

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Senator Stephan Nass (11th Senate District), Dillon McGee (Office of Rep. Adan Neylon 98th Assembly District), Erin Probst and Paul Ferguson of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Dan Hubert (Office of Rep. Scott Allen 97th Assembly District), Gabriel Szerlong (Legislative Assistant to Rep. Chuck Wichgers), Senator David Craig (Senate District 28), Don Houston and Zeke Jackson of the Village of Waterford, Joe Keller of the Fox Waterway Agency of Illinois, and Dan Treloar of Kenosha County.

At 1:05 PM the special SEWFRC ‘in district’ Meeting with Legislators began. Jim Pindel started with a Power Point presentation, paper copies were provided to all in attendance that included the following:

- a) The SEWFRC is a statutory commission established in 1997.
- b) SEWFRC channeled \$1,681,554.32 into ~ 50 beneficial projects, involving erosion control, storm water abatement, public access, education and feasibility studies
- c) The SEWFRC is working on 8 active projects involving \$190,124.00 of grant funds and has only \$2035.00 grant fund dollars available for other projects.
- d) The SEWFRC is working toward a 9-Key Elements plan because it is a Best Management Tool for fixing and maintaining the Fox River and it might make us eligible for Federal funding
- e) In 2016 the area of responsibility of the SEWFRC increased 71% when the area of coverage included from the Waterford Dam to the Illinois border.
- f) In 2017 the SEWFRC funding was eliminated.

- g) A slide was provided showing the active projects involving \$190,124.32 of grant funds.
- h) A slide was provided showing the anticipated grant projects for Racine County amounting to \$486,733.34, plus an additional grant request of \$2,000,000.00 toward the dredging of the Waterford impoundment.
- i) A slide was provided showing anticipated grant projects of \$366,333.33 for Waukesha County.
- j) A slide was provided showing anticipated grant projects of \$572,333.33 in Kenosha County.
- k) It was pointed out that 100% of grant funds are spent on grant projects.
- l) SEWFRC is a clearing house for small grant projects.
- m) SEWFRC has minimum overhead like publication of annual public hearing and office supplies.
- n) All SEWFRC work is done by volunteers, no salaries are paid.
- o) It was explained that details of all SEWFRC projects are available on our website SEWFRC.org.
- p) Proposed Assembly Bill LRB 5070/P1 would provide \$200,000 for fiscal years 2017/2018.
- q) Proposed Assembly Bill LRB 5071/P1 would provide \$100,000 for every fiscal year thereafter.

At this point Rep. Chuck Wichgers pointed out that the reason for this ‘in district’ meeting was to make the other legislators who have constituents within the area of jurisdiction of the SEWFRC aware of need for funding for the SEWFRC. Rep. Wichgers said that with all the business and bills the legislators are working on in Madison a meeting like this one hopefully will put funding for the SEWFRC on their radar. Rep. Wichgers went on to say that if just one legislator promotes a bill it might not get the priority it needs to get passed. However if several legislators make the bill a priority and support it, it should have a better chance to get passed. Rep. Wichgers said that at the last SEWFRC he attended we discussed what it takes to get a funding bill accomplished, What it takes is a grassroots meeting like this and for all of the municipalities involved to engage their legislators asking them to support our funding. The municipalities must have a dialog with their legislators encouraging them to support the bills so we can justify the ‘ask’. Rep. Wichgers said that the other legislators might question where is the money coming from, will we have to replace the money from wherever it was taken from or is their enough money in the existing fund to cover the cost of the funding over this and upcoming biennium’s and is it justified. Rep. Wichgers said that Jim Pindel’s presentation pointed out some points which would justify the funding and that at a meeting in Madison when Dean Falkner and Jim Pindel attended they talked to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau who identified that the SEWFRC is a statutory commission that the state created and it is all volunteer. It allows the counties and municipalities to participate to be involved and benefit. Rep. Wichgers said that as he became more aware of what the commission is trying to accomplish and how hard it would be to do what they are tasked to do without funding. Rep. Wichgers said that the state owns the waterway, created the commission to care for the waterway and the WDNR sets standards that the waterway must comply with and the commission has not been given the funding to

accomplish its objectives. The volunteers are doing the work and the municipalities are participating without adding to the local tax burden. So there are expenses that end up here even though the state owns the waterway and it can be enjoyed by all the state citizens. It turns out to be an unfunded mandate that the commission must do its job and meet the standards set by the WDNR. Rep. Wichgers said that the SEWFRC has been funded since its inception in 1997 and now this year it has not been funded which has made a burdensome task and made it more burdensome. Rep. Wichgers said that talking to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB) the fund (derived from the gas tax) though strained does in fact have funding available. Rep. Wichgers ended up by saying now it is up to the commissioners and their municipalities to contact their legislators and emphasize the work we have to do and that we need their support to get these two bills passed. Rep. Wichgers said that it is not a big 'ask' but it is a worthy 'ask'. Rep. Wichgers said that the first bill asking for \$200,000 for this biennium must be passed in February while the legislature is still in session. The second bill for ongoing funding will have to be taken up when the legislature reconvenes next January. So there is less urgency with this second bill but we need to bring it up to our legislators so that they remember us next year when it needs to be passed. Tom Slawski asked if the funds would still be administered by the WDNR and Rep. Wichgers said that it would be and probably from the gas tax collected by the Recreational Boating Facility. Paul Ferguson of the LFB said that the \$200,000 for the first bill would come from the RBF gas tax money but the ongoing funding of the second bill would come from the broader Water Resources Account but essentially it still comes from the gas tax collected from motor boat users. Dean Falkner pointed out that the state has listed the Fox River as an impaired waterway because of water quality issues. Dean said that all of the work we do is done to improve the water quality of the Fox River. Jim Pindel made a point of the fact that the legislature increase our area of responsibility in 2016 and then the very next year 2017 the legislature cut our funding making it difficult to almost impossible to carry out our mandates. Rep. Wichgers asked that since the SEWFRC has worked since 1997 in Racine and Waukesha counties and now our footprint has grown to include Kenosha county, is there some catching up to be done in the new area? Jim Pindel answered the question by pointing out that in his Power Point presentation; Kenosha County had the highest requirement of anticipated projects of the three counties exceeding \$500,000. Jim Pindel went on to say that in 2014 the commission hired Graef Engineering from Milwaukee to survey the then existing mainstream of the Fox River from the north end of Waukesha down to the dam in Waterford. This survey identified 19 areas where shoreline restoration or erosion control was needed. This last year the SEWFRC hired SEWRPC to do a similar survey from the Waterford dam down to the Illinois border. It is expected that the results of this survey will identify at least as many areas of need for shoreline or erosion control measures. The actual survey has been completed but we will not see the final report until it is finished this year by June 30th. Rep. Wichgers then asked isn't it reasonable to expect that the majority of project in say the next five years will be in the new area of our responsibility in southern Racine county and in Kenosha county? Jim Pindel responded that this would be the case if counties or municipalities applied for grant funds for these projects. Someone has to come forward and sponsor the projects. Jim also said that historically projects were granted funding on a first come first serve basis. It is likely that the commission will have to do some additional planning to

have funds available for as many projects as possible. It is possible we will have to rethink our normal cost share ratio of 90% by the commission and 10% by the sponsor, so we can spread the funding around to more projects. Rep. Wichgers summed it up by saying that we have an identified budget plan and an anticipated budget plan and we expect some large expenses coming up as a rebound effect of our expansion. Andrew Lois pointed out that nothing has been done in the stretch of the Fox River from Wilmot to the Illinois border, because there has never been money available to do any work there. Rep. Wichgers asked Dean Falkner which areas within SEWFRC's jurisdiction were listed as impaired by the WDNR. Dean said that the entire stretch of river in our area of jurisdiction is impaired. The phosphorus concentration exceeds the water quality standards. Dean went on to say that besides the phosphorus there is sediment rushing down the river being deposited in lakes and the river downstream. All the work we do is trying to address the infiltration of phosphorus and dirt into the Fox River to improve the water quality and make the waterway available for boating. Rep. Wichgers asked how the commission will work with the WDNR and municipalities (or Lake Management Districts) to accomplish dredging where it is needed. Jim Pindel pointed out that the commission has supported the dredging efforts of the Waterford Waterway Management District (WWMD) to the tune of approximately \$190,000 so far. These funds were used primarily to pay for testing and engineering. The dredging itself has not started and we are not capable of covering the expense of the dredging project. However some funds could be channeled through us to help pay for the dredging. Jim Pindel pointed out that the WDNR stated that they maintain the Waterford impoundment by funding the SEWFRC, but now that we are unfunded they are not meeting their obligation to maintain the Waterford impoundment. Andy Buehler of Kenosha County stated that their county is a new member of the commission and that their County Executive was very supportive of the county joining the commission because he saw how much work we have done in what you might call the upper portion of the Fox River in Racine and Waukesha counties. He is aware of the need for the same sort of work that needs to be done in Kenosha County. Andy pointed out that there was extensive flooding in 2017 and as the water receded it carried significant amounts of sediment and nutrients into the Fox River. Andy said that this flooding occurs on an annual basis and they need to address the flooding and erosion that goes on. Andy said that some of the work that needs to be done involves roads that are eroding to the point that they need to be fixed. The county hopes to address these needs with the help of the SEWFRC. Wayne Jensen asked if we have been funded since 1997 and now we were not funded this last year, why did this happen? Did we not do something right and who made the decision to not fund us? Erin Probst of the LFB said that all the funding we received in the past was always 'one time' funding so it would not automatically reoccur in the next budget cycle. Someone needed to ask for it to get it into the state budget. No one on the Joint Finance Committee made a motion to fund the commission. Wayne asked who had been making the motion to fund us in the past and he was told that it was Senator Mary Lasich who is now retired. Rep. Wichgers asked for clarification, he said he thought that the funds came from the DOT budget and Erin Probst said that the funds were transferred from the DOT budget from the gasoline tax collected for motor boat usage. This is a long standing transfer that happens every budget cycle. Rep. Wichgers said that even though funding was not requested up front we still have a chance in the present legislative session to

request these funds. This has to happen before the end of the current session which ends in February. Wayne Jensen asked if we need to get someone to request funding every new budget cycle and he was told that it would be requested for the present budget cycle on a 'one time' basis. If and when the second Assembly Bill is passed a request each budget cycle will not be required because the bill provides for funding every fiscal year hereafter. There would have to be an action taken by someone to repeal this bill to cause the funding to stop. So it would be up to us to monitor the budget process to make sure our bill was not being repealed. Donny Hefty of the City of Burlington said that the City runs a waste water treatment plant and we are now listed as MS4 storm water committed facility by the WDNR. So we are now required to meet requirement on the sanitary sewer side as well as on the storm water control regarding water quality. These new requirement forced the City to provide more funds and so the City is now looking to the SEWFRC to help provide funding for the small projects that still need to be done without any impact on the taxpayers. Jim Pindel pointed out that this is another example of how the commission acts as a clearing house for smaller project to help our member municipalities. Rep. Wichgers pointed out that the report from the LFB said that the SEWFRC is charged with improving the water quality and recreational use of the Fox River within its boundaries. The recreational use of the Fox River is an economic stimulus which generates income for the state and the local businesses as well as increasing property values. This is a great return on investment for the \$200,000 every biennium. In essence we are helping the state by generating this revenue. Tom Slawski of the SEWRPC pointed out that by the SEWFRC funding the annual Fox River Summit it promotes collaboration among different groups within the watershed sharing technical, environmental and best practices enhancing the entire Fox River Watershed. The initiative for the Fox River National Water Trail grew out of the Summit. The Water Trail should draw visitors from throughout the state and even the whole country to this recreational destination. Tom pointed out that one of the speakers at the upcoming Summit will be talking about the economic impact of the Huron River. The talk will ask how you put a price on a river and the report covers what it took to make the Huron River a recreational destination. The information we get from this presentation could and should be applied to our Fox River. Jim Pindel made his last comment saying that the commission has grown in better business practices and standard operating procedures as we evolved over the years. He also said that he will provide meeting minutes to all present as well as sending them to the legislators who were not able to attend. Rep. Wichgers ended up by addressing the legislators and the municipal leaders present making a point of the fact that the local municipalities participate in the commission. Rep. Wichgers went on to say that there are watchdogs that look into the funding provided by the state and if they see local municipality participation they are more likely to look favorably on the grant funds.

