



# Fox Waterway Agency

## *Regular Meeting Minutes*

March 22, 2023

**Recording Secretary:** David W. McArdle

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

Chairman Blake

### Meeting conducted by Chairman Blake

**Present:** Chairman Wayne Blake, Directors Chuck Haling, Jim Meyer, Christine Stochl, and Dan Mitchell

**Absent:** Bill Hellyer and Jason Hettermann (part of meeting)

**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 March 1, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Meyer, Stochl and Mitchell

Absent: None

Abstain: Hellyer and Hettermann

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 \$1,197,815.69 through 2/28/23.

**MOTION:** Director Meyer 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, Meyer, Stochl and Mitchell

Absent: Hellyer and Hettermann

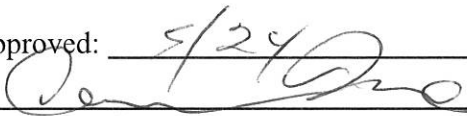
Nay: None

The Motion carried.

<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Approval of Bills</b></p> <p>Director Mitchell presented the monthly bills for payment and ratification of bills previously paid as follows: February bills prepaid total \$30,996.95; March bills prepaid total \$65,786.32; additional checks paid during the month total \$-0-; and bills remaining to be paid total \$103,708.46; for a total amount of bills paid and to be paid of \$200,491.73.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Director Mitchell made a motion to ratify and pay all the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid all totaling \$200,491.73. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.</p> <p>Aye: Directors Haling, Meyer, Stochl and Mitchell</p> <p>Absent: Hettermann, Hellyer</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>The Motion carried.</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b>A/R Report</b></p> <p>Director Mitchell reported on the accounts receivable as \$-0-.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Old Business</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<p><b>DCEO Grant Update.</b></p> <p>Executive Director Keller informed the Board that the DECO grant for \$1M was received and submittal packets were being prepared for selection of a professional engineering firm.</p>
<b>5.2</b>	<p><b>Cooper's Farm update.</b></p> <p>Director Haling informed the Board that the property was being cleared out of material, any remaining material will be stockpiled on site.</p>
<b>5.3</b>	<p><b>Watershed Plan progress.</b></p> <p>Pat Smarto informed the Board that the raingarden meeting is rescheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> and summarized the plan presentation made by the Agency staff at the Fox River Summit last week.</p>
<b>5.4</b>	<p><b>Trinski Island Planning update.</b></p> <p>Director Stochl informed the Board that all requested information has been submitted to the IDNR for the permit application.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>New Business</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Director Stochl made a motion to approve WRP: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Fox Lake Triathlon on June 11, 2023, including the requested fee waiver. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A roll call vote was taken.</p> <p>Aye: Directors Haling, Meyer and Stochl and Mitchell</p> <p>Absent: Hettermann, Hellyer</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>The Motion carried.</p>

<b>6.2</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Director Mitchell made a motion to approve WRP request for The Boat House of Chicago Shake the Lake on July 7-9, 2023, subject to the condition that, on July 8<sup>th</sup>, to avoid interference with scheduled fireworks, the event hours be limited at the direction of Director Hettermann and Rob Bowman, after consultation with the County Sheriff Department and event personnel. It was also suggested that, regarding the 2024 application, it should be filed jointly with the Fox Lake Fireworks applicant and with County Sherriff approval to avoid conflicts with the Fireworks 2024 show. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.</p> <p>Aye: Directors Haling, Hettermann, Meyer and Stochl and Mitchell</p> <p>Absent: Hellyer</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>The Motion carried.</p>
<b>6.3</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Director Mitchell made a motion to approve waiver of kayak sticker fees for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Dam Yak Challenge special event on July 22, 2023, with no involvement by the Agency regarding placement of buoys or labor. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A roll call vote was taken.</p> <p>Aye: Directors Haling, Hettermann, Hellyer, Meyer and Stochl and Mitchell</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>The Motion carried and it was suggested that the Agency staff question the event coordinators whether buoys should be installed at both ends of the event location for no wake during the event.</p>
<b>6.4</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> After discussion, Director Haling made a motion to approve the 2023 dredging projects as presented by Rob Bowman in the attached Dredging Plan Summary 2023. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A roll call vote was taken.</p> <p>Aye: Directors Haling, Meyer and Stochl and Mitchell</p> <p>Absent: Hettermann and Hellyer</p> <p>Nay: None</p> <p>The Motion carried.</p>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Reports</b>
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>Executive Director:</b></p> <p>Executive Director Keller, reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Agency is looking to hire employees via vocational education services</li> <li>• He thanked Chairwoman Smarto for attending the Fox River Summit</li> <li>• Interviews of employees are being conducted</li> <li>• One administrative employee is leaving for another job</li> <li>• The DECO \$1M grant is a reimbursement type of grant</li> </ul>
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>Advisory Committee Reports &amp; Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pat Smarto, Chairwoman again summarized the Fox River Summit by sharing that one woman paddled from Menominee WI to Ottawa over a period of 10 days.</li> <li>• April 6<sup>th</sup> is the next Advisory Board meeting date</li> <li>• No formal clean up of the waterway is scheduled due to lack of public participation</li> </ul>

<b>7.3 Field Superintendent Report.</b>
Rob Bowman, reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rob and Joe Keller participated in the Fox River Summit, which was well attended. Their presentation was on the topic of dredging waterways and how the FWA performs that job</li> <li>• Discussion ensued regarding the Agency's pontoon order and the contractor delay.</li> </ul>
<b>8.0 Directors Reports</b>
<b>8.1</b> Director Haling – Fox News visited the geotube to film pelicans with Director Haling. Director Stochl – Good boat show; map was used for visitors to identify where they reside Director Hettermann – absent Director Meyer – none Director Hellyer – absent Director Mitchell – Fox Waterway River dyeing for St. Patrick's Day celebration went well.
<b>8.2 Chairman</b> – Presented a plaque to Director Meyer who is ending his term by retirement after 14 consecutive years of service.
<b>Public Comments &amp; Presentations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike U. – Johnsbury channel; reported that his group received a proposal from Shoreline Marine contractors to dredge for a cost of \$50-\$60 per CY. At 26K CY, that would equate to \$1.3M vs \$300K incurred by FWA to self-perform.</li> <li>• Ron D. – 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue channel; this project will not be on the 2023 list of projects.</li> <li>• Steve S. – Fox River Road/Lagoon-Holly channel; questioned when their channels would be on the list. Directed to speak with Rob Bowman.</li> </ul>
<b>Executive Session</b> <b>MOTION:</b> Director Stochl made a motion at 8:35 p.m. to enter Executive Session to discuss Executive Director compensation and review of executive session minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Meyer. A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Directors Haling, Meyer and Stochl and Mitchell Absent: Hettermann, Hellyer The Motion carried.
<b>Return to Open Session:</b> Open session Roll call at 9:30 p.m. Present: Chairman Wayne Blake, Directors Haling, Meyer and Stochl and Mitchell
<b>Adjournment</b> – Chairman Blake made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Hellyer, at 9:35 p.m.; all voted Aye.

Approved: 5/24/2023, 2023  
  
Director Haling, Secretary

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