

April 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Approved May 4, 2023



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 7:02 PM

2.0 Roll Call

Secretary Basten

Present: Pat Smarto, Anne Basten, David Corrigan, Neil Moulis, and John Fischer

Present via Zoom: Rob Bryson, Jason Hetterman, and Tom Fernstrom,

Staff Present: Rob Bowman

Others Present: Rob Rinkenberger

Absent: Police, Pam Althoff, Laura King, and Ken Fruh

Excused: Don Schnurr, John McGuire and Al Golbach (who showed up but the gate was locked)

3.0 Review of Minutes and subsequent comment/corrections/approval

The Draft minutes of February 2, 2023 were provided to the members in advance for review or approval.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 2, 2023 as presented

Motion: Anne Basten

Second: John Fischer

Motion carried

4.0 Reports

4.1 Rob Bowman reported on the recent meetings of the Fox Waterway Board.

The February meeting was cancelled due to the storm. They did hold a special call meeting to discuss dredging schedules for 2023 which will be posted on the Agency website. They will be finishing the 2022 unfinished projects first.

An application has been sent in for a DECO infrastructure grant for a “dry house” for dredge materials so they can be accessed earlier and later in the year.

Events: Dockers triathlon will be based in a different location due to construction.

Shake the Lakes is now 3 days long by the Boat House (July 8-10th)

DamYak is 7/22 in McHenry

Hurricane on the Chain small motor boats route being revised as all authorities said “no” to the original

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route

Field Operations completed clearing out a cell at Coopers' and the boats are in the water for the season.

Open Positions at the agency are posted to the website including a Customer Service position at the front desk due to the resignation of Anthony.

4.2 Regional (Upper/Lower/Lakes)

Pelicans were present on the lakes and as of the date of the meeting, the water was still rising due to recent storms but the gates have been open in anticipation of the recent rains and snow melt.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Watershed Project/Upcoming Meetings

Upcoming education meetings: 4/20 Raingardens and Bioswales (rescheduled due to storm in February) May 5/18 Canada Geese control.

5.2 Northern Illinois Boat Show

Neil Moulis said the exhibitors were thrilled with the attendance and response of those attending. Those of us who worked the Agency booth were impressed with attendees also and have requested the same location for next year.

5.3 Clean up

It was confirmed that we will not have a designated date for a clean up this year and continued discussion of possible vendor/sponsor of prizes for oldest bottle/can, pictures of trash being removed. There was also a question about adding to the Friends of the Fox "It's our River Day" event in the fall.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Fox River Summit and ILMA conference update

Rob Bryson, Rob Bowman and Joe Keller attended ILMA and said that it was very productive. Rob Bowman's presentation was well received.

Pat Smarto attended the Fox River Summit and shared the link for the presentations via a separate email to the committee members.

7.0 Member Comments

Tom Fernstrom reported that the University of Central Florida has a course on lakes management and works with local landscapers to certify their employees on Best Management Practices and suggested that maybe MCC or CLC might want to consider a program.

8.0 Public Comments - Rob Rinkenberger shared that there was a new Phosphorus exchange (like carbon credits). Rob is also interested in being on the Advisory Committee and will get a letter in to Pat for our next meeting for a recommendation.

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9.0 Adjournment – 8:00 p.m.

Motion: David Corrigan

Second: John Fischer

Motion carried