The 'in district' meeting closed at 1:50 PM with a 10 minute break for discussion between the attendees and the visitors before the regular SEWFRC commenced.

At 2:05 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken earlier in the 'in district' meeting and a quorum was confirmed.

Minutes The minutes from the December 15, 2017 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Doug Koehler that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Alan Barrows. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – Jim Pindel reviewed the December 2017 treasurer's report. We started the month with \$32,693.12. We made a payment of \$264.32 to cover the hotel room costs for the consulting company that ran the Smart Salt Workshop. We received \$5.51 in interest in December bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$32,434.31. The changes to the non-grant funds was the \$5.51 in interest and removal the Smart Salt Workshop (because it was a grant fund project) resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$32,369.50. On the grant fund tracking page the 2018 Fox River Summit was added bringing the available grant funds down to \$2,035.68, which needs to be spent by June 30th. It was motioned by Alan Barrows and seconded by Katelyn Bratz that the treasurer's report should be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) **Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit**: Tom Slawski said that he has been trying to get people to attend. He said some people have already signed up. He has gotten more sponsorships than in the past which is helping out financially. Tom said they are planning to end the summit with a panel discussion which he hopes will lead to more collaboration across the Wisconsin Illinois border. Tom hopes that this will lead to more active participation between the groups in Illinois and Wisconsin. Dean Falkner added that when he called Joe Keller of the FWA, Joe said I see you have expanded down to the Illinois border which should have been 1 year old news. So more interaction with the Illinois Fox River organizations is needed. Dean said that if we are trying to get federal money to help out in Kenosha County we must get aligned with the FWA. At this point Alan Barrows made a motion that the SEWFRC reimburse the attendance fee for commissioners and alternate commissioners who attend the Summit from non-grant funds. Fred Koeller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site**. Alan Barrows said that he had nothing new to report. Dean Falkner said that he drove by the site yesterday and it looked very good. Alan said that if anyone sees anything out of order at the site they should let him know about it.
- c) **ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact**: No one from the WWMD was present, so Jim Pindel stated that even though the idea of using the Super Mix site was still a possibility the ESR group is still working with Waste Management

- (WM) who is proposing to do the entire dredging, dewatering and disposal of the sediment. A phone teleconference is scheduled for this coming Thursday so WM can bring the ESR committee and the WWMD up to speed as to where they are in coming up with a solution for dredging the Waterford impoundment.
- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Doug Koehler said that he forwarded everything he received to Jim Pindel. And Jim Pindel said he received it and needs to process the documentation.
 - e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said he did not have an update at this time.
 - f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Fred Koeller said that he thought that all the required documentation had been sent to Jim Pindel. Jim said that the final thing he needed was the proof of payment and that he received it yesterday. Dean Falkner said that there were a couple islands just below the Waterford dam and that one of them either relocated down the river or was washed away during the 2017 flood. Dean asked Fred Koeller if the remaining islands were protected and Fred said they were not. Fred said that an island about 20' by 15' was completely washed away and the other island is still there. Fred said that during a flooding situation the Waterford dam is wide open causing a strong current coming straight down the river and the Waterford spillway allows the excess water which the dam cannot pass to flow over it causing a diagonal strong current which work against the islands eroding them. Fred said that the Village's concern is that if the existing island, which protects the shorelines under these conditions, disappears will this cause erosion or damage to the shorelines. Tom Slawski said that SEWRPC could do a study to see what could or should be done in this regard. Tom asked if there were any photo documentation of the islands and Fred said he would check. Dean said that someone who was monitoring the water downstream of Waterford said that the silt and phosphorus increase heavily during the period when the island was disappearing. Chad Sampson said there was a mud slide along the shoreline at that time and that the shoreline just south of the areas that were stabilized by our projects needed some stabilization or there will be further erosion. Fred pointed out that when the river current gets so strong it is able to wash out large rocks. Chad said that a possible project would be maintenance of the shorelines to keep them from deteriorating.
 - g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski said that he had nothing to report at this time except that he will put more emphasis on the islands in his study.
 - h) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that there is nothing to report at this time and that construction will start in early spring.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that they are now at the point that what they need most is money so they can develop any part of the plan. So as of now the plan is on hold.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Joe Keller of the FWA was present and made his report. Joe said that in 2013 they were flooded out of their headquarters. Funding for a new facility was obtained and now they have a new 3000 square foot headquarters with offices and all the necessities. Joe said that the 2017 flood has reignited the debate about restoring an island in one of the lakes which was originally formed from dredged materials. The island has pretty much eroded away and the riparian owners like it that way; they don't want to look at island only open water. They have come to a compromise the island was originally 50 acres and now it will be re-established on a smaller footprint. The FWA is working with the Army Corps of Engineers to work out the details of the new island. Joe said that the FWA has turned their financial situation around in the last few years by being conservative and making good decisions on spending the little money they have. The FWA has not received any state of Illinois funds but they are looking at ways to free up some money for them. The state has returned properties to the FWA that belonged to them 25 – 30 years ago. Now the FWA is considering selling these properties and using the proceeds to pay for projects or equipment. Joe said that an appraisal has just come in on the first property at about \$500,000 and he expects the other properties to come in at about the same price. So even though no money is coming from the state they are getting funds indirectly by getting these properties back. So the FWA will have funding to get some work done. Joe said that the FWA is doing a better job of engaging the public through social media and an updated website. Joe said that they have received good feedback from the public. An example is a landowner near the Wisconsin Illinois border who has large holes in the ground that need filling and the FWA has many cubic yards of rich top soil to get rid of, so this could be a win-win situation for the landowner and the FWA.
- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: No one had anything to report. Dean Falkner said that he had a conversation with someone from the WDNR asking him what would be the effect of the diversion especially downstream of the confluence of the Fox and Mukwonago Rivers. And it was said that the lessening of flow will likely cause the concentration of silt and phosphorus to go up.
- c) Progress toward designation as a “National Water Trail” – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that they were able to collect their data before the river froze up. The St. Charles canoe club has volunteered to collect data in the St. Charles area. Fred said that Barbara Messick will update the Wisconsin database based on the new data collected. They are working on confirming that all the different visitor

bureaus will indeed contribute \$1,500 each to the marketing coalition. The coalition will concentrate on the river and the area on both sides of the river for 10 miles. They want to capture the events and activities along the river which is broader than the activity on the river itself. They are waiting to see if they get a WDNR grant which will be awarded in February. Fred pointed out that a WDNR study from 2004 to 2017 showed an increase in kayaking of 604%. Francis Stadler asked if attaining National Water Trail status made them capable of getting federal grants. Tom Slawski said that they applied for a grant from the National Park Service they did not get any money but they did get support in the form of time helping them with the process from someone named Angie. Francis then asked if we get any national advertising and Tom said yes it will be included in a national database of Water Trails.

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

Correspondence –

- a. 12/18/17 Email from Jim Pindel asking you to mark your calendars for today's meeting.
- b. 12/18/17 Email from Jim Pindel notifying everyone that the 'in district' meeting will be held on 1/12/18 with an excerpt from the meeting minutes covering the discussion about the 'in district' meeting
- c. 12/19/18 Forward of an email from Jayne Jenks with attached manuals regarding side walk and parking lot salting.
- d. 12/19/17 Email from Jim Pindel asking everyone to check and correct the list of Legislators for our counties and municipalities.
- e. 12/23/17 Emailed letter to Johnathan Delagrave (Racine County Executive) reporting how we spent the 2017 Racine County allocation.
- f. 1/4/18 Emails from Jim Pindel inviting the following to the 'in district' meeting: Senator Van Wanggarrd, Senator Stephen Nass, Senator David Craig, Senator Chris Kapenga, Rep. Samantha Kerkman, Rep. Tyler August, Rep. Chuck Wichgers, Rep. Robin Vos, Rep. Scott Allen, Rep. Adam Neylon, and Rep. Cody Horlacher.
- g. 1/4/18 Forward of an email from Gabriel Szerlong with attached copies of the two bills being sponsored by Representative Chuck Wichgers.
- h. 1/4/18 Forward on an email from Tom Day with attached "Mukwonago River Watershed Nutrient Study 2004-2017.
- i. 1/4/18 Email response from Jim Pindel to Senator Craig's office explaining details of the 'in district' meeting.
- j. 1/4/18 Email from Rep. Scott Allen's office stating that he is not available at the time of the 'in district' meeting.
- k. 1/12/18 Forward of an email from Rep. Wichgers office with the meeting notes from December 13th meeting that Dean Falkner and Jim Pindel attended in Rep. Wichgers office.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Fred Koeller pointed out that all the commissioners or their supervisors should contact their legislators asking them to support the two bills being sponsored by Rep. Wichgers to get funding for our commission.

Jim Pindel said that during the break between the ‘in district’ meeting and the regular SEWFRC meeting Jeff Lang told him that he talked to Robin Vos this last week and Rep. Vos said that he didn’t know about our ‘in district’ meeting. Jim Pindel said that when he emailed the invitation to Rep. Vos’ office he got an automatic reply asking for my name and address. From past experience Jim said he knew that they were checking to see if he was a constituent and if you are not a constituent the just disregard your email. So Jim asked all the commissioners to forward the minute they will receive for the ‘in district’ meeting to their legislators, especially Rep. Robin Vos.

It was motioned by Andy Buehler to close the meeting and seconded by Wayne Jensen to end the meeting and the motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:41 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday,
February 16, 2018 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Town of
Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend,
WI 53103.)

Commission members present:

Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Dan Treloar of Kenosha County.

At 1:05 PM, Vice - Chairperson Katelyn Bratz 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 January 12, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Fred Koeller that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Alan Barrows. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – Jim Pindel reviewed the January 2018 treasurer’s report. We started the month with \$32,434.31 in our Money Market Account. We received \$5.51 in interest in January bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$32,439.82. The changes to the non-grant funds was the \$5.51 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$32,375.01. The only change on the grant fund page was that the final cost of the smart salting workshop came in at \$2,464.32 which is \$535.68 under budget. It was motioned by Donny Hefty and seconded by Francis Stadler that the treasurer’s report should be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Progress Toward obtaining funding for the SEWFRC: Jim Pindel reminded everyone that he sent out an email saying that Dean Falkner, Tom Slawski and he

testified before the Assembly Committee on Environment and Forestry. Jim said that Rep. Wichgers office called him to say that our testimony should outline how we track and control the grant funds we handle. Jim said he made his testimony address these issues, starting with the instructions on our website on how to apply for grant funds for a project, then reviewing our “Criteria for Project Acceptance”, then reviewing our “Cost Share Agreement” and finally reviewing the project signoff document we call the “Construction and Planting Certification”. Jim said that he ended by saying that we put these procedures together to show how carefully and diligently we care for the grant funds that are given to us. And to date we have used 100% of the grant funds for grant worthy projects. Dean Falkner’s testimony focused on pollution and the excessive phosphorus in the Fox River within our area of responsibility. Tom Slawski provided his own presentation and was based on SEWRPC’s cooperative work with us and that our goals line up with those of the SEWRPC. Tom pointed out that the financial support of our commission for the Fox River Summit allows for networking and coordination between many environmental, municipal and non-government agencies. Jim said that it appeared that the testimonies were well accepted and that this last Tuesday the Committee on Environment and Forestry voted unanimously (11 to 0) to support our bill AB 911. Francis Stadler asked what happens when the bill is passed by the committee and Jim Pindel said that the bill then goes before the entire Assembly for a vote and that before the meeting we checked and the bill AB 911 passed the Assembly 97 to 0. The bill was then passed onto the Senate for consideration. Jim finished by saying that he expects that we will have to go back to Madison and testify before some Senate Committee, just as we did for the Assembly, before our bill can go to the Senate floor for a vote.

