Fox Waterway Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 22, 2026

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, Christine Stochl, Jason Hettermann, Dan Mitchell, Christian Farrell and Alan P. Kirk (by telephone)

Absent: None

FWA Also Present: Agency Attorney David W. McArdle, 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 June 24, 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

4.1. Treasurer's Report

Director Mitchell provided the Treasurer's Report which reflects a cash balance of $1,364,608.21 through 6/30/26.

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.	**Approval of Monthly Bills** Director Mitchell presented the monthly bills for payment and ratification of bills previously paid as follows: June bills prepaid total $69,490.45; July bills prepaid total $79,750.77; additional checks paid during the month total $757.60; and bills remaining to be paid total $108,104.82; for a total amount of bills paid and to be paid of $258,102.82. **MOTION:** Director Mitchell made a motion to ratify and pay all the outstanding bills including approval of debits and checks prepaid totaling $258,102.82. 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.	
4.3.	**A/R Report** Director Mitchell reported on the accounts receivables as $10,868.21, $-0- of which is over 120 days past due.	
5.0	**Old Business**	
5.1	**DCEO Pole Barn Update.** Director Farrell informed the Board that the contractor is currently off site completing other public projects and intends to be back on site on August 17th.	
5.2	**Trinski Island Project Update.** Director Stochl informed the Board that IDNR indicated its desire to see plan adjustments regarding amenities. The Chairman and Board expressed their concerns that these type of requests have been suggested previously and rejected by prior IDNR officials.	
6.0	**New Business**	
6.1	**MOTION:** Director Hettermann made a motion to re-appoint Randy Sweet, Commission Chairman/Commissioner Pat Smarto, Commissioner to the Ethics Committee for a term beginning July 1, 2026 and to end on June 30, 2028. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. 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.	
6.2	**MOTION:** Director Stochl made a motion to approve a waterway restriction permit for Promote Fox Lake on August 29, 2026 waiving all FWA fees except for employee labor fees ($991.84). There will be modified NO WAKE Zone established going east of Riverside Island from 3pm-10pm. Promote Fox Lake 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 Haling made a motion for approval and waiver of FWA fees for up to 30 One-Day Class J stickers for the Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 2026 Fishing Derby on Monday, September 21, 2026. The motion was seconded by Director Farrell. After discussion and a suggested FWA promotional banner next year, roll call vote was taken. Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk Absent: None Abstain: None Nay: None The Motion carried.	
6.4	**MOTION:** Director Farrell made a motion, subject to the edits proposed by the Agency Attorney, to authorize Executive Director to execute the proposed option and lease agreement with Nexamp for battery storage use. The motion was seconded by Director Stochl. Roll call vote was taken. Aye: Directors Haling, Stochl, Hettermann, Mitchell, Farrell and Kirk Absent: None Abstain: None Nay: None The Motion carried.	
7.	**Directors Reports**	
7.1	**Executive Director** • Introduced Amy who will help transition of remote sticker sale issues; • Discussed new employees and seasonal help; • Thanked Chairwoman Smarto for her assistance with FWA intern this summer; and • Discussed Governor's channel issue.	
7.2	**Advisory Committee Reports & Recommendations** Pat Smarto, Chairwoman, advised the Board as to the following: • Tour took place of pole barn and waterway; • Video regarding topsoil prepared; • Attended *Fox Lake Blooms* meeting, discussed watershed projects; • This Friday watershed program is to be presented to staff; and • Next scheduled meeting in September.	
7.3	**Field Superintendent Report.** Rob Bowman reported that his staff ended flood cleanup and scheduled projects are proceeding including: Petite Lake Park and Nippersink Creek.	
8.0	**Board of Directors Reports-**	

8.1 Directors

Director Haling: Duck blind lottery taking place at Haling's Landing this Saturday.

Director Stochl: None.

Director Hettermann: None.

Director Mitchell: reported on Switzer Boat Run, no complaints received, seemed to go off very well.

Director Farrell: None.

Director Kirk: None.

8.2 Chairman

Chairman Blake: Reported on Louisiana law regarding "*we caught you wearing a t-shirt*"; suggested looking into this program with our law enforcement personnel.

9.0 Public Comment:

Laura Walker – McHenry/Pistakee Lake – Asked about list of dredging projects; Pistakee is an approved project.

10.0 Executive Session-none

11.0 MOTION: Director Farrell made a motion to approve a Resolution Relating to Executive Session Meeting Minutes and Recordings. 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.

12.0 Adjourn – Meeting adjourned by Chairman Blake at 8:15 p.m.

Approved: 8/24/, 2026

Director Haling, Secretary

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