



Fox Waterway Agency

Remote/Electronic Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2020

Recording Secretary: David McArdle

1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call 7:05 p.m.

Chairman Blake

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

Absent:

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

MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to approve the May 27, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. 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 \$1,139,295.02.

MOTION: 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 \$206,920.48, including debits of \$90,686.04 and prepaid checks of \$116,234.44 already issued for the month.

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$206,920.48. 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.

4.2-1 Preapproval Motion

MOTION: A motion was made to preapprove and authorize payment to Copenhagen Construction for its final payment, not to exceed \$60,000, to be paid prior to the DECO deadline of June 30, 2020. The action will also be ratified at the next Board meeting.

Director Meyer made the motion to preapprove and authorize payment. 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.

4.3 A/R Report

Director Meyer presented the A/R Report. Account receivables as of 6/23/20 total \$7,440 (only one of which was past 30 days old of approximately \$1,000).

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Army corps of Engineers update.

Director Stochl informed the Board that there was nothing new on this topic, however, a new colonel for the Army Corp of Engineers was being appointed in July and indicated he would like to make a trip to the Fox Waterway for a tour after the appointment.

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

Director Allen informed the Board: Wall Street Property – most of the property has been drained and planted and ready for operation. Wharf Project – punch list work was being completed and the boat launch was completed.

5.3 Update on Studio Hotrods Roadhouse, LLC, lease modification with FWA.

Director Hellyer informed the Board that the lease terms were finalized; the lease was executed, and the lease payment was fully made.

6.0 New Business

6.1

MOTION: Director Hettermann made a motion to discuss and approve Governor's Channel project, which is being performed on an expedited basis, and the resulting revised 2020 dredge schedule. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

Discussion: The US Army Corp permit was quickly obtained for dredging and work has started. The project will take 4 to 6 weeks. This project will require modification of the existing workload/dredging projects of the Agency and cause a delay of the preexisting schedule; overtime work is being provided by the Agency toward the project. The public is warned that they must stay clear of the work equipment in the Waterway.

7.0 Reports**7.1 Executive Director**

Executive Director Keller informed the Board:

- The Fox Waterway has been open during COVID-19 and the Executive Director expressed the safety involved in the opening and that working out in the fresh air is advisable.
- Sticker sales are up near 2019 levels.
- Grant applications are being worked on and the staff has completed 2 grant applications for equipment.

7.2 Advisory Committee Reports & Recommendations

Chairman Randy Sweet advised the Board:

- July 2020 is the next advisory board meeting which will be a virtual meeting; the Executive Director will be present for an update.
- With regard to the 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Financial Assistance Program Grant; it was not obtained last year and is being re-applied for this year; the deadline for application is August 31st.
- With regard to the 604B grant, this needs an update from the EPA that the Agency is waiting for.
- There is also a new grant opportunity from the Governor, known as Green Infrastructure Grant Opportunities (GIGO), (Rebuild Illinois capital plan) which provides up to \$5 million annually. The application is due August 21st.

7.3 Field Superintendent Report

Rob Bowman advised the Board (dredging status):

- Staff starting to mobilize equipment for California Ice and Coal project – subject to Governor Channel work schedule.
- Maintenance work includes a failed truck engine for the 1995 truck.
- 2800 amphibious excavator has issues where parts are being priced and its repair will render it out of service for a short period of time.
- The result of recent flooding has left many debris calls, which the staff is handling as best as possible.
- Buoys are being replaced in the proper locations.
- Dirt sales are up.
- The 1960 screening machine is getting old and the staff is looking forward to new equipment.
- The FWA channel dredging is set up, but on hold, due to Nippersink Channel work.
- The Board was advised that Nippersink Creek sediment is getting worse, and not just with regard with Governors Channel.
- Half Moon Island buoys installed by Lock and Dam meet Coast Guard requirements, although they can be confusing. The buoys are hazard buoys, not no wake buoys, and the public is advised that they must be aware of the “*rules of the road*” and buoy identification is important.

8.0 Directors and Chairman Reports

- Hettermann acknowledged work of the staff on debris removal and the handling of a number of boaters on a daily basis.
- Director Allen acknowledged fast acting by staff on Governors Channel.
- Director Meyer thanked the staff regarding the Ackerman bridge work.
- Grass Island, Director Meyer noticed degradation of the riprap and parts of the island have washed out, looking forward to future work on the island with the potential grant money.

Public Comment

Shawn Priewe of 3882 Route 12 on Nippersink Creek was present to understand how projects get scheduled.

MOTION: At 8:24 Director Hellyer made a motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Director Meyer. A roll call voice vote was taken.

The Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Approved: June 24, 2020

Chuck Haling, Secretary