- b) Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit: Tom Slawski said that the summit is progressing nicely. Tom said that registrations are lagging but he expects that as the summit comes closer registrations should pick up. Tom said it is a loaded agenda and passed around a flyer highlighting some of the key speakers. Tom said that they are still working on the finish of the summit to have a panel discussion or some other event to culminate the summit. Jim Pindel asked for a show of hands to see how many of the commissioners present intended to attend the summit and 6 commissioners raised their hands. Jim encouraged all present to invest their time in this worthwhile event. Donny Hefty said that he and Jim Kleinschmidt will be presenting a talk concerning the flooding that went on this last year. Donny pointed out that it will be appropriate to talk about the flooding from the Veterans Terrace since he can just point out the windows to show where some of the major flood events occurred. Some of the pictures in the presentation were taken from the Veterans Terrace location. Tom pointed out a presentation to be made by Phil Gaebler on Urban leaf management. This is a new topic which has come up and needs attention from many municipalities. Apparently leaves that get into the lakes and rivers deteriorate into phosphorus and other unwanted components. Alan Barrows said that he attended a presentation by the City of Fond du Lac on a 3 year study they were doing to see the effect of removing a

- number of ash trees that died from the ash bore. This study will monitor the amount of phosphorus and other consequences not having the leaf load in this controlled area. Donny Hefty said that he would be interested in seeing that data because the City of Burlington has to remove a large number of ash trees.
- c) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he had not visited the site lately and had nothing new to report. Alan said that he expects to receive one more invoice from the contractor for the 1 year of maintenance in the contract. Jim Pindel pointed out that this project will be held open until that invoice is received and the documentation is submitted.
- d) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present, so Jim Pindel stated that he received an email report from Paul Kling of the WWMD which stated the following. Waste Management (WM) is still preparing a cost estimate for the various possible scenarios. Last Monday WM visited the WDNR site west of Conservancy Bay to access it as the dewatering site. The result was that they felt it was adequate. Russ Rasmussen of the WDNR went to the Secretary of the WDNR asking for support for this project and asking if it could be considered under the category 29 fee waiver. Russ said that the Secretary wants to help with the project but did not say how. The WDNR is concerned with the loss of revenue and the volume of materials that would be placed in the landfills. The WDNR brought up the idea of using the Dolphin process to dewater the sediment and then placing the dewatered sediment into the Super Mix gravel pit. This new idea will cause more testing and engineering and so the WWMD decided that they will not proceed with this option until they hear whether the category 29 fee waiver is accepted by the WDNR.
- e) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he has all the information from the City of Waukesha and needs to process it.
- f) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said he did not have an update at this time. Jim Pindel asked if the project had started and Alan said it was complete and asked Jim if he had received any paperwork and Jim said he didn't recall any.
- g) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Jim Pindel said that he thought that he had all the necessary documentation from the Village and so it is up to him to get the documentation processed.
- h) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski said that SEWRPC has access to the original plot maps of the Fox River going back to 1836. They are now in the process of digitizing them so they can be overlaid with current maps to see how the river has changed course and size along the way. This comparison will help determine how much erosion has occurred and where. Tom said that they are also comparing historic cross sections of the river with the new ones he took during his survey. These comparisons will be part of a

presentation at the upcoming summit. Jim Pindel made 2 points he said that the Graef survey we had done a few years ago also made a comparison of the present and historic locations of the river. Tom Slawski said that Graef used the 2000 map data. The second point Jim Pindel made is that the maps SEWRPC is going back to are from 1836 and that is the same year that the first dam was put in in Waterford. Tome said that the maps did not show a dam in Waterford.

- i) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that there is nothing to report at this time and that construction will start in early spring.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner was not present and Jim Pindel pointed out that at our last meeting Dean said they have done as much as they can do without getting funding to hire someone to help design the plan.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – No one from the FWA nor Jeff Lang were present, so no report was made.
- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: Doug Koehler said that the engineering was ongoing, but had nothing to report. No one from the WDNR was present (this is 2 meetings in a row that the WDNR was not represented) to make a report. Tom Slawski said that yesterday he attended a meeting of the Wisconsin Coastal Management group and asked them since the Fox River watershed will be connected to Lake Michigan water once the diversion occurs shouldn't the Fox River watershed be eligible for Great Lakes funding. He said he did not get a verbal response.
- c) Progress toward designation as a "National Water Trail" – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that the next meeting of the group is scheduled for 2/27/18 and he didn't have anything special to report at this time. Fred did refer to the fact that they obtained the surface water grant that Tom Slawski alluded to before and said that Tom did most of the work including applying for the grant. Tom added that the letters of support including one from the SEWFRC helped. Tom said that they will be contracting with a group of professional trail developers who specialize in developing tools to support a trail system. It will be an interactive online tool. Tom pointed out that in Kenosha County there is a water trail already established and Dan Treloar said the Kenosha County had already done its own thing and what they already have in place could be leveraged into the overall National Water Trail effort. Dan said that they have landing sites mapped including the distances in between, which could be incorporated.
- d) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora was not present and Alan Barrows said that he needs to update the maps to include the projects that have recently been completed.

At this point Tom Slawski asked if we were going to have a display for the upcoming summit and Alan Barrows said that we will use our 3 panel display and have some handouts. Alan said the 3 panel display needs revising since it says we only service Racine and Waukesha Counties.

Correspondence –

- a. 1/15/18 Email with attached unapproved minutes from the 1/12/18 ‘in district’ meeting.
- b. 1/16/18 Forward of an email from Andy Buehler stating that he contacted Rep. Kerkman regarding funding for the SEWFRC
- c. 1/16/18 Email with attached revised unapproved minute from the 1/12/18 ‘in district’ meeting sent to commissioners and legislators
- d. 1/16/18 Forward of an automatic email reply from Senator Wanggaard’s office, asking one of his constituents to resend it to him.
- e. 1/16/18 Similar autoreply email from Rep. Allen’s office with a request for one of his constituents to resend the minutes to him.
- f. 1/18/18 Email from Katelyn Bratz saying she contacted Rep. Cody Horlacher’s office concerning funding for the SEWFRC.
- g. 1/31/18 Forward of an email from the WDNR by Jim Pindel advising the request for a diversion of Lake Michigan water by the City of Racine to supply portions of Mount Pleasant.
- h. 2/1/18 Email from Jim Pindel advising of a phone discussion with Rep. Wichgers about our funding and the need for at least 3 of us to testify before the Assembly Committee on Environment and Forestry on Tuesday 2/6/18.
- i. 2/8/18 Email from Jim Pindel advising of the testimonies before the Committee on Environment & Forestry and asking Commissioners to contact their legislators
- j. 2/10/18 Forward of an email from Rep. Wichgers concerning the testimonies
- k. 2/13/18 Forward of an email from Rep. Wichgers office that bill 911 passed the Committee on Environment & Forestry unanimously

Miscellaneous Issues –

Alan Barrows passed around a copy of the Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan which he said was hot off the presses. This plan was generated by the Waukesha County detect, prevent, outreach initiative that the SEWFRC helped to fund with \$1,000 per year for 3 years from our non-grant funds. Alan said that they worked with SEWRPC for almost a year to get this plan put together. Alan said that Jim Pindel should keep the hard copy for our records and that the report is available on the county’s website. Alan said that they have developed a special map site (AIS-GIS map) to track the locations of invasive species. This map will be continuously updated adding locations where invasive species are found and removing area where the invasive species have been eradicated.

Jim Pindel said that he sent an email to all the commissioners regarding a Wetlands initiative, which he read about in the 2/8/18 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, a scanned copy of the article was attached to the email for everyone to read. Jim proceeded to highlight what was in the article as well as a follow up article from the 2/15/18 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. The first article said that legislative bills AB547 and SB600 would allow filling of wetlands without any WDNR permits. The Wisconsin Wetlands Association has gone on record opposing the legislation. A new organization called Sportsmen for Wetlands has been created to oppose these bills. This group is distributing bumper stickers opposing the legislation. The second article provided a little more information. It pointed out that the wetlands serve as sponges soaking up rain and storm water preventing flooding. This article made the distinction between connected and isolated wetlands. Connected wetland are those connected to a navigable body of water regulated by state and federal laws, whereas isolated wetlands are not adjacent to navigable waterways and can be found as depressions, shallow marshes and meadows which are regulated by the state only. This second article went on to make a case for the fact that precipitation is increasing annually in Wisconsin making the absorption of storm water by the wetlands all the more necessary. There are approximately 1,000,000 acres of isolated wetlands and 4,000,000 acres of connected wetlands in the state. The question Jim Pindel put to the commission was should we go on record opposing or supporting these bills. It was pointed out that the bill already passed in the Assembly and would be going to the Senate soon. Chad Sampson said that in Racine County there are more isolated wetlands than connected wetlands. If these wetlands get deregulated and filled in it would seem that the flooding Burlington had this last year would probably increase by about 20%. Alan Barrows added that the present laws require you to look for alternate solutions to filling in a wetland and now this requirement would go away. Dan Treloar said that the bill was revised about 5 times and in the latest rendition it increased the size of a wetland that can be filled in on farmland. The general discussion was that we would oppose the bills but that the train has already left the station and it was too late to do anything of consequence.

It was motioned by Andrew Lois and seconded by Doug Koehler that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:09 PM

THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, April 13, 2018 at 1:00 PM. (Meeting Location: Town of Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Barb Holtz standing in for Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: No Visitors present.

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 February 16, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Alan Barrows that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Fred Koeller. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – Jim Pindel reviewed the February and March 2018 treasurer's reports. We started the month of February with \$32,444.80 in our Money Market Account. The \$10,000.00 check from Racine County for our 2018 allocation was deposited. We received \$4.98 in interest in February and \$6.06 in interest in March bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$41,988.99. The changes to the non-grant funds was the \$4.98 and \$6.06 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$32,386.05. There were no changes to the grant fund page. Jim Pindel pointed out that the \$2,035.68 in undedicated grant funds must be used up by 6/30/18. It was motioned by Bob Bartholomew and seconded by Doug Koehler that the treasurer's report should be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Progress toward obtaining funding for the SEWFRC: With the fact that Jim Pindel sent an email notice to all the commissioners last night stating that Governor Walker will sign our funding bill on Monday 4/16/18 there was no need for discussion. We all expressed our gratitude to Rep. Chuck Wichgers and Senator David Craig for their support getting this funding through. Jim Pindel and Dean Falkner will definitely attend the signing and Tom Slawski will check on his availability to go as well.
- b) Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit: Tom Slawski said that there were 144 attendees at the summit. The date for the next Summit is 3/22/2019. Tom said that the last item at the summit was an attempt to grow more collaboration and sharing among the different organizations present, especially across the Wisconsin – Illinois border. Tom said that Joe Keller of the Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois was present but that he did not have a chance to talk with him. Tom thought that this might be the time to approach the FWA about cooperating on some projects that would be mutually beneficial to both of our groups. Tom thought that possibly a joint 9-Key Elements Plan or some shoreline restoration in the area he just surveyed near the Illinois border might be possibilities. Tom said we have formed subcommittees before to address particular objectives and maybe this would be a good task for a subcommittee. Dean Falkner said that a simple phone call to get things started might be in order. Jim Pindel asked if all the presentations from this year's summit will be posted on a website accessible to all of us. Tom said they are in the process of getting the presentation posted and would notify Jim Pindel when they are ready along with a link or directions on how to find the presentations.
- c) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he had not visited the site since 2/20/18 when the ground was frozen and he wanted to see if there was any runoff or ice damage. Barb Holtz said that she drove by the site today and that it looked very good and you could see quite a difference between it and the next door site that has not been improved. Alan said that he had talked to Ron Peterson the director of public works for the Village of Mukwonago who told him that Alex the owner of the 100' section next to the WE Energies property was interested in getting his property fixed up as well. This is likely a new project for our future. Jim Pindel asked about how much Alan thought the project would cost and Alan said about \$150/linear foot, so \$15,000 for the 100' section, which would be very doable.
- d) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present, so Jim Pindel stated that the problem they are facing is how to handle the ammonium/ammonia in the sediment. Jim said that they are looking into a method EPA 1313 which is used to adjust the PH of the sediment to remove metals. They are looking at modifying this process to change the ammonium to ammonia and then how to dissipate the ammonia. There are a number of parallel paths being pursued to get to a final conclusion. Jim also said that there is effort going on to see if the sediment can be used to be spread about 3" thick on farm

fields and along roadways by the DOT. This option would not require the nonhazardous waste exemption.

