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## Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 28, 2022- 1:00 PM

Town of Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103

<b>Commissioners and (alternates)</b>		
<b>Representing</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attended (yes/no, by phone)</b>
Kenosha County	Andy Buehler Mark Jenks (non-voting)	
Racine County	Chad Sampson (Jon Grove)	Yes
Waukesha County	Alan Barrows (Leif Hauge)	Yes
City of Waukesha	Robins Grams (Doug Koehler)	
Town of Mukwonago	Katelyn Bratz (Barb Holtz)	Yes
Town of Vernon	Lee Manthey	Yes
Town of Waterford	Jim Pindel (Shelley Tessmer)	
Town of Waukesha	Ken Miller	
Village of Big Bend	Kayla Rush	Yes
Village of Mukwonago	Wayne Castle	Yes
Village of Waterford	Fred Koeller (Al Sikora)	Yes
Village of Rochester	Wayne Jensen	Yes
Town of Burlington	Russ Egan	Yes
City of Burlington	Donny Hefty	
Town of Wheatland		
Village of Salem Lakes	Bill Hopkins	
SEWRPC	Tom Slawski (non-voting)	
WDNR	Sara DeBruijn (non-voting)	
WDNR	Rachel Sabre (non-voting)	

<b>Guests</b>	
<b>Representing</b>	<b>Name</b>
WWMD	Grant Horn

## Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission Meeting

1. Katelyn Bratz called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.
2. Pledge of allegiance
3. Roll call and verify quorum
4. Confirm the audio recorder is running
5. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting held September 23, 2022.
  - a. Fred Koeller made a motion to approve the minutes.
  - b. Chad Sampson seconded the motion.
  - c. Motion passed
6. Review the Treasurer's Report.
  - a. Alan Barrows made a motion to approve the report
  - b. Russ Egan seconded the motion
  - c. Motion passes

### Old Business

7. Fox River 2023 Summit – Tom Slawski
  - a. No Update
8. Report on Fox River Park Project – Alan Barrows
  - a. The riverbank restoration component is scheduled to start this week, but it is waiting for the Army Corps of Engineers to approve.
  - b. Contractor selected and ready to go.
  - c. Shoreline is scheduled for this year and the rest for next year.
9. North Tichigan Road Shoreline Restoration--Chad Sampson
  - a. 3 property owners completed
  - b. We have submitted our paperwork
  - c. Can removed from the agenda
10. WWMD Project-Grant Horn
  - a. Completed, paid, and working on submission of documents
  - b. Hoping to have an annual meeting before the end of the year to select a contractor.
11. Solberg Slope Stabilization- Chad Sampson
  - a. Slope above the shoreline
  - b. Owner cleared the slope
  - c. Have not been able to get the contractor out to work on the project.  
May contact a different contractor come spring.
12. Ogden Slope and Shoreline Stabilization- Chad Sampson
  - a. Shoreline and grade stabilization structure
  - b. Received 1 very high contractor quote
    - i. Looking for more contractors
  - c. Slated for spring

## New Business

### 13. Report on activities of the work being done by Foth and RES

- a. Katelyn shared email
- b. Discussion of the jurisdiction vs watershed boundary for the work of Foth and Res.
  - i. We were under the assumption it was specific to RCPP, not universal
  - ii. Katelyn Bratz asked for clarification of whether we can fund projects outside of the projects.
    1. Alan Barrows- Can we manage grants that are outside of our area for administration of a grant?
    2. RCPP used the entire watershed, but we should not fund if the projects do not connect to the watershed.
    3. Katelyn Bratz would communicate to Foth and Res that projects not connected to our jurisdiction, should not be applied for. For larger watershed wide projects, the commission will address on a case by case basis as Foth and Res suggests them.
- c. Alan Barrows shared that they shared the issue of lack of cash matches when applying for grants. Was not surprised to hear it. More work needs to be done with foundations, corporations, or non-profits.
- d. Chad Sampson- NRCS on the RCPP grant. We received had a ½ page positive comments, but 3 pages of negative comments.
  - i. Partners and goals were great
  - ii. Who is holding the contracts for our projects? Unclear who is holding the landowners responsible.
  - iii. Who is doing the construction design, who is completing the structural report?
  - iv. Who is holding the easements?
  - v. Our work was too general and broad. We need to narrow the area and the scope.

