

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Leif Hauge (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Lee Manthey (Town of Vernon)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Jessie Medrow (City of Burlington)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)

Also present: Don Barron of the WWMD, Dan Treloar of Kenosha County, Mike Schwarz of Stony Point Hydrology, Mitch Buhler of Racine County and Skip Twardosz of the Town of Burlington.

At 1:02 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Minutes The minutes from the August 25, 2017 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Doug Koehler that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Katelyn Bratz. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – Jim Pindel reviewed the August 2017 treasurer's reports. We started the month of June with \$100,094.51. We made a payment of \$61,339.05 to Applied Ecological Services for work done on the WE Energies site shoreline restoration. We received \$11.29 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$38,766.75. The only change to the non-grant funds was the \$11.29 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$32,536.12. Francis Stadler asked if we had received any funding in the state budget which was passed yesterday. Jim Pindel responded that he had tried himself to see if we were included and didn't find anything. Jim went on to say that Don Houston of the Village of Waterford told him that he had talked to Senator David Craig who said that we received no funding. Jim Pindel also said that in some past state budgets we were not listed in the budget itself but were included in amendments to the WDNR budget where we received grant funds. Jim said that he will pursue this with Representative Chuck Wichgers to see if we had any chance of funding.

It was motioned by Doug Koehler and seconded by Francis Stadler that the treasurer's report be accepted. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit: Tom Slawski said that he has been looking for speakers and topics. Tom asked if anyone had any ideas about topics or speakers to let him know. Tom said that the flooding that occurred earlier this year was of major concern to a lot of people so this might be a topic for the summit. Jim Pindel pointed out that at the last meeting Tom indicated that he might need a 50% cash advance of the funds reserved for the summit to help pay for bills that must be paid in advance of the summit itself. Jim said he received an email from Tom requesting those funds. So Jim Pindel motioned that we provide a cash advance of 50% (\$2750) to the Fox River Partnership and the motion was seconded by Katelyn Bratz. The motion carried unanimously.
- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Dean Falkner said that all the work is done and now we are in the first year of the warranty period. Jim Pindel expressed some concern with the fact that all work covered by ENUM-20 has to be completed by 6/30/18 and it didn't look like all the maintenance would be completed by that time. Katelyn Bratz said that Alan Barrows stated at the last meeting that the maintenance would start at the beginning of June next year and would qualify. We need to verify this point.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: Don Baron of the WWMD said that they had a meeting with the WDNR at their Waukesha campus attended by the WDNR the WWMD and Brian Schneider of Graef regarding the liner and arsenic issues and these items were resolved. Don said that there are two disposal sites currently under consideration, the Super Mix gravel pit and a Waste Management landfill site. There will be another meeting with the WDNR concerning the disposal sites on 10/6/17 and they are waiting on a report from Waste Management and some additional work by Graef Engineering. The major issue of discussion will be the management of the ammonia in the sediment.
- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Doug Koehler asked Jim Pindel if he had received anything from the city regarding this project and Jim said that he had not. Doug said that he had tried to contact the people involved and that he knew that they were waiting on some signage and benches. Jim Pindel pointed out that we still owe the City over \$20,000 on this project so they should have reason to get the paperwork finished.
- e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Katelyn Bratz said that the schedule was for her students to do the installation the first week of October. Leif Hugel said that Allen Barrows reported that site preparation was in progress with killing the existing turf grass and that the biologists and native vegetation will be coming in the next few weeks.