- e) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he has all the information from the City of Waukesha and needs to process it. He also said that he intends to contact Sara DeBruijn to see if he can meet with her to close out this and several other projects.
- f) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said that he sent a request to Jim Pindel asking him to pay the contractor for his work. Jim said he didn't recall any request or making any payment. Both Alan and Jim said they would check on it.
- g) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Fred Koeller said that the project was completed and Jim Pindel said that he had to close it out with Sara DeBruijn of the WDNR.
- h) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski said that SEWRPC has made some progress. Tom said that it is their intension to incorporate the 19 high priority sites from the Graef study in 2014 with the sites Tom has identified in the lower stretch of the river. When they are finished their will be only one list of priority sites for our entire jurisdiction. Tom said he has studied Graef's prioritization methodology, which takes in stream bank height, slope and other relative criteria and will add proximity to infrastructure (roadways and bridges) to the methodology. The idea here is that erosion and streambank restoration is more important where people see or experience it than it is out in the middle of nowhere. Tom said at next month's meeting he will show us the sites he uncovered in the lower stretch of the river that need attention. Tom said that they will be using a tool called STEPL which can be used to determine streambank erosion with phosphorus and sediment loading. Then we can use this data to measure the load reductions of our work. Tom thought that having this data might make it possible for additional funding from other sources within the watershed. Dean Falkner pointed out that the Fox River is listed on the 303D list as noncompliant due to high phosphorus concentrations and everyone is contending with the sediment. Dean thought we should use this new data to try to bring the river into compliance. Dean said that we should be grateful to the state for defining the phosphorus limit, since now we have another reason to stop the erosion that is to get into compliance. Tom asked Fred Koeller what is the Village of Waterford's intent regarding the island just downstream of the Waterford dam. Fred said that it is used by fishermen and by kids just playing in the summer. The Village is even thinking about building a bridge from the shore to the island to gain greater access. Fred went on to say that during high water events like last summer's flood the water rushes through is area and the island obstructs the flow protecting the east shore from the fast currents. The east shore is where we just completed the shoreline restoration project. Fred also pointed out that the existing island experiences erosion in these high flow events and that

the small island that used to be next to it was completely washed away during the flood event. Dean Falkner pointed out that the monitoring they do showed the highest levels of phosphorus ever recorded downstream when the small island washed away.

- i) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that he talked to the contractor this morning and he said that the 2+ inches of rain predicted for this weekend will probably delay his start by a couple weeks. Chad said that the contractor wants to get the project done and it should be completed within the next 2 months.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that there is a subcommittee meeting planned for 4/19/18. Dean said that there has been good representation from the counties and the WDNR. Dean said that right now they are focused on technical questions and expects that they will be coming to the commission soon with a request for funding. Alan Barrows said that he printed out a copy of the meeting agenda and passed it around so that everyone could see it.
- b) Village of Mukwonago applying for UNPS & SW grant for the Village Pond. Dean Falkner said that the Village has applied for a WDNR grant to do some work on their pond to increase its retention capacity and they are looking to us for a letter of support to increase their chances of receiving the grant. Jim Pindel motioned that we empower Dean Falkner to write and submit this letter of support which was agreed upon unanimously. Dean also pointed out that this is an example of someone getting grand funds from someone other than us.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – No one from the FWA was present and Jeff Lang said that he has not be able to attend any of their meetings. Dean Falkner said that he talked to Joe Keller of the FWA at the Fox River Summit and that Joe was interested in finding some way of capturing sediment as it flows down the river before it reaches the Fox Waterway. Jim Pindel said that he had studied “sediment traps” on the internet and that there are diagrams and examples of manmade sediment traps. Jim also pointed out that as part of the dredging project planned for the Waterford impoundment; they noticed that there is a naturally occurring sediment trap at the north end of Conservancy Bay in the impoundment. The intent is to dredge out this natural sediment trap and allow it to do its work catching sediment before it flows into the impoundment. Clearly the sediment trap will require maintenance cleaning (dredging) periodically. Dean pointed out that a sediment trap might be a place where we can work in cooperation with the FWA to get special funding to help

the entire Fox River waterway.

- 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 said that he had a report from Barbara Messick which pointed out that the two co-chairs of the Water Trail initiative made a presentation at the Fox River Summit last month, which was well accepted. The next meeting of the core development group will be held 5/2/18 and will be attended by Matt Kina who is experienced in water trails and water trail materials. They will discuss its logo and printed marketing and education materials. This work is being supported by the WDNR surface waters grant that Tom Slawski applied for. Tom Slawski said that the work they are doing now is a precursor to the online web portal they will develop for trip planning and recreational availability.
- d) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora was not present and Jim Pindel said that he received an email from Andy Buehler saying that our website has not been updated to include Kenosha County and all the new municipal members. Jim passed this on to Al Sikora along with a current list of commissioners and that Al has updated the website accordingly. Barb Holtz pointed out that on the first page of the website it lists only Racine and Waukesha counties. Jim Pindel pointed out that there is some other minor clean up that needs to be done. For example, the website says “how to apply for a project” and it more accurately should state “how to apply for funding for your project”. Jim Pindel said he would review the website and advise Al of anything that might need adjusting. Everyone agreed that Al is doing a great job and at no charge to us.

Correspondence –

- a. 2/20/18 Email from Jim Pindel to Mark your Calendars for today’s meeting.
- b. 2/22/18 Forward of email correspondence between Dean Falkner and Linsey Slater of WISN 12 TV concerning what the SEWFRC is doing for flood control. Dean pointed out we are not focused on flood control.
- c. 3/6/18 Received three copies of MoU between Racine County and SEWFRC for the \$10,000 allocation in the 2018 Racine County budget. Signed all three and mailed to signed copies back to the County.
- d. 3/7/18 Email from Tom Slawski advising of the Chloride Study that SEWRPC is starting this spring.
- e. 3/13/18 Email from Jim Pindel advising the status of our bill for funding. The bill passed in the senate committee and now needs to be passed on the senate floor.
- f. 3/15/18 Forward of an email response from Senator David Craig showing his support for our bill for funding.
- g. 3/19/18 Email from Tom Slawski asking us to take a survey to be used at the upcoming Summit.

- h. 3/21/18 Received \$10,000 check from Racine County for our 2018 allocation and deposited it into our Money Market Account.
- i. 3/21/18 Email from Jim Pindel advising the status of our bill for funding. All that remains is for Governor Walker to sign the bill.
- j. 3/24/18 Email from Jim Pindel to Rep. Chuck Wichgers concerning the bill which will allow filling in of wetlands without the need for a WDNR permit and the potential effect this could have on flooding such as we experienced last year in Burlington.
- k. 3/26/18 Email from Andy Buehler notifying us that our website needs to be updated to include Kenosha County and its municipalities.
- l. 3/31/18 Email from Dean Falkner providing the status of the 9-Key Elements Plan sub-committee.
- m. 4/2/18 Forward of email correspondence between Dean Falkner and Perry Lindquist of Waukesha County regarding our 9-Key Elements Plan and an attempt to hire a consultant to address nutrient loading.
- n. 4/12/18 Email from Jim Pindel stating that Governor Walker will sign our funding bill on Monday 4/16/18.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Rachel Sabre pointed out that she has put together a project for this coming summer focused on the middle Fox River working in conjunction with the 9-Key Elements subcommittee. She has chosen 5 HUC-12 areas, 3 of which are along the Fox River for her study. The project will do assessments on the tributaries that flow into the Fox River. Rachel said she just finished up her upper Fox River watershed report and that in a few years when the entire Fox River watershed has been assessed there will be an overall report covering the Fox River Watershed. Jim Pindel asked what is included in the assessment and Rachel said that they start with a fisheries sample on each site; she will be sampling and 15 to 25 sites in the middle Fox River area. They will do water quality assessment including phosphorus levels, conductivity, dissolved oxygen levels, temperature, PH, flow and habitat assessment. Barb Holtz asked if these reports are available online and Rachel said they will be. Jim Pindel asked who is funding this project and Rachel said that it is part of the WDNR's targeted watershed assessment.

Chad Sampson said that he has concerns about the new bill AB547 that was signed into law. He said he is receiving a lot of calls from farmers and developers who want to fill in isolated wetlands and are looking for guidelines. Chad said that the WDNR has not developed new guidelines yet and so Racine County is holding to the old existing guidelines. Chad called Racine County the pothole (wetland) capital of the state and that for example if the farm fields around Burlington which are now connected to the Fox River through tiles are filled in, then this water will have to run along the surface increasing the flood potential.

Chad brought up another topic saying that there is a farmer group in Racine County called the Watershed Protection Committee that has applied for a grant last fall. Chad said that he is financial guy and liaison with the county for this group. Some of the areas

the group is working on cross over into our jurisdiction. Chad said he would provide a map for our next meeting to show where they are in our area of jurisdiction. The \$13,000 grant they received to do cover crops, which is a new trend in soil and erosion control. The grant funds will also be used for creating some buffers along the Fox River and some of its tributaries. Due to a bill that Governor Walker signed last week, this groups funding has increased from \$13,000 last year to \$40,000 this year. This larger amount of money has gotten more farmers interested. Chad said that there are 7 or 8 farmers who have contacted them that have never planted cover crops before. Chad said that the only down side to the cover crops is that in the spring time the cover crops can keep the ground cold longer and may delay planting for a week. Chad said that the main up side to the cover crops is over time the soil and water retention increasing the farm field yield. They are trying to show that the economics of the cover crops equal the benefits. Chad said that he wants this committee to make a presentation at next year's Summit to get the word out on the advantages of cover crops. Jim Pindel asked if cover crops are only used in the winter and Chad said no, the idea is to keep the fields green, that is covered, all year around. Chad said that they are having a field day this fall in Waterford where a farmer has 3 different cover crops planted and we can see how it is coming along and gain from his experiences. Bob Bartholomew said that he has been doing cover crops for the last 5 years on his farm. Bob said he usually uses oats and sometimes it is whatever is left over and it works well. Bob also said that everyone is watching to see the results. Alan Barrows said that he thought that our commission should fund cover crops. There is some risk, for example if the crop doesn't grow and that if we cost shared for cover crops it should give farmers an extra incentive to try it.

It was motioned by Ken Miller and seconded by Bob Bartholomew that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:13 PM

THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, May 18, 2018 at 1:00 PM. (Meeting Location: Town of Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Don Baron of the WWMD.

At 1:06 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.

Jim Pindel announced that Francis Stadler is retiring from the commission and that the Village of Big Bend has appointed a new commissioner and an alternate commissioner. Jim said that he thanked Francis for his years of service to the commission and wished him well for the rest of his life.