- vi. Steve Becker prefers natural steam processes without rip rap. He would want to see it naturalized. Riffles and some riprap, meandering. Disappointed that we did not have specifics. He is reviewing the applications.
- vii. Ry Thompson and Erin DeWalla from RES will have phone call on Monday with Chad Sampson on what we can do to narrow down the scope. Anyone who wants to join the phone call is welcome to.
- viii. Was a good conversation, but seemed like they were unsure we were capable of managing the projects.
- ix. Alan Barrows- we talked about before the RCPP grant was submitted. The administration needs to be worked into the grants. Perhaps consultant services that could be bid out.
- x. This \$200,000 is seed money for 4-6 grants.
- xi. 12-16 months from contract. They will continue to work.
- xii. Wayne Jensen paid based on the contract. Katelyn Bratz clarified that they paid based on the contract. The remainder of the funds need to be requested from the commission before submitting.
- xiii. Chad Sampson asked if a report was submitted for the meeting. Katelyn Bratz said no update was provided from Foth and Res.

14.

15. 2021 – 2030 SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Tom Slawski & Alan Barrows

a. No Update

16. Review and discussion of all projects on the Enum- 24 Waitlist

a. No discussion

#### Reports and Updates

17. SEWRPC Survey from Waterford Dam to Illinois border-Tom Slawski

a. No Update

18. Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency of Illinois – FWA or Tom Slawski

a. No Update

19. Report on future of the Echo Lake Dam in Burlington-Donny Hefty

a. Vote on November 8

- i. There is a lot of uninformed information circulating.
- 20. Report on Fox River Watershed TMDL progress – Rachel Sabre
  - a. No Update
  - b. Alan Barrows- might be a few years out beyond 2024.
- 21. Report on the Fox Watershed Mitigation Plan- Tom Slawski
  - a. No Update
- 22. Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County- Chad Sampson
  - a. Soy beans are off of fields
  - b. Cover crops are going in
  - c. A lot of farmers applying for cover crops funding.
  - d. Would like to see new farmers joining the programs.
  - e. Winter Workshop
    - i. Feb 10
    - ii. At Cotton Exchange
    - iii. Keynote- David Brandt of Iowa will speak on farm soil health no till cover crops, share his story and answer questions.
- 23. SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora or Alan Barrows
  - a. Alan Barrows shared, Foth and Res requests pictures for the story map from the website. Please submit pictures of the newer completed projects.

#### Correspondence

1. October 14th- Tom Slawski emailed Foth and RES requesting an update on their work and sharing the recently voiced concerns from the previous SEWFRC meeting.
2. October 18th- Tom Slawski forwarded a Doodle meeting request to the commissioners to schedule a meeting with Foth and RES.
3. October 19th- Tom Slawski forwarded to the commission a news release about the about the new data viewer the WNDR has launched for PFAS.
4. October 20th- Tom Slawski forwarded to the commission the link for a virtual meeting of the commissioners with Foth and RES.
5. October 27th- Katelyn Bratz forwarded to the commission the September meeting minutes.
6. October 27th- Tom Slawski forwarded to the commissions the storyboard outline and recording of the update meeting with Foth and RES.

#### Miscellaneous Issues

7. Alan Barrows– Alyssa Vaughan is new to the land conservation team. She will be running the non-urban programs. She has a degree in conservation. Alyssa is someone to reach out to with questions.

8. Next Meeting and Location

- a. December 9<sup>th</sup> 1:00
- b. Town of Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53101

9. Close Meeting

- a. Chad Sampson motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- b. Russ Egan seconded the motion.
- c. Motion passed.

\* If you have any question about the Agenda, please call Secretary Tom Slawski at (262) 953-3263.