyer, and Stochl

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.3

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to discuss and approve Ordinance Amending Appendix A. Antique Watercraft Definition and Chapter 4, Section 4.03, User Permit Sticker Fees, Class D. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. After discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

The Motion carried.

6.4

MOTION: Director Allen made a motion to table discussion regarding continued Cobra Health Coverage offering from 9 months to 12 months to reflect current state law. The motion was seconded by Director Meyer. After discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

The Motion carried.

6.5

MOTION: Director Hellyer made a motion to discuss the proposed modification of the existing Lease Agreement by and between Fox Waterway Agency and Studio Hotrods Roadhouse, LLC. The motion was seconded by Director Meyer. After discussion, the Executive Director was requested to discuss the matter with the Lessee and have the Lessee present a proposal to the Board to address whatever financial issues it is having. No action was taken by the Board.

6.6

MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to approve a temporary Declaration of State of Emergency for social distancing on the waterway due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. After discussion roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Meyer, Haling, Hetterman, Hellyer, and Stochl

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

7.0 Reports

7.1 Executive Director

Executive Director Keller made a verbal report to the Board. He addressed the essential nature of FWA work and efforts on the waterway and how this greatly impacts our funding. Our funding is tied to users along with the businesses spanning the entire waterway and it is important that these businesses get opened. This ties into the message staff has been sending to Springfield and the importance of addressing this in the upcoming fiscal budget, not waiting until next year. We need a line item now, especially during this Coronavirus pandemic and shut down. Executive Director Keller remains hopeful we'll get it done.

7.2 Advisory Committee Reports & Recommendations

Randy Sweet made a verbal report to the Board. The Advisory Board meeting will be on May 6th via zoom. May cleanup has been cancelled due to Covid-19. Randy and the advisory board will be offering assistance to FWA staff on website update recommendations.

7.3 Field Superintendent Report

Rob Bowman advised the Board as follows:

- Ackerman—Hauling completed; bridge removal expected May 15th.
- Peterson—On hold.
- Halings—May 15th deadline to get work done.
- Buoys—Work will start May 1 and hopefully finish by Memorial Day.
- 240 Pontoons repair work completed; after reassembly, the machine will then go to Hailings and then to FWA headquarters.
- Dirt Fields—Screening machine repairs ongoing.
- Employees—one seasonal driver hired.

8.0 Directors and Chairman Reports

- Hailing—discussed duck blind and lake Village gauge issues;
- Hetterman—He acknowledged compliance with Governors executive order by staff; acknowledged advisory boards efforts with regard to social media and website updates;
- Allen—Indicated strong desire/intent to keep the waterway open to the public and encouraged any enforcement actions regarding COVID violations be kept to the individuals and not mass enforced against waterway usage in general.

9.0 Public Comment

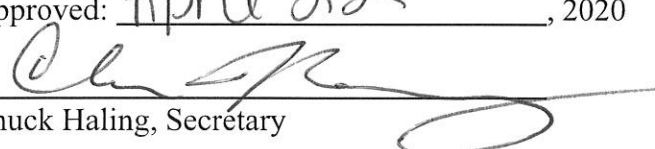
- Jim commented he would like boats allowed on the waterway complying with social distancing requirements; he was informed that some satellites were open for boat sticker sales but may have to be contacted ahead of time;
- Randy Beyer was informed that his people would be contacted next week regarding scheduling;
- Nan agreed with social distancing requirements and questions if waterway would be shut down if violations by individuals continue.

10.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Director Haling made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A voice vote was taken. All voted aye. The Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Approved: April 22, 2020


Chuck Haling, Secretary