- f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Jim Pindel said that he went over to the Village on Wednesday and showed them the form 8700-001 which he completed for them and gave them instructions on how to fill out form 8700-002 which has to list the dates of the work being done, the invoices and the proof of payment for each invoice. Jim said the indication from the Village was that the documentation would be completed in the next couple weeks. Jim also said that he advised them that they will be asked to sign the Construction and Planting Certificate indicating that the project is totally complete.
- g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski said that they are still preparing data and maps before going into the field. Tom said that they are employing new technologies like side scan sonar and Go Pro. Go Pro is a smart camera which tracks the GPS location as it takes pictures and automatically ties the location to the picture taken. The side scan sonar will record the river bottom topology showing details of the river bottom depth and contours. Tom said he might need some help because of limited staff and he can't be on the boat and moving the car to the next location by himself. Tom said he had some concerns about making it through the river and Dan Treloar said that the river has gone down 12' since the flood in July. Dan also said that September is traditionally the lowest month of the year. Jessie Medrow said that at the end of August the river level in Burlington was 4'. Tom said that realistically it will be probably mid-October when they get out to do the survey.
- h) Parking Lot and sidewalk Salting Workshop: Jayne Jenks Jayne was not present to make a report. No one else had anything to report.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that the sub-committee met once since our last meeting and some good ideas came up. They are planning another meeting in the future and hope that some solutions come up at that time.
- b) Consideration of expanding our jurisdiction west to include Mukwonago River Watershed: Jim Pindel stated that he received an email from Tom Day saying that he could not make our meeting today. The email also said that he received the lab results from Stevens Point. The cost for the sampling and analysis came to \$950 in total. Considering there were 10 sampling locations that comes to \$95 per site. Tom's email pointed out that 2 of the sites are within our area of jurisdiction and he was looking for $2 \times \$95 = \190 from the commission. Tom also said that when they finish charting the data he will provide it to us electronically and would bring some hard copies to our next meeting and briefly discuss the high points. Jim Pindel motioned that we provide the \$190 for the testing of the 2 locations within our jurisdiction out of non-grant funds and Wayne Jensen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- c) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project – Chad Sampson Chad pointed out that he made a Power Point presentation on this project at our last meeting. He said that the property owner was still interested in going forward and contributing to the cost. Chad said that he was looking for \$8000 from our grant funds and \$3000 from the Racine County allocation. We then reviewed the Project Acceptance Criteria and the project scored 46 out of a possible 55 points. It also met the criterial of meeting criterial categories 1 & 8, so the project passed the criteria. It was motioned by Ken Miller and seconded by Doug Koehler that we fund this project. The motion passed unanimously. In the end it was decided to use \$5000 of the Racine County allocation for the WWMD ESR disposal site permit application, \$3000 for the Birch Lane project and \$2000 for the SEWRPC survey within Racine County.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Lang was not present and Tom Slawski said he has not heard anything.
- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: No one had anything to report.
- c) Progress toward designation as a “National Water Trail” – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller of the Village of Waterford said that the last meeting of the core group was held on 9/20/17 and that the focus of the discussion was on marketing. They discussed promotions, logo development and funding of the marketing issues. The visitors bureaus of Wisconsin and Illinois are working together looking to develop consistent branding throughout the whole water trail, not only on the water but also on the land portions and access points. Funding will be needed in the future. Members from Racine County in Wisconsin and McHenry County in Illinois are working together to develop a database of access points along the water trail. The Wisconsin portion of the data is pretty well completed and the Illinois portion is expected to be completed by the end of this paddling season. During the winter months Karen Miller will be working on the reports that will be submitted with the application for National Water Trail status. Karen Miller is the co-chair of the core group from Illinois and with the departure of Rebecca Ewald from the Village of Waterford to Shorewood; Barbara Messick has taken the position of co-chair of the core group for Wisconsin. Tom Slawski said that the core group is now at the point of developing brochures and advertising to be printed. Chad Sampson pointed out that Racine County has printing capabilities and is likely cost effective. Tom said that the Southeastern Fox River Partnership is applying for a river planning grant from the WDNR, which is limited to \$10,000 and these funds could be used for these marketing efforts. Rachel Sabre said that the intention of the grant that the Fox River Partnership is looking for fits well with the purpose of the River Planning Grants. Rachel said that the river planning grants provide \$240,000 annually for projects

similar to this one. Chad Sampson asked if there will be a website to display all the data being gathered like the access points. Tom Slawski stated that the intention is there and a domain has been purchased but everything is in its infant state. Dan Treloar pointed out that Kenosha County has already established its own water trail with signage, parking lots and all the trimmings, which could be incorporated into the National Water Trail.

- d) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora was not present and no one had any comments.

Correspondence –

- a. 8/28/17 Email from Jim Pindel saying mark your calendars for this meeting.
- b. 9/04/17 Email from Dean Falkner advising communications with Gary Bluemel of WWMD concerning area monitoring by UW- Whitewater staff. Attachments of the revised lake management plan of the WWMD.
- c. 9/14/17 Email from Tom Slawski stating the Starry Stonewort found in Wind Lake
- d. 9/18/17 Email from Dean Falkner concerning storm water runoff from Country Bliss subdivision into Jericho creek

e.

Miscellaneous Issues – Jessie Medrow brought us up to date on what is happening on Echo Lake in Burlington. The dam was opened during and after the flooding in July. The lake was drawn down but because of the smell, they were given permission to only partially open the dam eliminating the smell. The plan is for the City of Burlington in their 2018 budget to construct a new dam for Echo Lake.

It was motioned by Ken Miller to close the meeting and seconded by Chad Sampson to end the meeting and the motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 1:44 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday,
October 27, 2017 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Town of
Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend,
WI 53103.)