

**Re September 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Approved November 4, 2021**



Advisory Committee
(appointed by Board of Directors)
Via Zoom Video Conference Call and
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 7:15 PM after some technical difficulties eventually solved by Jason Hetterman.

2.0 Roll Call

Secretary Basten

Present: Pat Smarto, Dennis Leo, Anne Basten, John Fisher, Dave Corrigan, Jason Hettermann, John Maguire, Ken Fruh, and Laura King

Present via Zoom: Judy Martini

Staff Present: Rob Bowman

Absent: Police, Alan Golbach, Tom Fernstrom, Pam Althoff

Excused:, Warren Moulis and Keith Carpenter

3.0 Review of Minutes and subsequent comment/corrections/approval

Discussion: Draft Minutes of July 7, 2021

Motion: To approve the minutes of July 7, 2021 as presented

Motion: John Fischer

Second: Ken Fruh

Motion carried

4.0 Reports

4.1 FWA

Rob Bowman reported that the cardboard boat regatta and rubber duck event went well with only a few snafus. The agency made a donation to Fleet 17 for Venetian Night. Fishing has no Boundaries is scheduled for September 11 out of Haling's. The Board approved a Human Resource change. There will be an ICAST H.S. fishing competition.

L10 is completed and they have moved to Nippersink Lake and Ackerman Island. Dutch Creek Dredging is moving forward. Buoys coming out October 1st. Safety was the main topic at the Board meeting and staff assisted with the recovery process for one of the drownings.

Vice Chairman Leo reported he had received several positive comments about the care the staff was taking going in and out of Dutch Creek.

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4.2 Regional (Upper/Lower/Lakes)

The Lakes had very stable water conditions while the lower river was tough with drought conditions and low water levels.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 FWA Public Education Program Committee

Chairman Smarto delayed this item until later under new Business

5.2 Review of By Laws

Director Hettermann reiterated that he would like to allow more active participants rather than falling under certain designations. Future committee members will have participation expectations to be met.

Motion: To make no changes to the By Laws except the correction of 2 typos at this time.

Motion: Ken Fruh

Second: Dennis Leo

Motion carried

5.3 2021 Schedule

Chairman Smarto reported that the tentative schedule had been approved by the Board and noted that the July 7, 2022 date is a Thursday, not a Wednesday.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Safety Recommendations for Board

Vice Chairman Leo started with the information he pulled from all 50 states and noted that Illinois does not require a Drivers License to operate a watercraft. The information is on the website Legislation requires that anyone born after 1998 must have proof of coast guard training. Anyone under 13 must have a PFD on when the boat is motion.

Discussion then continued noting that the recent deaths were attributed to lack of PFD use. It began with noting that PFDs are recommended for boating activities at the end of ropes as well as required for Jet skis. Don Schnurr let us know that boat rentals currently have a 15-20 minute orientation as do new boat sales and that they stopped renting after two weeks. Most rentals are now scheduled online and could require a quick video there before completing the rental contract. The consensus was that anything we came up with should be "fun" and light hearted and hopefully social media friendly.

Brainstorming slogans started with:

Safety First

Behind the boat, be sure you float

Safe is best, wear your vest

The waterway is best wear your vest

All committee members are asked to submit at least 3 brain storming ideas (good or bad) by

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Friday September 13th to Pat Smarto for review and recommendation in time for the next Board packet which goes out September 17th.

It was noted that IDNR has a report that provides data beginning in 1964 on deaths on the water in the State and is very useful. It included whether the victim was wearing a PFD.

Additional discussion about people wanting to rent Captains to drive rental boats so the renter can party and noted the expense of getting a Captain's license. Similar to Uber for a boat. Someone thought they were doing that in New York. It was noted that boats for hire in the state must be approved by DNR.

7.0 Member Comments:

No additional comments.

8.0 Public Comments

None

9.0 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn September 2, 2021 Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion: Ken Fruh

Second: David Corrigan

Discussion: None

Motion carries, meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM