

November 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Approved February 3, 2022



Advisory Committee
(appointed by Board of Directors)
Via Zoom Video Conference Call and
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, Dennis Leo, Anne Basten, John Fisher, Tom Fernstrom, Dave Corrigan, Laura King, Jason Hettermann

Present via Zoom: Judy Martini, John McGuire, Al Golbach

Staff Present: Rob Bowman

Absent: Police, Alan Golbach, Tom Fernstrom, Pam Althoff, Warren Moulis, Keith Carpenter, Ken Fruh

Excused: Don Schnurr

Others Present: Brad Woodson (MCCD) Ralph Wenzel, Christine Stochl, and Rob Bryson

3.0 Review of Minutes and subsequent comment/corrections/approval

Discussion: Draft Minutes of September 2, 2021

The Roll call was not complete and was amended with the addition of missing names.

Motion: To approve the minutes of September 2, 2021 as amended

Motion: Dave Corrigan

Second: John Fisher

Motion carried

4.0 Reports

4.1 FWA

Rob Bowman reported that an auditor had been approved; a new sticker design was proposed and they were seeking our input – a few suggestions were made; repairs to the headquarter's building were approved; board meeting dates were corrected; Grass Island maintenance bid was approved and work was started with stone being added.

Field work: the dredge was demobilized; Dutch Creek dredging concluded this day and Orchard Heights would be starting as the weather permits. November 1st the locks closed for the season; the Village of Fox Lake is installing piers behind the new Culvers in the harbor there.

Judy Martini asked a question on behalf of the new Lake Co Dist 5 rep about the numbers of stickers

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issued and Rob will get back with the answer – they have the data, he just did not have it available right off hand. Winter drawdown has begun.

4.2 Regional (Upper/Lower/Lakes)

The water levels are dropping but it was impressive the level of the Lakes and above the Stratton Dam remained pretty steady.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 FWA Public Education Program Committee - Public Safety

Chairman Smarto reported that “Safe is Best, Wear your Vest” is the top runner for slogan and she showed the new sticker design with the vest at the center. They are also in the process of getting sticker enforcement underway.

5.2 Review of By Laws

Director Hettermann reiterated that he would like to allow more active participants rather than falling under certain designations. Future committee members will have participation expectations to be met. The board agreed to leave the Committee By-Laws unchanged after the recent review however, non-attendance could reduce committee members to non-voting.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Lyon’s Prairie & Marsh Erosion

Ralph Wenzel stated that he had met the new IDNR person for the area and reiterated the loss of an Eagle’s nest and young this year due to erosion of the peninsula by Lyon’s Prairie & Marsh Conservation Area. He stated that land owners should take care of their property and in this case it is McHenry County Conservation District (MCCD) property. Brad Woodson, Natural Resource Manager for MCCD stated that they have been aware of the situation since the 1990’s and that about 1000 ft of shoreline has been lost. The repairs had been on the list at one point and had been taken out of the budget to pay for mandatory ADA updates and there has been no budget for projects since then. Ralph and Tom Fernstrom asked about grant applications. Rob Bowman stated that the agency could probably help but cannot initiate the project or apply for grants for it.

6.2 Introduction – New Member Applicant – Rob Bryson

Chairperson Smarto let Rob introduce himself. He’s somewhat new to the area but already very involved through Pistakee Yacht Club. His wife has already removed 57 tires from her Kayak – very impressive!

Motion: Recommend appointment of Rob Bryson to the Advisory Committee

Move: Anne Basten
Second: Dennis Leo
Motion carried

6.3 Waterway Clean Up

Rob Bryson reported he has pictures to share from the Boat House from 2020. Dave Corrigan stated that last year was same date as a fishing tournament that involved some of the duck hunters. Discussion set the date for May 14, 2022.

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7.0 Member Comments:

No additional comments

8.0 Public Comments

Ralph Wenzel commented about the water levels.

9.0 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn November 4, 2021 Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion: Laura King

Second: Tom Fernstrom

Discussion: None

Motion carries, meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM