



Fox Waterway Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2026

Recording Secretary: Brandy S. Quance

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

Chairman Blake

Meeting conducted by Chairman Blake

Present: Chairman Wayne Blake, Directors Chuck Haling, Christine Stochl, Jason Hettermann (by phone conference), Dan Mitchell, Christian Farrell and Alan P. Kirk

Absent: None

FWA Also Present: Agency Attorney Brandy S. Quance, Executive Director Joe Keller, Field Superintendent Rob Bowman, Advisory Committee Chairwoman Pat Smarto

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to approve the March 25, 2026 regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.0 Treasurer's Report & Acceptance of Bills & Other Financials (March 2026)

4.1.A Treasurer's Report

Director Mitchell provided the Treasurer's Report which reflects a cash balance of \$811,832.48 through 3/31/26.

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, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.2.A Approval of Bills

Director Mitchell presented the monthly bills for payment and ratification of bills previously paid as follows: March bills prepaid total \$58,614.97; April bills prepaid total \$195,381.96; additional checks paid during the month total \$14,918.15; and bills remaining to be paid total \$80,517.44; for a total amount of bills paid and to be paid of \$349,432.52.

MOTION: Director Mitchell made a motion to ratify and pay all the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid totaling \$349,432.52. The motion was seconded by Director Kirk. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.3.A A/R Report

Director Mitchell reported on the accounts receivables as \$6,960.00, \$435.00 of which is over 120 days past due.

Treasurer's Report & Acceptance of Bills & Other Financials (April 2026)

4.1.B Treasurer's Report

Director Mitchell provided the Treasurer's Report which reflects a cash balance of \$846,283.02 through 4/30/26.

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, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.2.B Approval of Bills

Director Mitchell presented the monthly bills for payment and ratification of bills previously paid as follows: April bills prepaid total \$-0-; May bills prepaid total \$93,505.55; additional checks paid during the month total \$4,257.00; and bills remaining to be paid total \$234,897.12; for a total amount of bills paid and to be paid of \$332,659.67.

MOTION: Director Mitchell made a motion to ratify and pay all the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid totaling \$332,659.67. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Nay: None

The Motion carried.

4.3.B	A/R Report
Director Mitchell reported on the accounts receivables as \$6,960.00, \$435.00 of which is over 120 days past due.	
5.0	Old Business
5.1 DCEO Pole Barn Update. Director Farrell informed the Board that contractor is working at both sites, Wall Street electrical work underway; Oak Avenue radiant heating being worked. Staff expects to pay contractor in fall of 2026.	
5.2 Trinski Island Update. Director Stochl informed the Board that staff has applied for IEPA fee waiver, which, if granted would save the Agency approximately \$10,000. Still waiting on IDNR permit; staff help includes Mike Mahulic.	
6.0	New Business
6.1 MOTION: Chairman Blake recognized retiring FWA employee Carl Lemke for his 14 years of dedicated service at the Fox Waterway Agency. A thank you plaque was presented to Carl and read to the audience.	
6.2 MOTION: Director Kirk made a motion to discuss and approve WRP: Blarney Island Boat Races on Thursday nights from May 21, 2026-September 3, 2026, and two Saturday events on June 13, 2026 and July 18, 2026. The motion was seconded by Director Farrell. After discussion, roll call vote was taken. Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk Absent: None Abstain: None Nay: None The Motion carried.	
6.3 MOTION: Director Stochl made a motion to approve WRP for the Village of Fox Lake's "Celebrate Fox Lake" scheduled on June 27, 2026, with a rain date of June 28, 2026. The motion was seconded by Director Kirk and includes no charge for FWA buoys, however, the Village should reimburse the Agency for FWA labor to install and remove equipment and monitoring of the event. Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk Absent: None Abstain: None Nay: None The Motion carried.	
6.4 MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to approve the FWA's participation in the AMVETS Post 245 Veterans Picnic for hospitalized disabled veterans on Wednesday, June 24, 2026. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. Roll call vote was taken. Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk Absent: None Abstain: None Nay: None The Motion carried.	

6.5 MOTION: Director Mitchell made a motion to approve waived fees for 10 One-Day J stickers for a Lower River Cruise on May 30, 2026, and 20 One-Day Class J stickers for an in-water boat show at Famous Freddie's on July 11, 2026, for the Blackhawk Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. Roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk
Absent: None
Abstain: None
Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.6 MOTION: Director Hettermann made a motion to approve WRP for the 2026 Hurricane on the Chain event on September 26 & 27, 2026. Lake Marie will be NO WAKE from 10 am-5 pm on both days. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. Roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, and Kirk
Absent: None
Abstain: Director Farrell
Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.7 MOTION: Director Farrell made a motion to pay Carmichael Construction \$110,959.20 for the Wall Street and Oak Ave building project. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. Roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk
Absent: None
Abstain: None
Nay: None

The Motion carried.

6.8 MOTION: Director Mitchell made a motion to discuss and approve Commercial WRP: Temporary NO WAKE Zone at the Charles J. Miller Bridge during construction from May 1, 2026 to December 1, 2026. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. Roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk
Absent: None
Abstain: None
Nay: None

The Motion carried.

7.

7.1 Executive Director

Acknowledged the FWA all staff – still looking for grants.

7.2 Advisory Committee Reports & Recommendations

Pat Smarto, Chairwoman, advised the Board as to the following:

- Thanked volunteers for Agency stair improvements.
- Participated in Fox Lake Earth Day.
- Attended MSH meeting; met with IEPA re grants and funding.
- Reported on video status.
- Looking into signage for soil sales.
- Plan to visit Wall Street via boat in July.

7.3 Field Superintendent Report.

Rob Bowman reported that:

- Reported on flood – 2 weeks behind in buoy installation; looking for final install in June.
- Provided history of FWA reaction events post flood.
- Plans on staff hauling out debris for 2 full weeks---mainly down river.
- Ackerman Island project on hold.
- Interviewing for open positions.
- Haling Channel opening completed.

8.0 Directors and Chairman Reports-

Chairman Blake: Thanked witnesses during Wooden trial.

Director Haling: None

Director Stochl: None

Director Hettermann: noted that the Pistakee Bay fireworks 7/11/2026 application is being filed.

Director Mitchell: None

Director Farrell: None

Director Kirk: None

Public Comment:

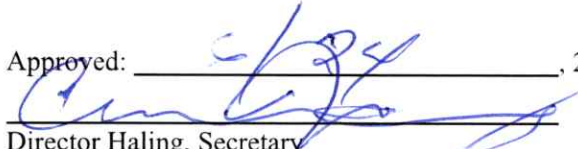
Chris, Antioch – Commented on Illinois Administrative Code; chemicals and weed harvesting; treatment.

David, Holiday Hills – Reported that his house access needs dredging.

Justin Schild – Petite Lake Park; reported on status of project.

9.0 Adjourn – Meeting adjourned by Chairman at 8:35 p.m.

Approved: _____, 2026


Director Haling, Secretary

Z:\F\Fox Waterway Agency\Minutes\Minutes052726.doc