Minutes The minutes from the April 13, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Jeff Lang that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Fred Koeller. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Reports – Jim Pindel reviewed the April 2018 treasurer's reports. We started the month of April with \$42,450.86 in our Money Market Account. There was one payment of \$37.46 to pay for business cards for our chairman Dean Falkner. We received \$6.97 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$42,420.37. The changes to the non-grant funds was the \$6.97 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$32,393.02. Jim Pindel noted that during his explanation of the treasurer's report he noticed that he had not subtracted the \$37.46 from the non-grant funds and so the report will have to be corrected. There were no changes to the grant

fund page. Jim Pindel pointed out that the \$2,035.68 in undedicated grant funds which had to be used up by 6/30/18, no longer had this deadline because we received a one year extension on ENUM- 20. It was motioned by Alan Barrows and seconded by Doug Koehler that the treasurer's report as amended should be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit: Tom Slawski said that he is still waiting for a couple of checks to clear so he can finalize the reimbursement documentation. Tom said he should have the documentation ready by our next meeting. Jim Pindel asked how the final costs stacked up against the budget and Tom said it was close and probably a little under budget. Dean Falkner asked Tom to address the idea of collaborative work among organizations within the Fox River Partnership. Tom said that one of the outcomes of the last Summit was an initiative to get groups together to help each other get work or projects done in a cooperative manner. This would be in addition to the networking that goes on at the Summits. Tom said that one of the problems they are addressing is finding out who all the groups are that work in our watershed. Tom pointed out that one of these groups is iFROG of which Donny Hefty is a member. Tom said that once all the interested groups are identified it might lead to a separate one day meeting of these groups from throughout the entire watershed.
- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he visited the site recently and the site was greening up nicely. He said that a he didn't see any weakness issues. Alan said that an irrigation hose and generator that had been left on site have been removed, so we are closing down the construction phase of the project and all that remains is maintenance which goes to the end of June. Alan said that overall everything looks good.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: Don Baron said that they are continuing to work on the ammonia issue so that they can obtain their Low Hazardous Waste Exemption (LHWE). Don said that the funds provided by our commission (\$20,520) is appreciated but they have gone way over the expected costs. One of the unforeseen costs was the investigation of using Waste Management Corp. to do the entire project but that came out to be way too expensive. Don requested that the commission provide any help they could to help with the overrun. Jim Pindel motioned that the funds remaining in ENUM-20 which presently amounts to \$2,035.68 be applied to the cost overrun of this project. The motion was seconded by Jeff Lang and passed unanimously. Chad Sampson pointed out that there is a dredging operation going on in the Yahara River in Madison and asked if the WWMD had inquired to see how they handled getting a LHWE and disposed of their sediment. Don Said that he thought that Graef had talked to them in this regard. Jeff Lang said that the town of Burlington is being approached by several contractors to see if the town could accept a large quantity of top soil that will be removed from the Foxcom

construction site. Jeff wondered if our sediment could be combined with this top soil to make a desirable and useful soil.

On a different topic, Don said that the WWMD has organized a meeting with officials from the Governor's office, Paul Ryan's office, the state legislature, the county, the DOT, the town and the village where they will present their case for getting funding for the dredging project. The dredging project will not only benefit the riparian owners but also everyone in southeastern Wisconsin who uses and enjoys the Fox River and the Waterford impoundment. They will be looking for anyway anyone can help by providing trucking, disposal sites or whatever.

- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that there is only one thing missing and that is for someone to sign off on the Construction and Planting Certification which certifies that the project is complete and finished to the satisfaction of the project sponsor. A copy of the certification was given by Jim Pindel to Doug Koehler so that it could be completed and sent back to him. Doug said that he recently drove past the site and all the planting that went in last fall seem to be coming up just fine. There is water in the rain garden, so everything seems to be working fine.
- e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said that all the required documentation had been given to Jim Pindel. Jim asked if a Construction and Planting Certification had been filled out and Alan said that he didn't remember doing one, but will provide one to Jim. Jim Pindel went on to say that he talked to Sara DeBruijn this morning and told her he would like to meet with her later next week to review and close out this and three other projects.
- f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Fred Koeller said that the only thing that they need is the check from us to finish the project. Jim Pindel pointed out that a Construction and Planting Certification form needed to be filled out and one was provided to Fred.
- g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski started by asking if anyone knew the whereabouts of the CD's that were provided by Graef Eng. for the survey of the upper Fox River back in 2014. Jim Pindel stated that he sent out an email just after our last meeting asking everyone if they had a copy of the CD and no one responded. Alan Barrows said that he thought that he had a copy and would check and provide it to Tom if he has it. Tom Slawski said that he could not find it on our website and Rachael Sabre said that she has a link which takes you to the report on our website. Jim Pindel said that he was fairly certain that Al Sikora has one copy of the CD. Tom said that the Graef report identified 19 sites of high priority erosion areas. Tom said that one of the sites didn't have much erosion but Graef recommended a grass buffer. Five of the site exhibited streambank erosion and also required buffers. Tom said that Graef's survey covered a 1000' corridor on each side of the main stem of the river. Within that corridor Graef studied the soils and erosion rates. Tom said he is

looking at integrating Graef's survey with his survey. Tom said that when he looked at aerial maps of the survey area, Graef surveyed, there are more than five sites where the river encroaches on agricultural land. Tom provided a map that showed the entire Fox River watershed from Lannon, WI to the Illinois border. The map also highlighted the area covered by the first survey in 2014 and the second survey in 2017. Tom also provided a map that showed soil slopes on cultivated lands outlining the corridor of either 1000' of the shoreline or the FEMA floodway whichever is greater. The map has color coded areas depicting slopes of less than 2%, slopes from 2% to 6%, slopes of 6% to 12% and slope greater than 12%. This particular graphic makes it easy to see where the greatest potential for erosion exists. Tom then provided a table and bar chart showing the number of sloped parcels in each of the three counties Waukesha, Racine and Kenosha. Tom said that for Racine and Kenosha Counties we have 2015 land use data but for Waukesha County we only have 2010 land use data. Tom pointed out that the total acreage is greatest in Waukesha County but there is much more agricultural land in Racine and Kenosha Counties. Tom said that with the assistance of Chad Sampson, Alan Barrows and either Dan Treloar or Andy Buehler, we could identify the locations of the most urgent erosion sites. Tom said that these sites would be locations where cover crops or filter strips could be employed. Tom pointed out that this is only map 8 of many maps covering the entire main stream corridor; Tom said he would email all the maps as attachments to Jim Pindel who could then redistribute the maps to the whole commission. Tom asked if the county with the assistance of the commission could help finance cover crops and Chad Sampson said that the county does not have funds for that but the farmers group he talked about at our last meeting has \$35,000 they can use to help finance cover crops. Fred Koeller asked if the drainage district could fund cover crops and Chad said that he thought that they could more likely cover permanent grass buffers. Tom said that he was looking to the commission to go ahead and identify and prioritize the most critical sites and Jim Pindel pointed out that this prioritization was one of the deliverables required from the survey. Jeff Lang asked if he could summarize or at least state what has been discussed so that we are all clear on this issue. Jeff said that we would be approaching land owners identified by red or green or blue areas on Tom's maps to see if they would be willing to address the erosion issue on their land with cover crops or filter strips with the financial assistance of the commission. Jeff thought that this would be a valuable use of our time and funding.

Fred Koeller asked if anyone could bequeath money to the commission in their will giving us another revenue stream. Jim Pindel responded by saying that the statutes that form us tell us to solicit funds from wherever possible to accomplish our directives. Fred said that there are people who live or lived on the river that have an appreciation for what it provides and might be willing to bequeath some money to us. It was agreed by all that this was a worthy idea and should be pursued, most likely through our website.

Back to the agenda, Alan Barrows asked if the maps could be modified to show the flood way because sites within the flood way should get greater priority since they will wash away in high water conditions.

- h) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that he talked to the contractor last Tuesday and that he has been pushed back a week or two and expects to do the work the last week of May or the first week on June. Chad said that the contractor is still under the understanding that the work must be completed by June 15th to get funding from the commission. None of us was aware of the extension to EMUN-20 until today. Chad said he expects the project to be completed by our next meeting.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that the subcommittee has been meeting and deciding exactly what they want to do.
- b) Review of the Preliminary 2018 – 2019 SEWFRC Budget: Jim Pindel started by saying he email a copy of the budget worksheet to all the commissioners prior to the meeting so they would have a chance to review it. Copies of the worksheet and Proposed Budget were provided to all the commissioners so they could follow along. Review of the non-grant funds started with the carry over into 2018 added the Racine County allocation and estimated money market interest resulting in a net non-grant income of \$42,686.63. The review of non-grant expenses actual and estimated came to \$15,145.82. The grant income simply came down to the \$200,000 in EMUN-20 and the anticipated \$100,000 grant funds from the state per AB911. Review of the grant expenses showed a typo on the parking lot and sidewalk salting workshop which should have been \$2,462.32 instead of \$24,645.32. Jim Pindel said that he would correct the spreadsheet and revise the results accordingly. During the review of individual county expenses, Katelyn Bratz noticed that the charge to Racine and Waukesha counties was 1/3 of the total for the summit instead of 1/2 since these two counties needed to share to total cost for 2017. Again Jim Pindel said he would make the corrections and revise the results accordingly. Jim Pindel said reviewing the Anticipated Potential Grant Fund Projects for the counties that he emailed Andy Buehler of Kenosha County asking him to review the list for Kenosha County and advise him of any changes. Chad Sampson said that all of the projects listed for Racine County were still alive and there were a few more he could add and will advise Jim Pindel. Alan Barrows said that he was fine with the projects listed for Waukesha County. We looked over the Proposed Budget for 2018-2019 prepared by Jim Pindel and agreed upon the stated date of 6/22/18 for our next meeting with public hearing. It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Fred Koeller that the proposed budget be accepted with the corrections noted during today's meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
Jim Pindel said that he had a discussion with Sara DeBruijn this morning and Sara

indicated that she didn't think she or the WDNR would be involved in monitoring our grant funds from now on. She said that we are not really receiving grants but actual funding from the state budget. Jim said that he liked the fact that there will not be this additional paperwork but did appreciate that fact that the WDNR reviewed his numbers to make sure there were no mistakes. Katelyn Bratz volunteered to review the projects for accuracy and Alan Barrows said he would help to generate a project checklist that we could use to make sure everything was in order, if needed. Racheal Sabre asked if the WDNR still had to be involved and attend our meetings. Jim Pindel said that the state statute states that the WDNR must provide an Ex officio member to the commission and as of now that is her.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – No one from the FWA was present and neither Jeff Lang nor Tom Slawski had anything to report.
- 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 said that the Illinois-Wisconsin volunteers data collection was progressing with the Wisconsin side being much more complete. Fred said that they have had some preliminary discussions of budget and were looking to the WDNR for some grant funds. The Illinois convention and visitors bureau said that they will not be able to provide any funding but would support the water trail through their visitors bureau. Tom Slawski added that they are developing the contract with Map-Hero who will do the database generation for the water trail. Tom went on to say that they are putting together a schedule of when they will get everything done. Fred Koeller said that the National Water Trail initiative is marking its 50th year and that the present administration has not made water trails a priority. So they are starting an initiative to get people to pressure the Department of Interior to process our National Water Trail application. Fred said that at Canoecopia and the Fox River Summit there was a lot of interest in the water trail and if we are successful Wisconsin will be the only state with two National Water Trails. Fred said that all the Wisconsin legislators are on board and that he didn't think that all of the Illinois legislators were on board yet. Their next meeting will be on June 13th in Waterford.
- d) SEWFRC Website –No one had any comments

Correspondence –

- a. 4/17/18 Email from Jim Pindel to mark your calendars for today's meeting.
- b. 4/17/18 Email from Jim Pindel asking if anyone knows the whereabouts of the 3 paper copies and the 3 DVD's of the Graef survey report from 2014.
- c. 5/7/18 Forward of email from Rep. Chuck Wichgers' staff stating that we do not have to abide by the RBA regulations and no time limits on the new grant funding from AB911.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Jim Pindel brought along a copy for Wisconsin's Blue Book and pointed out that in this book it includes write ups or descriptions of organizations similar to us and wondered if we shouldn't be included. Jim said we should pursue it if it helps us insure that no one tries to have our funding removed from the state budget.

