

Commission members present:

Al Sikora (Village of Waterford) (Chairman)
Don Scott (Town of Vernon) (Vice-Chairman)
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)
Randy Meier (Town of Waterford)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago)
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

Also present: No visitors were present.

At 1:05 PM, 10/14/11, Chairman Al Sikora called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Minutes The minutes from the August 26, 2011 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Alan Barrows and seconded by Francis Stadler that the minutes be approved. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – The Treasurer's Report for August and September 2011 was reviewed. In summary at this time we have \$58,159.40 in our money market account. The reason that the account has so much money in it is because we have received the final check from the WDNR closing out ENUM-16 and the checks written to the Friends of the Vernon Marsh and Ducks Unlimited have not been cashed. Jim Pindel reminded the commission that we should submit and approve projects before July 1, but that no expenses can be reimbursed if they are incurred before July 1, 2012. Ron Peterson motioned that the Treasurers Report be approved and the motion was seconded by Randy Craig. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) **Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (completed)** – **Barb Holtz** Barb Holtz provided before, during and after photos, which were passed around for all the commissioners to review. Barb went on to summarize the project for the commissioners present who were not on the commission over the last two years

while the project went from inception to completion. The road which had been constructed many years ago allowed water to rush down to the lake unimpeded causing erosion. A forty foot vegetative buffer zone was installed to minimize the erosion. Much of the work was accomplished by volunteers. The location is looking good and still needs some tender loving care now after one year. The project is completed with the final plantings and shoreline stabilization accomplished. A sign had been placed on the location advising passersby and visitors that it was an environmental erosion control project. Both Barb and Alan Barrows stated that they had experienced questions by passersby as to what was going on. It was decided to drop the project from the agenda seeing it was completely finished.

- b) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows reported that he had spoken to the Operations Supervisor who thought it would be a half day project to install the rock in the ravine eliminating the erosion into the Fox River at that location. Alan explained that the gully that had eroded out was about 60 feet long and about two to three feet wide and two to three feet deep. It is expected that the installation of the rock will still be accomplished this year.

New Business

- a) Consideration of expanding the Commission jurisdiction south to the Illinois boarder. - Jim Pindel reported that he had emailed John Roth of Kenosha County right after our last meeting asking for a status report. Jim received a response from John Roth about a month later stating that they will consider joining the commission after they complete their budget deliberations. We will wait till late in the year to again contact Kenosha County. Chad Sampson reported that they had lost four of their people in planning and development to budget cuts, so things are very serious in Kenosha County.
- b) Eco-System Restoration Project (Waterford Impoundment) – Jeff Thornton Jeff made a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating that the goals of the Waterford Waterways Management District (WWMD) and our commission are in alignment. This is an updated version of a presentation Jeff made at the WWMD's annual meeting in September. One of the slides showed all the projects that had been accomplished to prevent streambank erosion which is a key component of preparation for getting the impoundment ready for dredging. The presentation showed how the purpose of the dredging project was to establish or re-establish a navigational channel from the WDNR launch near Bridge Road down to the dam in Waterford. In addition to this main channel, access channels leading to this main channel will be provided to riparian owners from the different bays along the way. Additional dredging will be required on some bays in Tichigan Lake, Buena Lake and Waterford Lake. Slides in the presentation showed the water depth and silt depth along the main river channel, bays and lakes. The navigational channels will be generally be five feet deep and vary in width from fifty to one hundred feet wide as is reasonable for the exact situation. Jeff's presentation listed the recommended amount of silt to be removed from the

different locations along the impoundment. The total amount of silt to be removed was estimated at 383,210 cubic yards. Jeff stated that the cost estimate for dredging the impoundment range from twenty-five dollars per cubic yard (based in the costs experienced at Nagawicka Lake) to fifty dollars per cubic yard (based on the cost incurred at Lake Delavan). Jeff also pointed out that the WWMD had hired Graef Inc. as the engineering company to do the initial engineering required for them to apply for a Chapter 30 dredging permit. The discussion that ensued mainly concentrated on how long the effect of the dredging would last. Jeff indicated that it should last for at least 20 years, but it was pointed out that the impoundment was established by the dam in Waterford in 1836 and it took that long to fill the system up with the present silt load. Also it was pointed out that the amount of silt greatly increased during the flash flood of June 2008, which flushed out much of the silt to the north of the impoundment along the Fox River. It was agreed that the Eco-System Restoration Project be added to the Reports and Updates portion of the agenda for future status reports.

