

Commission members present:

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)\
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)
Jim Ritchie (Wisconsin DNR)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Mike Hahn (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)
David Kopp (City of Waukesha)
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)
Dale Fennel (Village of Mukwonago)
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)

Also present: Dick Kosut of the WWMD, Paul Moderacki of the Village of Mukwonago and Rodney Zuerner of Chiles Landscaping.

At 1:08 PM, 5/21/10, Chairman Greg Kessler called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Minutes from the April 23, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Alan Barrows and seconded by Howard Garvens that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – The Treasurer’s Report for May 2010 was reviewed. The only real change from the April statement was the interest made on our money market account. Jim Pindel pointed out that the details of the Schmidt & Canton Island project have been dropped from the report and a new summary section was added that lists all the projects that are practically completed and just waiting for some final action or for the paperwork. Jim Pindel pointed out that he had requested another cash advance from Jim Ritchie from ENUM 16, so that we could build up our interest income to pay for some of the non-grant expenses we are incurring. Jim Ritchie said that we can not get another cash advance against ENUM 16 but that the DNR could possibly write us checks for projects that are completed like the Idlewood Drive project and the Mukwonago Shoreline Restoration project. Jim Ritchie suggested that we list the Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement project as one of the nearly completed projects, seeing all of phase 1 is completed. Ron Peterson motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Howard Garvens seconded the motion. The treasurer’s report was approved.

Old Business

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)
Shelley Tessmer was not present. Jim Pindel reported that he had received an email from Shelley stating that there had not been any action on the project recently and that she needed to schedule some time with Chad Sampson in June. She also reported that the property owners had removed two beavers from their island that had done a considerable amount of damage to trees.

- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Ron Peterson said that the project was open for bids from May 19 through May 26. The job is posted and on their website. The bids will be opened on June 3rd at 2:00PM and are on the board's agenda for their meeting the night of June 3rd.

- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that the documentation is with the engineers right now and the engineering should be complete next week. At that time they will put the project out for bids.

- d) Idlewood Drive Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that they had a general meeting with the engineers, property owners, the contractor and the WWMD. At the meeting everyone made some concessions and the property owners said that they would sign off on the project and we would not be responsible for anything after this date. The drainage system is working according to the engineer's desire. They anticipated a 36 hour drain off after a heavy rain. After the heavy rain (approximately 2.5") early last week, Dick Kosut took pictures 24 hour later showing that the water had dissipated in 24 hours and the area was completely dry in 36 hours. So the system is working well and everyone seems to be happy now. So the WWMD will be closing out the project shortly as soon as they get the final bills from the engineers and contractor. Dick brought along the pictures he took right after the rain, 24 and 36 hours later showing the effectiveness of the drainage system. Greg Kessler asked Dick if he would get these pictures to Al Sikora for our website. Dick said he would provide these and some other pictures to Al. Chad Sampson asked if the contractor had to do any additional work. Dick responded that even though the design specified 5" of topsoil and the contractor provided 7" to 9" of topsoil with some clay content, the results of the drainage test showed that the system met the 36 hour criteria, so no additional work was required. Also the landowners did not want to have their lawns torn up again.

- e) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz was not present but Alan Barrows reported that he was copied with a chapter 30 permit for the boat landing at the end of the road. The chapter 30 permit was issued for the restoration of the launch but he has not seen any permit applications for the rest of the work to be done on the filter strip at the end of the road. Alan said that he contacted Steve Brunner of Ruckert-Mielke to notify him that there are some no fee county permits required for this project. Steve told Alan that the applications were signed yesterday and so he should be seeing them shortly.

- f) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Paul Moderacki
Administrator / Clerk / Treasurer of the Village of Mukwonago said that Steve Brunner could not make the meeting today but made the following report. WE Energies has now signed off on the project and he believes that they are still waiting on a permit but the project should be moving forward. The private land owner on that side of the river is also in favor of the project. It is expected that the project should be completed this summer. Jim Pindel asked Paul Moderacki if he would appoint a new commissioner to replace Dale Fennel, Paul stated that he might have to stand in for a while and that he wanted to appoint someone from the community who was conservation conscious.
- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim Ritchie standing in for Jim D’Antuono said that it is still moving forward and is still on schedule for summer construction probably in July.
- h) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Jim Ritchie reported that the status had not changed since last month. The large federal grant had been applied for and now they are waiting for a decision on that grant which should happen in August.
- i) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim Ritchie said that he talked to Jim D’Antuono this morning concerning this project and that there was a site meeting scheduled for today with Mary Kossik, the DNR’s water regulating / permitting staff and representatives of Waukesha County’s zoning department. The purpose of the meeting was to review the site and discuss the pending permits from both the DNR and the County. Alan Barrows said that he had notified Mary Kossik in March that there were county permits required and as of now he has not received any applications. The county permits required are a zoning permit and an erosion control permit.
- j) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows said that he stopped at the site a couple weeks ago and the gully leading down the bank is eroding. He said that he talked to the county’s public works department and asked if they could fill in the gully. Looking at maps Alan said that were the people are actually launching is on private property. So if there is to be a launch there it would have to be a cooperative effort between the county and the private land owner. Alan’s intent is to find out who owns the land and talk to them to find out if they are interested in cooperating in this possible project.

