



Fox Waterway Agency

Remote/Electronic Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2021

Recording Secretary: David McArdle

1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call 7:03 p.m.

Chairman Blake

Present: Directors Chris Allen, Jason Hettermann, Bill Hellyer, Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl, Chuck Haling (arrived late at 7:15 p.m.) and Chairman Wayne Blake

Absent: Chuck Haling

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

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Director Hellyer made a motion to approve the January 27, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent: Director Haling

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 \$1,377,431.35 through 1/31/21.

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 Stochl, Hettermann, Allen, Meyer, and Hellyer

Absent: Director Haling

Nay: None.

The Motion carried.

4.2 Approval of Bills

Director Meyer presented the monthly bills for payment and ratification of bills previously

paid as follows: January bills prepaid total \$28,270.58; February bills prepaid total \$67,725.21; additional checks paid during the month total \$1,000.00; and bills remaining to be paid total \$29,179.25; for a total amount of bills paid and to be paid of \$126,175.04.

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to ratify and pay all of the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid all totaling \$126,175.04. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent: Director Haling

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.3 A/R Report (Director Haling arrives—7:15 p.m.)

Director Meyer presented the A/R Report. The accounts receivable as of 2/23/21 total \$1,025.00. \$925 of this total is 60 days old, for McDonalds. Director Meyer indicated this should not be a problem getting paid.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Army Corps of Engineers update.

Director Stochl informed the Board that the meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers is hopefully being scheduled for March and Mike Mihalik will be present.

5.2 Update on Wall Street Property development progress.

Director Allen reported to the Board that Coopers Farm cells are still being emptied at Wall Street. About 20,000 cubic yards have been removed. In addition, the final road layout is being worked out by the staff and the county, with the county's contact, Dan Krill. The road entry was discussed based on the present conceptual plan.

6.0 New Business

6.1 MOTION: Director Stochl made a motion for discussion and final approval of Kris Pearson transferring to FWA Field Support Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Director Allen. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Abstain:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.2 MOTION: Director Hettermann made a motion to approve Don Schnurr as a member of the FWA Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.3 MOTION: Director Allen made a motion to discuss and approve WRP Damyak Challenge on July 17, 2021, and waive the sticker fees for participants in this charitable event. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.4 MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to discuss and approve the purchase of a 2019 Ecotec Dirt Trommel from Midwest Crusher and Screener in the amount of \$269,000.00. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.5 MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to discuss and approve a Resolution for State of Illinois and Federal Surplus Property Program Participation. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.6 MOTION: Director Hellyer made a motion to discuss and approve the final 2021 Dredging Schedule. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

7.0 Reports

7.1 Executive Director

Executive Director reported that:

- Sticker sales were up in January.
- Agency staff is working well together.
- The Fox River summit is scheduled for March 11th and the FWA is participating.
- A Fox Waterway building project award will be presented by the APWA on March 2nd.
- Staff is still seeking a DCEO grant for \$550,000 to purchase an amphibious excavator.
- Work is still being done to acquire the \$300,000 grant for the Grass Island excavation project.

7.2 Advisory Committee Reports & Recommendations

Pat Smarto, Chairman, welcomed Don Schnurr to the Advisory Board. She reported that the FWA is now on Instagram and the committee is reviewing their By-Laws and the committee is focusing on public education regarding the Agency.

7.3 Field Superintendent Report

Field Superintendent Bowman reported as follows:

- Staff was completing removal of dredge material from the west cell of Coopers Farm-- they are about 95% complete.
- Material is being moved from Halings Landing to the Wall Street property.
- The Wall Street road will be under construction early Spring.
- Equipment maintenance is ongoing.
- The DNR approved and issued the permit for the Coopers Farm embankment stabilization project.

8.0 Directors Reports

8.1 Directors

- Director Haling will make calls to try and jump start the dirt sale marketing program.
- Director Stochl – no report.
- Director Hettermann agrees with the advisory committee's goal of educating the public on the Agency's business, including dirt sales and using social media to do so.
- Director Allen agrees the Fox Waterway should be more visual at Waterway events. He hopes this heavy snow base will not create a large snow melt causing waterway issues.
- Director Meyer announced that the budget hearing will be conducted at the next meeting of the Agency in March and during the budget process he will be looking to discuss Joe Keller's salary.
- Director Hellyer – no report.

8.2 Chairman

Chairman Blake reported that they had a good meeting with representative Tom Weber and the Chairman emphasized that money is needed from the State to fund FWA waterway projects.

Public Comment –

- Jim Cisnero questioned where Coopers Farm is located. He also questioned whether there will be increased roadway traffic due to the project. He agreed with Jim Meyer's concept of coming up with a business plan about the dirt sales.

Adjournment

MOTION: Director Hellyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, at 9:00 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Absent:

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Approved: 3/24/21, 2021


Chuck Haling, Secretary

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