It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Chad Sampson that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:46 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING (with Public Hearing)
WILL BE Friday, June 22, 2018 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting
Location: Town of Vernon Fire Station #1, W233 S7475
Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Michelle Clark (Village of Big Bend)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Becca Alonge of the Village of Mukwonago and Dan Treloar of Kenosha County.

At 1:01 PM, 6/22/18, Chairman Dean Falkner called the Public Hearing to order.

The only order of business was the review of the Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission Proposed Budget for 2018 - 2019. This is the second budget based on a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year. For the record Jim Pindel stated that the notice of Public Hearing and the Proposed Budget was published in the 3 newspapers of record, namely the Waukesha Freeman, the Racine Journal Times and the Kenosha News. The proposed budget was read for the record. Chairman Dean Falkner then asked the non-commission members present if they had any questions or comments. Dean then asked the public a second and third time if anyone wanted to speak in favor or against the proposed budget. There were no comments from the Public concerning the budget. It was then motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Fred Koeller that the public meeting be closed and so the meeting was closed.

The Public Hearing was closed at 1:09 PM.

1. At 1:09 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

3. **Approval of the 2018 – 2019 SEWFRC Proposed Budget.** It was motioned by Alan Barrows and seconded by Jeff Lang that the proposed budget be approved for the next fiscal year. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Minutes** The minutes from the May 18, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Donny Hefty that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Doug Koehler. The minutes were approved unanimously.
5. **Treasurer Reports** – Jim Pindel reviewed the May 2018 treasurer’s reports. We started the month of May with \$42,420.37 in our Money Market Account. We received \$9.01 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$42,423.38. The change to the non-grant funds was the \$9.01 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$32,364.57. There were no changes to the grant fund page except that the \$2,035.68 in undedicated grant funds left in ENUM-20 were assigned to the WWMD ESR disposal site environmental impact project bringing that project to \$22,555.68. It was motioned by Fred Koeller and seconded by Bob Bartholomew that the treasurer’s report be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Election of Officers:** No one volunteered to take any of the Officer positions. Jim Pindel stated that someone should think about taking over his position of Secretary and Treasurer because he eventually will give it up. It was motioned by Jeff Lang to nominate the present officers to retain their positions and the motion was seconded by Alan Barrows. Jeff Lang motioned to close the nominations and then a vote was taken which re-elected the present officers unanimously.

Old Business

- a) **Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit:** Tom Slawski was not present and Jim Pindel added that this last week he received from Tom all the documentation required for this reimbursement and that Jim had completed the 8700-001 form to make the documentation complete. Jim said he will present this documentation to Sara DeBruijn for approval along with a number of other projects that need to be approved. Dean Falkner said that one of the things that came out of the last summit was an attempt to establish cooperation among the different organizations in attendance and the first planned meeting of interested parties will be held on 7/12/18.
- b) **Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site.** Alan Barrows said that he visited the site several times and that everything looks great. Alan said that he believes that there is one more invoice to be paid when the contractor finished the included maintenance at the end of June. When this happens, Alan will do a final inspection of the site, Jim Pindel will receive a bill from the contractor and Alan will provide a Construction and Planting Certification form.

- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present. Jim Pindel reported that sediment samples were obtained a few weeks ago and sent to two different labs to see if they could do anything to get the ammonia out of solution with the sediment. The one lab by a vendor with a proprietary solution said that their method did not work on the sediment samples. The second lab which is investigating the increasing of the PH of the sediment to get the ammonia out of solution was still working on the process. Jim said that all this work is being done to try to obtain a Non-Hazardous Waste Exemption so that the dewatered sediment can be used for agriculture and DOT projects as well as deposited largely in the Super Mix gravel pit. Jeff Lang said that the Town of Burlington was approached by Graef Eng. to see if they could identify farmers who would take the dewatered sediment and spread it on their farm fields. Chad Sampson said that Super Mix has recently resubmitted their reclamation plan for their properties on the north and south sides of SHW 20. Chad said that these conditional use permits have to be resubmitted every two years.
- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he emailed Melissa Philips and Dave Burch saying that the documentation that he has only covers about \$14,000 which is well short of the \$25,000 we allocated to this project. Jim said that both Melissa and Dave Burch said they will provide additional documentation.
- e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said that since our last meeting he provided the Construction and Planting Certification to Jim Pindel via email. Alan said that he talked to the Park foreman this week and he said everything is looking great. Alan said that this is another application of the Native Vegetative Mat which is pregrown and applied like sod. Alan said he would recommend this product to anyone and its rate of success is very high. Dean Falkner pointed out that when he has visited the site the goose population is down considerably. Alan also stated that they have removed a concession stand and shower room because they were outdated. Alan said that plans are in the making to replace the concession stand and shower room sometime in the future.
- f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Fred Koeller said that he provided the Construction and Planting Certification to Jim Pindel before the meeting and this should be the last of the documentation that is required.
- g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski was not present so no report was made.
- h) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that because of all the rain we have been getting the contraction is way behind schedule. The land owner is getting impatient because he wants to put in his pier and wants to do it after the shoreline is fixed. As it turns out they made an agreement between the County, the land owner and the contractor that the work will be put off until late in the summer season. The fact that ENUM-20 was extended to 6/30/19 makes

this delay possible.

New Business

- a) **Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan** – For the sake of those who might not be aware our efforts in this regard, Dean Falkner said that the subcommittee has been meeting and deciding exactly what they want to do. Dean said that they have the WDNR working with them on this plan and Alan Barrows is mapping all the locations of nonpoint source pollution along the river. Dean passed out copies of a list of 21 different locations on the Fox River showing the location the average level of phosphorus at the location and when the data was taken. Dean said that the WDNR lists the Fox River as noncompliant because of the high concentration of phosphorus in the water. The table Dean passed out shows that the river is indeed above the limit of 0.1 mg/liter but it does also show that in many locations it is very near to being compliant. So the remediation efforts that we will be proposing could very well bring the Fox River into compliance.
- b) **Riverside Dr. Launch**: Fred Koeller provided an aerial map of the area being considered for the new boat launch. Fred said that the Village has one small launch but no access for pedestrians to the water. The Village owns 359' of shoreline north of the Village hall and is considering buying an additional 150' on the north end of the existing property. This land is along N. Jefferson St. Fred said that at the existing boat launch there are only 8 boat trailer locations for parking but at the new proposed launch there would be enough parking for 48 boat trailers along Danielson St. The Village needs initial concept planning funds to determine how to best utilize the site to stabilize the shoreline and make sure the site is in compliance with all WDNR regulations. Fred said that the Village estimates that it will take \$6000 to \$7000 to do this planning and is looking to the commission for \$3000 to get the planning going. Fred was told that in order for us to follow our standard operating practices we would wait for our next meeting to vote on whether to fund this planning project. Fred said that they are thinking about providing a swimming beach and a separate small pier for small boats, kayaks and canoes. Fred also pointed out that the area just across the river from this location was a thriving recreational, privately owned area around the turn of the century. There are pictures available of this site from that time showing the swimming beaches and water slides. Fred was asked to make a motion at our next meeting to provide the funding and at that time we would review the Project Acceptance Criteria and vote on whether to accept the project for funding or not. Chad Sampson asked if this project had be presented to the Village or Town's planning committees and Fred said it hasn't been yet but certainly will have to be.

Reports and Updates

- a) **Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois** – No one from the FWA was present and Jeff Lang said that they are very busy working under

- high water conditions. Just like the WWMD they are looking for locations to place the dredged material. Jim Pindel asked Jeff the next time he meets with the FWA to ask them how they handled the ammonia situation in their sediment. Dean Falkner asked Jeff to let him know when the next FWA board meeting would be because he would like to attend and get to know them better. Jeff said that the next scheduled board meeting will be July 27th.
- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: Doug Koehler said that engineering continues on finding piping routes for the water. Dean Falkner said that he has concerns about what will happen when the discharge from the water purification plant is diverted away from the Fox River. Even though you would expect the amount of phosphorus to increase when the river is high and flow is up because of the washing out of the stream banks, the historical data shows that the phosphorus levels decrease with increased flows.
- c) Progress toward designation as a “National Water Trail” – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that the committee met on June 13th and the bulk of the meeting was concerned with how they would use the grant funds provided by the WDNR. They met with someone for Map Hero who discussed a logo for the water trail as well as pamphlets, literature and internet portals. A timeline was established and Map Hero is working on the deliverables. The logo was made the highest priority because it will be used across all forms of communication. They will be looking for funding for printing costs which are not part of the WDNR grant. Their web portal will be incorporated in the Fox River Partnership website. Tom Slawski is the direct line of communication with Map Hero. Fred said that Illinois is compiling all their data at this time. On the Wisconsin side there is a need to collect data from Waukesha down to Captain Missy’s near the iron bridge in Waterford.
- d) SEWFRC Website –No one had any comments but Alan Barrows said that two people asked him how to apply for grant funds from us and he showed them how to find it on our website.

Correspondence –

- a. 5/22/18 Email from Jim Pindel to mark your calendars for today’s meeting.
- b. 5/22/18 Email from Jim Pindel with attachment of revised (fixed) 2018-2019 SEWFRC Budget worksheet and revised subsequent budget for publication.
- c. 6/11/18 Forward of Email from Tom Slawski with attachments of the report he made at the 5/18/18 FRC meeting.
- d. 6/22/18 Forward of email response from Mike Havey (Rep. Chuck Wichgers’ staff) regarding how we get our funding from AB911.

Miscellaneous Issues – There were no miscellaneous issues.

It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Doug Koehler that the meeting be closed.
The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 1:55 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday
August 3, 2018 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Town of Vernon
Fire Station #1, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI
53103.)

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Jon Grove (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Michelle Clark (Village of Big Bend)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Don Barron and Dave Spurlock of the WWMD.

