



# Fox Waterway Agency

## *Special Meeting Minutes*

March 1, 2023

**Recording Secretary:** David W. McArdle

### 1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Blake

### Meeting conducted by Chairman Blake

**Present:** Chairman Wayne Blake, Directors Chuck Haling, Jason Hettermann, Bill Hellyer and Dan Mitchell

**Absent:** Directors Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl

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

### 2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

**MOTION:** Director Haling made a motion to approve the January 25, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer and Mitchell

Absent: Directors Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl

Abstain: None

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

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

#### 4.1 Approval of Treasurer's Report

Director Mitchell provided the Treasurer's Report which reflects a cash balance of \$1,088,497.32 through 1/31/23.

**MOTION:** Director Mitchell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer and Mitchell

Absent: Directors Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

#### **4.2 Approval of Bills**

Director Mitchell presented the monthly bills for payment and ratification of bills previously paid as follows: January bills prepaid total \$48,426.36; February bills prepaid total \$63,873.14; additional checks paid during the month total \$979.27; and bills remaining to be paid total \$81,313.86; for a total amount of bills paid and to be paid of \$194,592.63.

**MOTION:** Director Mitchell made a motion to ratify and pay all the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid all totaling \$194,592.63. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer and Mitchell

Absent: Directors Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

#### **4.3 A/R Report**

Director Mitchell reported on the accounts receivable, and \$-0- are aged beyond 30 days.

#### **5.0 Old Business**

##### **5.1 DCEO Grant Update.**

Executive Director Joe Keller reminded the Board that this grant is for construction of buildings at L-10 and Wall Street; he anticipates being prepared to go out for bids on the projects within 45 days.

##### **5.2 Cooper's Farm update.**

Director Haling informed the Board:

- Some 500 loads of material have been taken out thanks to the moderate weather.
- 3 more weeks to complete removal.
- Topographic survey of all the property is still required by the IDNR.

##### **5.3 Watershed Plan progress.**

Director Hettermann informed the Board:

- The plan progress is still going well.
- A couple of the meetings were cancelled due to uncooperative weather.

##### **5.4 Trinski Island Planning update.**

Executive Director Keller summarized his discussions with the IDNR:

- IDNR thanked Board of FWA.
- IDNR wants this project to be a showcase.
- The Agency is approximately 10 days from being prepared to submit plans to IDNR.
- Responses will be expected from IDNR/IEPA thereafter.

<b>5.5</b>	<b>Waterway sticker enforcement discussion and FWA Pay update.</b> Director Hellyer informed the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted that the sheriff departments and conservation police are willing to help enforcement.</li> <li>• Departments do not prefer additional charge for violation.</li> <li>• Preference is to include actual cost incurred, at most.</li> <li>• Lock master not willing to issue citations, but willing to track violators for statistical purposes.</li> </ul>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>New Business</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Director Mitchell made a motion to approve 2023 FWA Permanent Budget in compliance with the Illinois Municipal Budget Act. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Aye: Directors Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer and Mitchell Absent: Directors Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl Nay: None The Motion carried.
<b>6.2</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Director Haling and the Board discussed the list of potential 2023 dredging projects produced by Rob Bowan. After discussion, the Board agreed to table this matter until the next meeting date, but meet an hour early, at 6 p.m. per special meeting procedures to continue the discussion.
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Reports</b>
<b>7.1</b>	<b>Executive Director:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>DECO</u> \$1M grant application filed.</li> <li>• <u>MCCD</u> Lyons Prairie; Hey &amp; Associates estimates project improvement cost between \$1.6 - \$9M to restore. Project will have rip rap installed.</li> <li>• Agency is participating in job fair to search for employees.</li> <li>• A former employee re-applied to Agency for work.</li> <li>• Hurricane on the Chain – sheriff department is concerned regarding size of course; may be reduced to just Lake Marie.</li> <li>• <u>Discussed concept of an exchange with MCCD</u> of land for dredging for dredging work.</li> </ul>
<b>7.2</b>	<b>Advisory Committee Reports &amp; Recommendations</b> Pat Smarto, Chairwoman, reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rain garden presentation will be rescheduled.</li> <li>• March 16<sup>th</sup> Lakes in Peril presentation.</li> <li>• Boat show---scheduled for this weekend, March 4th</li> <li>• Judy Martini is resigning from advisory committee .</li> </ul>

### 7.3 Field Superintendent Report.

Rob Bowman, reported:

- Employment fair search for openings including 2 full-time; 1 mechanic; 1 driver; 2 part-time.
- Possible replacement maintenance vehicle found auction truck, Rob going to inspect on March 4, 2023.
- Illinois Lakes Management Conference Joe and Rob will participate as speakers regarding dredging; 3/9/23 – 3/10/23, Gurnee Holiday Inn.

### 8.0 Directors Reports

#### 8.1

Director Haling – Inquired regarding debris removal on Grass Lake.

Director Stochl – Absent.

Director Hettermann – Concerned about employee recruiting.

Director Meyer – Absent.

Director Hellyer – None.

Director Mitchell – Looking forward to early boating season.

#### 8.2 Chairman – None.

#### Public Comments & Presentations:

- Sue Bame – Fox River Road Channel, Cary; raised \$20K so far for Channel; willing to contribute labor as well.
- Mike Ulibarri – Riverview Drive, Johnsburg; questions status of his channel project.
- Rob Ramsdan – Bayshore Road, Lake Villa; concerned about boat sticker cost.
- Ron F. – 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Channel; looking for status of his channel project.
- Tom Helms – Lake Villa, Columbia Bay; asked about average material sales by Agency; response by Joe Keller is that the Agency sells on average 100 cubic yards/year.

#### Executive Session

**MOTION:** Director Hellyer made a motion at 8:05 p.m. to enter Executive Session to discuss the performance and compensation of the Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

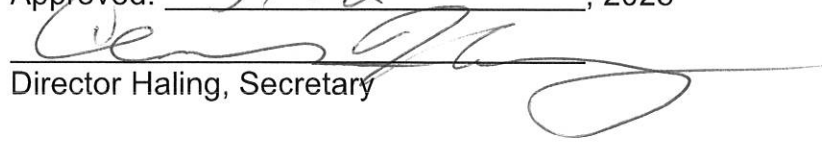
Aye: Directors Haling, Meyer, Stochl, Hettermann, Hellyer and Mitchell

The Motion carried.

**Return to Open Session:** Open session Roll call at 8:50 p.m. Present: Chairman Wayne Blake, Directors Chuck Haling, Jason Hettermann, Bill Hellyer and Dan Mitchell

**Adjournment** – Chairman Blake made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Hellyer, at 8:50 p.m.; all voted Aye.

Approved: 3/22, 2023

  
Director Haling, Secretary