

September 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes
To be Approved November 6, 2025



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 7:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

2.0 Roll Call

Chair Smarto

Present: Pat Smarto, Anne Basten, David Corrigan, Rob Bryson, Holly Garvey, Don Schnurr, John Fischer and Mike Missak

Present via Zoom: Tom Fernstrom, and Greg Urban

Staff Present: Rob Bowman

Others Present: Kathy Johnson, Karl Ohlwein, Chris Poteet, Tom (Lake County Lake Lovers)

Absent: Police, Pam Althoff, John Maguire, and Rob Rinkenberger

Excused: Anne Basten

3.0 Review of Minutes and subsequent comment/corrections/approval

The Draft minutes of July 9, 2025, were provided to the members in advance for review or approval. A motion was made to approve the minutes of July 9, 2025.

Motion: Rob Bryson

Second: John Fischer

Motion carried

4.0 Reports

4.1 FWA Update – Rob Bowman reported that Wayne Blake, Chris Stochl and Chuck Haling were re-elected. Alan Kirk is a new director representing McHenry County. The Waterway supported many events over the previous months including Fox Lake Celebrate Fireworks, Pistakee Lake/Oak Park Lounge fireworks, \$300 Donation to Fleet 17, Venetian Night/Promote Fox Lake event, and the Dinghy's Fireworks. Upcoming events include Fishing Has no Boundaries (9/6) the waterway provides two boats for this event and the Hurricane on the Chain on 9/20 and 9/21. There are 3 active dredging projects – Grass Lake, Orchard Heights and Nippersink. Buoy removal will begin on October 1st.

The annual audit of the FWA financials were completed and accepted.

4.2 Regional (Upper/Lower/Lakes)

Nothing to report.

5.0 Old Business

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5.1 Volunteer Coordination Update – Anne was absent – nothing to report

5.2 Website Updates/ Fix/ Redesign/ Resource Page

A meeting is planned for week of September 7 to finalize request.

5.3 Video Updates – Future Topics – Report Card

Two videos were released in the weeks leading up to the meeting. They were on Septic and Weed. The septic video had over 15,000 hits and the weeds video had over 1,000.

5.4 New Intern

Noah completed his internship with the FWA. His contribution was great and it included the weed survey/GIS map summary, many video scripts, participating in water monitoring, and an STEM education event at the Sailing School.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Shovel Ready Committee

Forming a shovel ready project committee was discussed in order to be prepared for any potential grant opportunities.

6.2 Resolution Adoption Outreach

Holly is preparing to reach out to Antioch Township.

6.3 2026 Schedule

2026 Schedule presented and approved.

6.4 Advisory Committee Applicant

A request to be considered for this committee was received from Kathy Johnson, Chris Poteet and Karl Ohlwein.

Motion: A motion was made to recommend the appointment of Kathy Johnson, Chris Poteet and Karl Ohlwein be appointed to the Citizen's Advisory Committee.

Move: Rob Bryson

Seconded: Holly Garvey

Motion carried.

6.5 Weed / Water Quality Survey

Rob Bryson presented a summary of the recent survey done on the lakes in 2025.

7.0 Member Comments

Tom Fernstrom and other members discussed the prevalence of Zebra Mussels this season. Mike Missak highlighted the recent \$5,000 donation from Nielsen Enterprises to the FWA.

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8.0 Public Comments

None

9.0 Adjournment – 7:45 pm.

Motion: Rob Bryson

Second: David Corrigan

Motion carried