1. At 1:05 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.
3. **Minutes** The minutes from the June 22, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Jeff Lang that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Fred Koeller. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer Reports** – Jim Pindel reviewed the June and July 2018 treasurer's reports. We started the month of June with \$42,429.38 in our Money Market Account. We made payments of \$458.80 to the Waukesha Freeman, \$1000 to the Waukesha AIS activity we are supporting from non-grant funds and \$129.95 to Bella Mia for our website hosting. We received \$8.59 in June interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$40,849.22. We started July with \$40,849.22. We made payments of \$208.01 to Racine Journal Times, \$572.16 to the Kenosha News and \$182.50 to reimburse the five commissioners who attended the Fox River Summit \$36.30 each. Resulting in a Money Market Balance at the end of July of \$39,896.43. The change to the non-grant funds was the \$8.59 in interest in June and \$9.88 in interest in July resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$31,576.40. There were no changes to the grant fund page. During the treasurers report review it was noticed that the non-grant funds

to pay for the Kenosha News was not reported. It was motioned by Fred Koeller that the treasurers report amended to include the Kenosha New payments in the non-grant funds be added and seconded by Donny Hefty that the treasurer's report be approved as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Fox River Partnership 2018 Summit: Tom Slawski was not present and Dean Falkner stated that there has been an effort to get various organizations within the overall Fox River Watershed in Wisconsin and Illinois together to collaborate. The first meeting of this group will be held on 8/24/18 in an effort to share ideas.
- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he visited the site but was not able to visit it from the project side because WE Energies has the property gated off. Alan said he will need access to the property to certify it and he said he is waiting for the one last final invoice from the contractor Applied Ecological Services. Alan said that he emailed them asking for the invoice. Alan said that he has been approached by several citizens who commented on how beautiful the site looks. Alan said that all the flowers are in bloom and the bags used to stabilize the shoreline can no longer be seen because the native plantings have grown up and hide the bags. Alan pointed out that they used plugs rather than seeds to grow the native plants. Dean Falkner asked if they used the same bags and plugs on the Mukwonago Park shoreline restoration project and Alan said that they did. However Alan said that he found that they didn't provide a place for people's dogs to access the river and so the vegetation has taken a beating from the dogs running over it.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: Don Barron said that they had a conference call with the WDNR last Thursday and the conclusion was that they cannot use the Super Mix site to hold all the dredged materials because they cannot get the ammonia levels down to where the WDNR requires it to be. Don said that they tried several methods to try to get the ammonia level down to an acceptable level but none of them worked. Don said that Graef Eng. has been talking to agricultural experts looking into spreading the sediment on farm fields. They are considering applying 1 to 2 inches of sediment on the fields and they would require about 1200 acres over a 6 to 8 year time frame. Don said that they are considering a pilot project where they would dredge 25,000 cubic yards of sediment as a proof of process and to demonstrate how the spread sediment will enhance farm fields. Don said that some of the 25000 cubic yards would be dredged from the sediment trap on the north end of Conservancy Bay, so that the trap could collect new sediment coming down the river before it gets into the impoundment. Don said that the pilot project would be in the spring of 2019 and that actual dredging project would start in 2020. Dave Spurlock then spoke saying that his ESR funding committee is meeting with the Racine County Executive and his management team on 8/9/18. Also attending the meeting will be Rep. Chuck Wichgers, Senator David Craig and

someone to represent the WDNR. The object of the meeting is to go over the finalized plan and to review the economic and environmental impact and look for funding help. Dave said that they are looking for a county grant to fund this project. Dave said that a study by UW Whitewater showed that there is a 16% to 18% decline in economic activity due to the decline in the condition of the Fox River. There are also impacts to property values and of course to the environment itself.

Don finished by saying that they are investigating somehow utilizing the dredging equipment of the FWA of Illinois during their down times.

- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he received all the documents he needed and submitted the paperwork for reimbursement to Sara DeBruijn at the WDNR.
- e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said that he had nothing to report and Jim Pindel said that he has submitted all the paperwork for reimbursement.
- f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Jim Pindel said that he has completed all the paperwork and submitted it to the WDNR for reimbursement. Dean Falkner told Fred Koeller that his group had tested the water at the East Shore location and the phosphorus and suspended solids counts were up significantly. Fred said he wasn't aware of anything that should have contributed to these increases but would check into it. Fred did say that he noticed more algae and lily pads in certain places in that area.
- g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski was not present so no report was made. Jim Pindel pointed out that he heard from Al Sikora that he had a copy of the CD of the Graef survey that Tom was looking for. Jim thought that Tom arranged to get the CD from Al.
- h) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Jon Grove said that the land owner had to apply for an extension on his county permit and that the construction should happen after Labor Day.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that Alan Barrows had put together a map showing the source of non-point source pollution along the river. Dean said that he was waiting for Racheal Sabre to review Dean's assessment of phosphorus concentrations along the river hopefully before our next meeting. At that point we should be able to identify where is the phosphorus coming from and what are the concentrations along the river.

- b) **Riverside Dr. Launch:** Jim Pindel pointed out that at our last meeting Fred Koeller made a presentation which included a description of the project including an aerial map that showed the location and extent of the project. Jim said that at this point we need to run through the Project Acceptance Criteria to see if the proposed project meets our requirements. After reviewing the criteria, the project scored 45 of a possible 55 points and met categories 1 & 8, therefore passing the criteria. Regarding point #4 “Does the proposed project protect critical riverine ecosystems or special concern, threatened or endangered species and/or habitat” no one was able to positively state that any endangered species are present at this location, so Jeff Lang stated that to show the integrity of our assessment we should consider a lower score than 8 out of 8 points. The commission agreed and the award for this point was changed from 8 to 6 out of 8. Jim Pindel asked Fred to be sure that the project cost would be \$3,000 for this preliminary engineering and feasibility study. Fred Koeller said that they had a group from Madison come in and access the project. This particular group specializes in this kind of work and actually the engineer was a graduate of Waterford Union High School. Jeff Lang motioned that we support this project for \$3000 for the Village of Waterford and the motion was seconded by Doug Koehler. The motion carried unanimously. Dean Falkner pointed out that the Park Foundation of Waukesha is a 501c3 organization and is providing funds to projects like 50% for some kayak launches in Waukesha and asked Fred if the Village of Waterford had looked into getting funding from similar 501c3 organizations.
- c) **Recycling of Nutrient Rich Sediment within the Fox River Watershed:** Jim Pindel explained that Brian Schneider of Graef Eng. had sent emails to Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) and Alan Barrows (Waukesha County) to see if they could identify farm fields within a 20 mile radius of the Waterford impoundment where sediment could be spread. Dean Falkner said that Mukwonago would be looking at community land for this purpose. Dean questioned if using community land for recycling the sediment could provide phosphorus credits for the wastewater treatment plants. Alan Barrows said that the county has about 1200 acres of WDNR lands which might be used for this purpose. Donny Hefty said that Burlington has about 1200 acres of WDNR land that they use for injecting their sludge (bio solids). These lands meet all the requirements of distance from wells and waterways. Donny said that if you have an 80 acre field you cannot inject the entire field only a percentage of it. Donny also said that they have a number of farmers who are waiting in line for this nutrient rich sludge. After the meeting Donny said that one farmer had two fields right next to each other, one was injected with sludge and the second one was treated with the normal fertilizers and the sludge injected field produced 25% more corn than the fertilized field. Donny said that they inject the sludge 18” below the surface and when they are done it looks like a tilled field. Donny said that he didn’t know if the Waterford sediment has the right consistency for injection. He said that their sludge is about 7 to 8% solids. Jim Pindel said that when the sediment is pumped out of the impoundment it will be 9 parts water to 1 part of solids. Donny asked about the PH of the sediment and Jim Pindel couldn’t

remember what the PH would be right out of the impoundment, but did say that they had to do work to try to get the PH up to 9. Donny said the PH is a critical factor in deciding if the sediment is useable. Jeff Lang asked Donny if they could do a conference call with Dawn (don't know who Dawn is) and see if they can figure out what can be done with the sediment. Donny said that some of their lands are in Walworth County and likely outside of the Fox River watershed. Jim Pindel said that he thought that he the lands must be within the Fox River watershed to comply with this program. Donny said that the land he was referring to is only 3 or 4 miles out of Burlington and probably within the Fox River Watershed. Dean Falkner said that he thought that it had already been considered but he remembered when they used a 'frack' tank and ran a hose behind a tractor and dispersed the liquid around a field. Donny said that what they do is similar but injecting the sludge 18" below the surface. Donny said that they can inject about 2,000,000 gallons in about 4 days. Donny said that they use a company call TK Edwards out of Darien Wisconsin that specializes in manure injecting. Donny said that TK Edwards has miles of hose and they go out to the far end of a field and work their way back and forth across the field until the whole field is injected that is why the field looks like it has been tilled when they are finished. Donny asked if the sediment had a lot of sand in it and Jim Pindel said it was mostly rotted organic material with some sand and it is dark black and very fine in texture. Donny also said that they can only do the injecting 3 times a year because they cannot interfere with the crops. Donny said that they inject on corn fields in the spring before planting and in the fall for soy beans and other grains. Dean asked Donny and Jeff Lang to follow up on this possible use of the Waterford sediment.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – No one from the FWA was present and Jeff Lang said that both he and Dean Falkner intended to go to the last FWA meeting but were unable to attend. The next FWA meeting will be held on 8/24/18 and both Jeff and Dean intend to be present.
- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: No one present had anything to report.
- c) Progress toward designation as a "National Water Trail" – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that they are moving along and that he had not seen the minutes from their last meeting. Alan Barrows said that he say Village of Waterford people on the Dan Small show discussing the water trail. As it turned out this was a repeat of the program shown last year, which some of us saw at that time.
- d) SEWFRC Website –No one had any comments.

Correspondence –

- a. 7/2/18 Response from Mike Havey that WDNR says we can get 50% cash advance on AB911 funds and we can support kayak and canoe launches.
- b. 7/5/18 Email from Jim Pindel to mark your calendars for today's meeting
- c. 7/20/18 Forward of an email from Dean Falkner regarding Recycling of Nutrient Rich Sediment within the Fox River Watershed.
- d. 7/30/18 Email discussion among Dean Falkner, Chad Sampson and Steve Larry concerning the Frost farm and possible efforts to stop erosion (nutrient loading) from coming down into Tichigan Lake. Dean Falkner said that they were considering putting in a buffer strip between the farm field to the north and the lake.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Jeff Lang asked if we had some of the money from AB911 and Jim Pindel said we have not received anything yet. Jim said he is still not sure just how this works and needs to get back with Mike Havey of Rep. Wichgers staff to see what we need to do. Jim also pointed out that the grant funds we have committed to the Village of Waterford for the Riverside Rd. launch will have to come from the AB911 funds. Jim Pindel also said that he is not clear on how we will report showing that we have used the funds in accordance with what the state or WDNR requires. Jeff Lang asked if the forms we now supply (WDNR forms 870-001 & 8700-002) are a matter of public record. Jim Pindel said that he thought that they were. Then Jeff said that maybe we could just post them on our website as a means of documenting how we spent our money.

Jeff Lang then asked the question that if we identify enough farms that were willing to accept the dredge spoils from the Waterford impoundment, could we use the funds from AB911 to pay for the trucking of the sediment to the farms? Jim Pindel said he thought that we probably could but he would much prefer that someone from the state or WDNR ruled that it was acceptable. In the past the WDNR representative usually made this call.

Alan Barrows said that earlier this year Waukesha County hired a new conservation biologist whose name is Julie Robson and she is really good at what she does. She is good at botany, wild life management and especially good at bringing people together and creating synergy between volunteer groups. Alan said that he talked to her about the Fox River Commission and she said that she had a possible project for us to fund. Alan said she likely will come to one of our meetings possibly to present a project. The project is located on the Graef survey map as locations 250 and 251, which is close to Bob Bartholomew's and Randy Craig's farms in Waukesha County. The project is in the bend of the river and the things she is proposing are invasive species management, buffering along the river and some reforestation. She also wants to involve the Waukesha County Conservancy who owns some land in this area. She wants to increase public access, recreational and educational sites, building a hiking trail with a board walk and wild life viewing platforms. She expects to accomplish this work using volunteer

groups and funding from the Land Conservancy and possibly our commission. Alan said that she will probably attend one of our meeting in the near future and could be a resource for us. Dean Falkner asked if the two sites 250 and 251 were identified on the Graef survey as highly in need of erosion control and Alan confirmed that they were.

It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Doug Koehler that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:11 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday
September 7, 2018 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Burlington
Department of Public Works 2200 S. Pine Street, Burlington, WI.

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)
Jessie Medrow (City of Burlington)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Michelle Clark (Village of Big Bend)
Sara DeBruijn (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Barbara Messick of the Village of Waterford.

