

February 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Approved April 6, 2023



Advisory Committee
(appointed by Board of Directors)
Via Zoom Video Conference Call and In-Person
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 7:04 PM

2.0 Roll Call

Secretary Basten

Present: Pat Smarto, Alan Golbach, Anne Basten, and Rob Bryson

Present via Zoom: Jason Hetterman, and John McGuire

Staff Present: Rob Bowman

Others Present: Chris Stochl

Absent: Police, Pam Althoff, Laura King, Neil Moulis, Ken Fruh, Tom Fernstrom, and Judy Martini

Excused: Don Schnurr, John Fischer, and Dave Corrigan

3.0 Review of Minutes and subsequent comment/corrections/approval

The Draft minutes of May 5, 2022 and November 3, 2022 were provided to the members in advance for review or approval.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of May 5, 2022 and November 3, 2022 as presented

Motion: Rob Bryson

Second: Alan Golbach

Motion carried

4.0 Reports

4.1 Rob Bowman reported on the December and January meetings of the Board.

The Board authorized the purchase of a new service truck and the rental of a 2019 bulldozer which is currently in use at the Cooper Farm site. They also approved the use of a mobile pay option (with a penalty) for patrol officers to use.

In January the Board approved the 2023 Preliminary budget which is currently under 30 day public review.

Staff is in the process of emptying the Eastern cell at Cooper Farm of dried dredge materials. 95% plans are getting finalized for the Trinski Island project as well as a revised permit. Village of Fox Lake is hiring a contractor under the Fox Waterway's permit for dredging on their property. American Powerboat Association has asked for a restricted permit for races to be held on a weekend in

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September 2023 and which is under consideration and review.

Rob Bowman will be speaking at the upcoming ILMA conference on dredging in the Fox Waterway.

4.2 Regional (Upper/Lower/Lakes) There were no reports made as water levels had been fairly stable most of the winter.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Watershed Project/Upcoming Meetings

Upcoming education meetings: 2/23/23 Raingardens and Bioswales; 3/16/23 – Nutrients; April – TBD on critters (geese, beavers, etc)

It was noted that the Boat House Event- Shake the Lake is in the planning stages.

5.2 Northern Illinois Boat Show – First weekend of March Thurs-Sunday

Pat Smarto will be sending out the “SignUp!” link for Committee members to fill a shift. Many shifts to be filled with several of our members already filling spots for their own businesses.

Additional information to be shared at the FWA table was discussed including Fun Facts such as # of Buoys maintained by the agency, copies or QR code to the newsletter, information on stickers and sticker prices with FAQ on the increase, details on purchasing dredge soil mix and if anyone can think of anything else. Emphasis will be on the work the Agency does in addition to dredging to maintain the waterway and supplement the sticker income since no taxes are collected.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Clean Up –

After discussion on the dismal results for all locations except those with the dredge boats, the recommendation of those present was to disband the current format of one morning a year at several locations in favor of a season long program with recognition through social media of collections of trash picked up and possibly prizes for the most unique items pulled from the waterway. Additional discussion led to a submission of a project to create an “Adopt a shore” program to the watershed planning process.

Another suggestion for volunteer activities was discussed to include removal of invasive species on land and organizing Citizen Scientists to collect data on the water quality for measuring progress on the plan. Also, the need for rinsing facilities at boat launches was discussed as a possible watershed plan submission.

7.0 Member Comments

There were no additional comments

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8.0 Public Comments - None

9.0 Adjournment – 8:35 p.m.

Motion: Alan Golbach

Second: Rob Bryson

Motion carried