New Business

- a) Water level gauge for Village of Big Bend – Jamie Soneberg was not present. At our last meeting Jeff Thornton said that he had received a response for the USGS staff on the cost of a stream flow gauge. The cost of the system initially would be \$12,500 with an annual operations and maintenance cost of \$11,500. Jeff asked Jim Ritchie if this flow gauge would be eligible for a river protection grant and

today Jim Ritchie said he did not have an answer to that question. Ron Peterson said that he felt that Big Bend would be happy with a simple level indicator on the bridge and really didn't need all that sophistication. Mike Hahn said that the SEWRPC has a cost share arrangement with the USGS where USGS pays half of the annual maintenance cost of 14 of these stream flow gauges in southeastern Wisconsin. It might be possible that the gauge in Big Bend would qualify for the same treatment.

- b) Disposition of SEWFRC Digital Camera - Jim Pindel said that he had the camera with him and would contact Jamie Soneberg to see if he wanted to inspect it. The real problem is that if we don't know if the camera was purchased from grant or non-grant funds, if we sell it where do we put the money. Alan Barrows said that he saw a feature on channel 4 news, where handicapped kids were going to photography classes locally. He thought that donating our camera to this group might be a good way of disposing of the camera.

Reports and Updates

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Greg Kessler said that he didn't have anything new. Mike Hahn reported that the SEWRPC has started working on the plan. He said that Joe Boxhorn was going back over their data to itemize what projects had been executed by the commission. We pointed out that our website SEWFRC.org would be a great resource for this information. Mike went on to say that as the new Implementation Plan progresses they would send preliminary sections or versions of the plan to the secretary / treasurer so that this information could be distributed to all the commissioners with the meeting notice. In this way the commissioners could review the sections of the plan before the actual meeting and then comment accordingly without having to spend a lot of meeting time presenting the material.
- b) 2011 SEWFRC Budget or alternate means of funding for the Commission – Greg Kessler said that he hadn't done anything additional on this issue and at this point not having any response from either county it was really a dead issue. It was decided to delete this item from future agendas.
- c) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said that there was nothing new to report. The rumor that the water level was to be taken down the first week of June 2010 has been squelched. Right now the draw down is scheduled for the summer of 2011 the exact date or amount of the draw down has not determined. Chad said that there will be plenty of notice to riparian owners, so no one should be surprised. He also recommended that people plan their shoreline projects for this time period. When the extent of the impoundment to be affected by the draw down was discussed, Dick Kosut said that in the 1994 draw down Tichigan Lake experienced a 2.5' draw down.

- d) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Mike Hahn said that the SEWRPC was working hard to meet a June 2010 deadline. The plan will include a lot of inventory information as well as goals, recommendations and objectives. They are looking at a lot of land use issues trying to compare the county's comprehensive plan to the Regional Planning Commission's plan to address some of those issues. This plan is similar to the Pebble Creek plan but is more extensive because it includes both stream and lake components. When Paul Moderacki asked when a draft copy would be available, Mike said probably not until late June.
- e) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim Ritchie said that Jim D'Antuono had something prepared but was not able to attend and so we will have to wait until our next meeting for a report.
- f) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Mike Hahn said that he did not have anything to report at this time.
- g) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora was not present so no report was made.

Correspondence –

- a) 4/26/2010 Email from Jim Ritchie with attached letter advising that ENUM 16 will expire on June 30, 2010 and that we need to apply for a time extension.
- b) 5/13/2010 Email from Greg Kessler to Jim Ritchie requesting ENUM 16 extension for 1 year.
- c) 5/18/2010 Email from Jim Ritchie with attached grant extension for ENUM 16.
- d) 5/17/2010 Forward of an email from Audrey Green (Walworth County Lake Specialist) concerning Wisconsin's Invasive Species Identification Classification and Control Rule Chapter NR 40. Chad requested that this topic be discussed in the correspondence section of our meeting to see if the commission wanted a presentation by Audrey Green. Alan Barrows said that we should ask Al Sikora to add a link from our website to the DNR's website location concerning this important issue, showing our support and informing our viewers. Greg Kessler asked if Chad could obtain a draft copy of Audrey Green's presentation so we could review it to see if we want the entire presentation given to the whole commission.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Greg Kessler said that it appears that Dave Kopp is no longer with the City of Waukesha and so he has sent an email to Steve Crandall to try to get a replacement for Dave. Greg is still waiting for a response from Steve Crandall.

Chad Sampson said that he will be making a presentation at the Town of Waterford Planning Commission meeting on July 6th. The presentation will be about the new farmland preservation program for tax credits and exclusive agricultural zoning.

Chad made this announcement so that any commissioners who were concerned or interested could attend.

Jim Pindel said that he had some correspondence with Jamie Soneberg concerning Jamie possibly appointing an alternate commissioner for the Village of Big Bend. He went on to ask the other commissioners present to recommend this practice to their municipalities so that we would have a larger pool of commissioners available to guarantee having a quorum at our meetings. He also pointed out that the Town of Vernon only had two of its allocated three commissioners appointed. Don Scott pointed out that the Town of Vernon is very busy with other issues, especially the fire department, right now.

Jim or Mary Pindel to follow up with the new acting Fire Chief to reserve the meeting room for our next meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Peterson and seconded by Don Scott, the motion carried.

Meeting Closed at 1:49 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, July 16, 2010
at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station
#3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel