



# Fox Waterway Agency

## *Remote/Electronic Meeting Minutes*

October 28, 2020

**Recording Secretary:** David McArdle

### **1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call 7:07 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**

**MOTION:** Director Haling made a motion to approve the September 23, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Abstain:

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 \$1,619,177.84 through the end of September.

**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 monthly bills for payment totaling \$53,836.08. This sum is in addition to bills already paid of \$41,276.06 for September, and \$65,035.65 for October and two checks already issued and prepaid totaling \$5,879.39.

**MOTION:** Director Meyer made a motion to ratify and pay all of the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid all totaling \$166,027.18. 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 10/27/20 total \$3,930. Of that amount, \$3,370 is current, less than 30 days and \$560 is behind 30 days, less than 60.

#### **5.0 Old Business**

##### **5.1 Army corps of Engineers and IDNR update on Trinski Island.**

Director Stochl informed the Board that the IDNR update study is still scheduled to be completed by next summer. She also brought the Board up to date that the US Army Corp of Engineers and the IDNR are communicating about ways to preserve the north and southwestern corners of Trinski Island. She should have more to report at the next meeting.

##### **5.2 Update on Wall Street Property development progress.**

Director Allen informed the Board that the delineation by the Lake County is going well and he hoped that the original 15 acres to process soil would soon be approved by the County for the Fox Waterway Agency's use.

##### **5.3 Update on FWA roof project.**

Director Haling informed the Board that Metalmaster provided extra vents and materials for safety and payment will be made to the company when the work is commenced, which is estimated to be on November 15, 2020.

#### **6.0 New Business**

##### **6.1**

**MOTION:** Director Meyer made a motion to approve Dan Snell and Taveirne as the designated auditors for 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$10,310, to be completed in 2021. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Abstain:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

**6.2**

**MOTION:** Director Hettermann discussed a hybrid Board option of board meetings in the future, in light of Covid-19 issues. After discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Director Hettermann and seconded by Director Meyer to attend future meetings personally or by Zoom, at the Board member's choice, and for all public to attend by Zoom only, until further action by the Board. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

**7.0 Reports****7.1 Executive Director**

Executive Director Keller repeated his concern and the concerns of the Fox Waterway Agency for people to take appropriate safety precautions considering Covid-19. He also confirmed Director Stochl's report about Trinski Island and the positive nature of the involvement of the IDNR and the Army Corp of Engineers. Executive Director Keller confirmed with the IDNR that the wall around Trinski Island will not be dismantled until the parties have a clear understanding of what may be permitted to preserve the relevant shorelines.

**7.2 Advisory Committee Reports & Recommendations**

Chairman Sweet reported that the next advisory committee meeting is on November 5<sup>th</sup>, which will be for the election of officers. Chairman Sweet announced that he would *not* be running for a fourth term and the Board expressed their appreciation for all his past work.

**7.3 Field Superintendent Report**

Field Superintendent Bowman reported as follows:

- California Ice and Coal project – crews have been working during the rain, while pulling buoys from the system, which is now completed. To date, 357 loads of soil have been removed from the project and the crews will stay on it until the end of November and hopefully finish by then.
- Customer concerns were handled.
- Screening operations – it was made clear that the Fox Waterway Agency needs upgraded screens for next year.
- The dredge in Grass Lake is pumping soil.
- The amphibious excavator needs repair.
- No comments have been made by the public about the incidental take along Wall Street, regarding the delineation.
- The roof on the Fox Waterway Agency's structure should be scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>.

## 8.0 Directors and Chairman Reports

- Director Haling noted that the Covid-19 issues have caused difficulty getting petitions signed for the Director positions that are up for election.
- Director Stochl noted that the Friday reports are appreciated.
- Director Hettermann indicated that there was a Zoom meeting between Executive Director Keller and the IDNR and the IDNR took contour depths on the river, which can be viewed on the website. It shows the change from 20 years ago.
- Director Allen made the same comment about difficulty of getting petition signatures in light of Covid-19.
- Director Meyer indicated the budget was in good shape, however, labor and dredging expenses are down and that the Fox Waterway Agency should work on that in the future, in order to spend more money towards those efforts.
- Director Hellyer – no comments.

## Public Comment –

- Randy Beyers from California Ice and Coal thanked the Fox Waterway Agency for help and agreed with the hybrid Board meeting instead of personal attendance.
- Jim Cistaro warned of computer issues during the Zoom meeting and cautioned that this should be prevented. Regarding Trinski Island, he had questions regarding the location of the work. He also questioned his use of the waterway for buoy locations for slalom skiing. Superintendent Bowman indicated that no buoys are allowed unless permitted. Mr. Cistaro was encouraged to provide a detailed petition next spring for his requested use.
- Don Schnurr, owner of the Boathouse, indicated that this is his first meeting. He was interested in community involvement and just today he was notified that the Chicago Boat Show had been cancelled.
- Dr. Fisher indicated that he personally observed the dredging work on the channel he was operating on has been very helpful.

## Adjournment

**MOTION:** Director Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, at 8:20 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

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

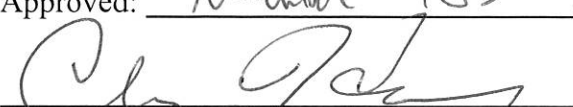
Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved: November 18th, 2020

  
Chuck Haling, Secretary