- c) SEWFRC Cost Share Agreement – Copies of the agreement had been emailed to all commissioners before the meeting. Jim Pindel asked if anyone had problems opening the Word 2010 document and no one indicated that it was a problem. Additional paper copies were passed out to the commission. Jim advised that Shelley Tessmer emailed advising of a simple type on line #4 of the document which was noted and corrected. Jim also noted that he received an email from Jim Ritchie advising that he felt that we should add a line to the ‘additional requirements’ stating that “for project sponsors who are unites of government, that they need to follow public bidding requirements”. He reminded us that the cost of project determines whether the project can be quoted or needs to be advertised for bids. We agreed that this line item should be added. Barb Holtz recommended that “Owners Share” be changed to Sponsors Share and that we add a line to list a description of the project. Chad Sampson said that besides requiring a copy of the WDNR permit we should ask for copies of all required permits. Jim D’Antuono added that besides asking for the Construction Contract we should also expect the Construction Plans. With this many changes to the agreement it was decided that Jim Pindel would revise the document and bring it to our next meeting for approval.

Reports and Updates

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – The plan is completed and copies were provided to all present by Al Sikora. Jeff Thornton said that he believed that all the changes and recommendations made by the commission had been incorporated in the document. Besides the printed version handed out the document is available on SEWRPC’s website under the publications tab.
- b) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton said that the agency was in its winter mode of operation with drawdowns being implemented. The commission thanked Jeff Thornton and the SEWRPC for all the work and effort that went into generating this document. Jeff reported that

the agency has not yet appointed a new director for itself.

- c) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora also had nothing to report at this time and asked Ron Peterson and Francis Stadler if they would give his business card to the person at the Village who would provide the narrative of the project to be placed on the website.
- d) Waukesha West By-pass Plan – Jim D’Antuono, Jeff Thornton and Allan Barrows all stated that they knew that work was progressing toward a resolution of which alternative route to choose but no one knew any specifics. Jim D’Antuono said the Environmental assessment was in the works.

Correspondence –

- a. 8/26/11 Email from Jim Ritchie stating that the check for \$32,880.76 closing out ENUM-16 has been mailed.
- b. 8/29/11 Email from Jeff Thornton to Chad Sampson providing the Intergovernmental agreement between Waukesha County and the SEWFRC
- c. Email from Chad Sampson with Racine County’s cost share agreement attached.
- d. 9/07/11 Email from Jim Pindel to Brian Glenzinski and Jim Ritchie confirming where to send the checks to Ducks Unlimited and The Friends of the Vernon Marsh.
- e. 9/21/11 Email from John Roth of Kenosha County stating that once they finish their “serious budget deliberations” they will decide whether they want to join our commission.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Jim D’Antuono wanted to make Doug Koehler of the City of Waukesha aware of the fact that because the Barstow Impoundment was very weedy and littered this past summer, people from the City Parks Department had visited the WDNR wanting to revisit dredging possibilities on the impoundment. Jim also pointed out that the City of Waukesha has never applied for or obtained any grant money from our commission and that this might be an occasion where the commission could assist the City.

Al Sikora said that he had been introduced to the Racine Community Foundation which manages about \$5,000,000 that can be spent in Racine County only. Al has a copy of their grant application and it states that the recipient must be a 501 C3 organization. Al had discussed this application previously with Jim Pindel who thought we were not eligible because we are not a 501 C3 organization. Al went back to the executive director of the foundation and explained that even though we are not a 501 C3 organization we are still indeed a non-profit organization and she said it was still worthwhile for us to apply. Al intends to go ahead and make out the application for us with the foundation. Typical grants are from \$5,000 to \$20,000 per applying entity.

Barb Holtz asked if anyone knew anything about proposed changes to the Chapter 30 rules regarding navigable waterways. She had heard that the state legislature is considering altering Chapter 30 in some way. Someone said that he heard some changes were being considered to make the rules more business friendly. Jim D'Antuono said he only knew what he read in the newspaper and will be briefed sometime next week.

Francis Stadler motioned to end the meeting and the motion was seconded by Randy Craig, the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:30 PM

NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, December 2, 2011 at 1:00 PM. (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)