



Fox Waterway Agency
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2017

Recording Secretary: David McArdle

1.0. Call to Order & Roll Call 7:04 p.m.

Chairman Blake

Present: Directors Chris Allen, Chuck Haling, Bill Hellyer, James Meyer, Dan Mitchell, Christine Stochl, and Chairman Wayne Blake

FWA Also Present: Agency Attorney David McArdle, Executive Director Joe Keller, Field Superintendent Rob Bowman

2.0. Pledge of Allegiance

3.0. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 28, 2017 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

4.0. Treasurer's Report & Acceptance of Bills & Other Financials

4.1 Approval of Treasurer's Report

Director Meyer provided the Treasurer's Report. He stated there was \$976,905.19 on hand. June sticker sales totaled \$346,256.00 and year-to-date sales totaled \$1,490,415.00. The Account Receivables stands at \$7,092.

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

4.2 Approval of Bills

Director Meyer explained the bills totaling \$246,731.98.

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion to approve the list of Bills. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

5.0 Old Business

5.1

DISCUSSION: Director Stochl discussed the Army Corps of Engineers/Island Project. She stated that the FWA is waiting on a response from the Army Corps.

5.2

DISCUSSION: Director Allen updated the Board that the building improvements are still on schedule to be completed on time. Sandbagging efforts to protect the headquarters were successful.

6.0 New Business

6.1

MOTION: Director Mitchell made a motion to waive the fee for 25 one-day class J (up to 25') stickers for the Pistakee Yacht Club/Blue Chip Regatta. The event will take place September 16-17. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. After a brief discussion, Director Haling & Mitchell withdrew their motion and second. Director Mitchell made a motion to table the vote until next meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A voice vote was taken. All voted aye. The Motion carried.

6.2

MOTION: Director Haling made a motion to waive the fee on one-day class J (up to 25') stickers for the Fishing Has No Boundaries event. The event will occur on September 9. The motion was seconded by Director Hellyer. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

6.3

DISCUSSION: Director Hellyer made a motion to waive one-day class J (up to 25') stickers for the Walleyes Unlimited USA for their 8th Annual "Take a Vet Fishing" event. The event will occur on September 30. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

6.4

MOTION: Director Stochl made a motion to approve providing 2 barges & a crew for the Fox Lake Legion Semi-annual Fishing Derby, which will take place on August 25. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

6.5

MOTION: The Board discussed a possible ordinance implementing a No Wake on Grass Lake. The IDNR meeting was cancelled due to the flooding. After a brief discussion, Director Mitchell made a motion to table a vote on the draft ordinance until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Haling. A voice vote was taken. All voted aye. The Motion carried.

6.6

MOTION: Director Meyer made a motion table the vote on the FWA phone policy, as more changes need to be made. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Directors Allen, Haling, Hellyer, Meyer, Mitchell and Stochl
The Motion carried.

7.0 Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations

Dan Mitchell advised the Board that the Boat Tour was informative and went very well.

8.0 Reports

8.1 Executive Director

Executive Director Keller informed the Board:

- Thanked Dale of the American Legion for his service and putting on the fishing derby event. Past events have been wonderful and it is a great honor to assist the American Legion.
- The flooding is an unfortunate event, but it has been great to see everyone come together and support each other during this time.
- The Agency had to estimate possible damage around the system and submit to FEMA (estimated \$4 million).

8.2 Field Superintendent

Field Superintendent Rob Bowman informed the Board:

- Prior to the flooding event, the crew was finished at the McHenry Boat Launch and was moving equipment north. Almost finished at Venetian Gardens. Flooding stopped progress.
- The crew, Board members, and public all helped sandbag the headquarters. The crew staffed the agency 24/7 to watch the flooding situation and protect the building. He thanked the crew for all their hard work and assistance.
- The levels are measured at 3 gauges: The Nippersink gauge crested at 7.97 feet on 7/17; the Johnsborg gauge crested at 7.37 feet on 7/17; the McHenry Tailwater gauge crested at 7.60 on 7/22. As of today, the Nippersink had dropped 12”, Johnsborg dropped 15”, and McHenry dropped 9”.
- They are working on debris cleanup and have posted pictures of the flooding on Facebook. If customers have concerns of debris, please submit that request under “*Customer Concerns*” on the FWA website or app.
- IL DOT, Village of Fox Lake, IEMA, and FWA are working together to remove a bog at the Route 59 bridge.
- FWA does not make the decision to close the lakes; the DNR & Coast Guard does. The FWA can only make “no wake” decisions for the system. Without accounting for any further rain, the system could be open within 6 days, but is dependent on water levels, amount of debris, safety, etc.

9.0 Board Comments

9.1 Directors

- **Haling:** Hopes we receive no further rain
- **Mitchell:** Wondered with sticker sales down for the month, will there also be an increase in overtime due to the flooding event (80% of overtime could possibly be covered by FEMA)
- **Allen:** Happy that the water levels are decreasing
- **Meyer:** Thanked the staff for doing a great job to protect the headquarters

9.1 Chairman

Chairman Blake commented that the staff did a wonderful job. Many gave up working on their own houses to help the Agency.

10.0 Public Comments and presentations

- **James Paschky (Port Barrington):** Asked for contact information regarding the Wisconsin contact (will get with Joe Keller to receive the information).
- **John Lee (Fox River Grove):** John is with the American Whitewater Association and questioned why law enforcement was issuing \$120 tickets for kayaks and other vessels. The DNR & Coast Guard closes the lakes and that includes all vessels.
- **Jim Cistaro (Jackson Drive):** Wondered what the level of E.coli is within the system. Lake County will be testing after the water recedes.
- **Gary Devito (Fox Lake):** Works for an insurance firm in Libertyville that can offer flood insurance for less than NFIP.
- **Tom Helms (Lake Villa):** Questioned what the dirt sales totaled this year (\$45,000).
- **John Fischer (Fox Lake):** Questioned the status of the Eco Lake Dam in Burlington, WI. The Village will be lowering water levels to repair a crack, there is a concern that lowering the levels could affect the dam.

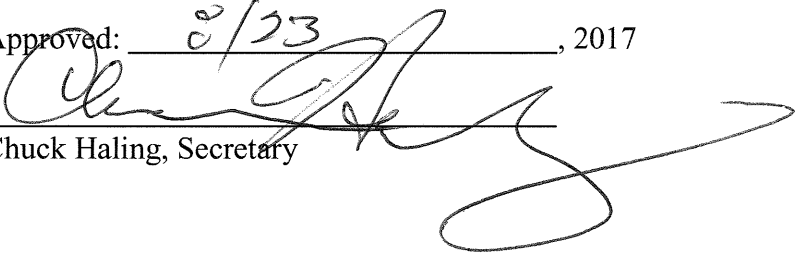
11.0 Executive Session

MOTION: Director Haling made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Mitchell. A voice vote was taken. All voted aye.

The Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Approved: 8/23, 2017


Chuck Haling, Secretary