1. At 1:04 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.
3. **Minutes** The minutes from the August 3, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Doug Koehler that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Fred Koeller. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer Reports** – Jim Pindel reviewed the August 2018 treasurer’s reports. We started the month with \$39,896.43 in our Money Market Account. We received \$13.55 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$39,909.98. The change to the non-grant funds was the \$13.55 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$40,786.29. There were no changes to the grant fund page. It was motioned by Alan Barrows that the treasurer’s report be approved and seconded by Bob Bartholomew. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) **Fox River Partnership 2019 Summit:** Tom Slawski said that he is slowly picking up speakers for the 2019 summit which is only about 6 months away. Tom asked

the commissioners to advise him of any potential speakers and topics that might be appropriate. Chad Sampson asked Tom if there was a price cap on speaker fees. Tom said there isn't one, but he has to be conscious of costs. Chad said that there was a speaker Ray Archeluta who was very good and would rev up the entire audience. Chad said that Ray could give a talk on cover crops that would inform everyone of what benefits can come from cover crops including water quality and soil health. Chad said that he thought that Ray gets \$1500 per presentation and so it would be up to Tom to see if we can afford it. Chad said that the talk would be geared toward farmers but the average environmentally interesting individuals would give quite a bit of understanding. Chad said he would forward Ray's contact information to Tom. Jessie Medrow said that at the 2017 summit there was a speaker who talked about cover crops and he was received with quite a bit of attention and was asked many questions by attendees after his talk. Tom agreed that it would be good to get the farmer group interested and attending the summits. Chad went on to say that they had a cover crop field day yesterday which was well attended by 60 attendees. Chad said that he has a list of all the farmers in Racine and Kenosha counties with their names and addresses. Dean Falkner reported that he had heard of farmers utilizing cover crops and getting increase yields as well as eliminating runoff. Chad said that one of the speakers at the field day said that the day before he got 0.9" of rain and even after all the rain earlier in the week he believes that all of it was absorbed in the field because it was so healthy and absorbent. Tom asked Chad if he could get some local farmer as a speaker and Chad said that he had a few in mind and would look into it. When Jeff Lang asked about any involvement with the drainage district, Chad said they are not into it yet but some of them are trying it out on a limited basis. Chad said what they are trying to do is make sure that when farmers try cover crops the first time they do not have a negative result. Bob Bartholomew said that he has been doing cover crops for about 5 years and once you start doing it you will not quit. He said it costs a little bit more for seed and the labor to plant it but the increase in soil quality resulting in greater crop yield makes it worth it after a few years.

- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he talked to Applied Ecological Services today. We still owe them one payment we have only paid the first 3 of 4 payments. Alan said that he will be meeting with them at the site where they still have one more round of maintenance to do and then we should see the final invoice. Alan wants to have a final walk through with the contractor and someone from WE Energies to close the project out.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present. Chad Sampson said that he had been contacted by Andrew Craig of the WDNR yesterday. Andrew was looking for farm locations in Racine County for spreading the dewatered sediment from the Waterford impoundment. Andrew asked Chad what regulations Racine County has for the spreading to the sediment on farm fields. Chad said that the only regulation they have is nutrient

- management planning. Chad said that you cannot overdose the fields, if the sediment is 'hot' that is high in nitrogen or phosphorous you may be limited to the depth of sediment can the field can accept. Another concern is how much weed seed will be introduced from the sediment. Jim Pindel added that it looks like the only way that we can get rid of the sediment will be spreading it on agricultural lands. There is a pilot project being planned for next summer where they will dredge about 30,000 cubic yards of sediment, dewater it and spread it on adjacent farm fields in 1", 2" and 3" depths. Then they will evaluate the effects of these doses for crop yields and any other effects that occur. Regarding the possibility of seeds in the sediment. Jim Pindel pointed out that he will probably be involved in providing 6 five gallon samples of sediment from 6 different locations in the Waterford impoundment to Tom Greil so that he can evaluate how much if any seeds germinate from the sediment.
- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he received an email from Sara DeBruijn listing the items that needed to be provided to close this project out. Jim said that he forwarded the email to Melissa Phillips, David Bursh and copied Doug Koehler. Jim said that he got a response from Melissa saying she would work on it right away.
- e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Jim Pindel said that in the same email referred to above Sara DeBruijn said she needed the invoices and proof of payment and Jim said he sent them to her yesterday. Alan said that this project really went well and if anyone wants to see how the native vegetative mats look after they have grown go to see it there. Alan said the plants with many Wisconsin natives is really colorful with many flowers about three feet tall. Alan said that they used coconut logs along the shoreline and the native vegetation mats for about 50' back from there. Alan said that one of the reasons for doing the project was the fact that they had to close the beach four or five times a year because of the bacteria caused by the goose manure. Now with the native plantings the geese have move on to new areas where they have short cut grass.
- f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Fred Koeller said that all they are waiting for is the check from us. Jim Pindel said that Sara DeBruijn had indicated that the documentation for this project was complete, so now he is waiting for two checks from the WDNR so we can reimburse our sponsors.
- g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski said that he was scheduling some visits to some sites north of the Waterford dam to further evaluate them and sent the ranking of priorities for the projects along the whole stretch of river in our boundaries. Tom said that he met with Fred Koeller and investigated the area just south of the Waterford dam and got a clearer understanding of the conditions there. Tom said that he will make new more detailed recommendations for this area. Tom said he is also tidying up the load analysis data for the report.

- h) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that it hasn't happened yet but will be completed this fall.
- i) VoW Riverside Dr. Launch – Fred Koeller. Fred thanked the commission for the grant of \$3000 and said they are just getting started. Jim Pindel handed Fred a cost share agreement which needs to be signed by someone from the Village.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that they will be having a subcommittee meeting shortly. He said he is working on identifying the concentration of phosphorus along the river to decide which areas to include in the plan. Dean said that they are not necessarily going to include all 9 elements of the plan. Tom Slawski asked Alan Barrows if he was working on a loading map to identify the areas of greatest concern. Alan said he was working on it and had a print out of it with him. Alan said that initially he broke the range of phosphorus loading into 7 segments and he felt that this didn't differentiate the loading clearly enough. Alan said he redid the map in 10 segments but unfortunately didn't save it, so he will have to go back and rework the map. Alan did pass around the print out of the map for all of us to review. Alan also said that at the last 9-key elements meeting Andrew Craig offered to do a Presto analysis which amounts to a spreadsheet analysis that shows the point and nonpoint phosphorus discharge. Alan said that he used this analysis to generate the map of nonpoint loading that he made above.
- b) Recycling of Nutrient Rich Sediment within the Fox River Watershed: Dean Falkner said that he didn't think there was anything new to report about spreading the sediment of fields. Jim Pindel pointed out that he had asked Mike Havey in an email which he forwarded to everyone asking if we can use AB911 grant funds to pay for trucking the sediment from Waterford to Mukwonago and Burlington, but has not heard back from him yet. Dean Falkner said that he wondered why we couldn't pump the non-dewatered sediment directly onto close by farm fields. This would eliminate trucking and dewatering expenses. Dean said that there was a farm with hay fields very near the impoundment that he and Chad Sampson visited where this could work. Jessie Medrow asked what is the consistency of the sediment. Dean said it would be just as it was when dredged out of the impoundment. Jim Pindel added that the dredge output is a 9:1 mix of water to sediment.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Lang said that their next meeting will be 9/26/18 and he intends to attend. Dean Falkner said that he attended their last meeting and they indicated that it would be beneficial to them if we reduced the sediment loading on them. Dean said that much of the discussion was on way to profit from selling the dewatered sediment.

- Dean said that they have a tremendous amount of sediment to dredge and many of the attendees were concerned about having their own part of the waterway dredged. Dean said that one of the things that came out in the meeting was the fact that they were trying to get FEMA money to help with the remediation work. Andy Buchler said they had meetings with Thelin Sand and Gravel who has gravel pits in Illinois and are thinking of moving up into Kenosha County. Andy said that one of the things they do is dredge sediment from the Fox River and mix it with sand and sell it to the IDOT who uses it as fill along roadways. Alan Barrows pointed out that if we were to consider getting FEMA funding our cost share and bidding procedures listed in our implementation plan don't consider federal wage rates and other requirements for federal funding. If we were to go this route we would have to make sure our cost share and bidding procedures met federal standards.
- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: No one present had anything to report. Dean Falkner said that there was an instance where rain hit the Mukwonago area but not the Waukesha area and the phosphorus levels in the Fox River were very low that day. So Dean wondered what the effect of losing the 10,000,000 gallons a day from the Waukesha treatment plant would do to the phosphorus levels. Dean indicated that the phosphorus levels went down from dilution of the Fox River water by the cleaner Mukwonago River water. So the solution to pollution is dilution. Tom Slawski asked Doug Koehler if they have started manufacture of the piping and Doug said that they are still in engineering.
- c) Progress toward designation as a "National Water Trail" – Village of Waterford. Barbara Messick said that thanks to the WDNR grant Tom Slawski obtained for them they are now working on developing a logo, developing a website with interactive maps and a brochure. Tom Slawski pointed out that the water trail is a joint venture between Kane County in Illinois, the Village of Waterford, SEWRPC, the visitor's bureau, the National Park Service and the WDNR. Tom said that the brochure is not ready yet but they will share it with us as soon as it is finished. Barbara Messick said that they intend to use Summits for the unveiling of the new marketing tools. One summit will be in Wisconsin and two will be in Illinois. Barbara said that they wanted to get some more involvement from the northern area of the Fox River and asked Alan Barrows if he would join their committee. Alan said someone not necessarily himself would join the committee. Barbara said there are 8 counties along the water trail.
- d) SEWFRC Website – Jim Pindel said that he printed out a copy of the website and marked it up with little details like adding Kenosha County updating the list of commissioners and other small details. Al Sikora made all the changes in short order. Jim said that Al told him he was thinking of updating the website with some features that would make it better and more current.

Correspondence –

- a. 8/6/18 Email from Jim Pindel to mark your calendars for today's meeting.
- b. 8/16/18 Forward of an email from Farmers Watershed Protection Committee with attached brochure for cover crop field day.
- c. 8/16/18 Emails between Jim Pindel and Al Sikora stating that all the updates to the website have been implemented.
- d. 8/16/18 Forward of an email from Jim Pindel to Mike Havey concerning how to get our AB911 funds and also asking if we can use our grant funds to pay for transportation of Waterford impoundment sediment to Mukwonago and Burlington.
- e. 9/6/18 Email from Jim Pindel to Sara DeBruijn asking for progress report on projects submitted for reimbursement. Response from Sara is mostly done with questions on Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration Project and Schuetze Playground project.
- f. 9/6/18 Email from Jim Pindel to Mike Havey and Rep. Chuck Wichgers asking how to get AB911 funds and about ENUM-21.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Chad Sampson made a report on the Cover Crops Field Day that was held the day before (9/6/18) Chad said there were 61 attendees, 13 to 16 of which were environmental groups or citizens and 40 farmers. This was a good turnout for this kind of field day. There was a lot of conversations with lots of questions being answered. They are planning another field day which will be held indoors in February.

Alan Barrows asked if there was any interest in a review of our bidding procedures and working agreements. Alan said he would volunteer to make a presentation for the commission. Alan pointed out that these procedures are included in our implementation plan in the appendixes. Jim Pindel asked Alan if he thought what we have is insufficient and Alan responded that they are not unless we apply for federal funding. The consensus of the commission was that we want Alan to make a presentation to make us all aware of our bidding and work agreement procedures. Alan said that it was not necessary to do it at our next meeting and we should put it on the agenda when we want it. Alan said that one of the good things is that our procedures are written in common language not lawyer language.

Jeff Lang pointed out that when the Town of Burlington sends out its tax bills it includes other informative notices. Jeff said that this was an inexpensive way to get information out to the general populous and thought it might be a good way to get the word out to the farmers in our municipalities that we are looking for fields to spread the Waterford sediment. Jeff asked if any of our other municipalities sent our flyers with some of their required mailings. Rochester said they send out a newsletter and Dean Falkner said that Mukwonago sends our informative information with every water bill. Chad Sampson mentioned that he has a list of over 300 farmers in Racine and Kenosha Counties. Dean

Falkner said we will have to work out how to implement this idea and said he will get in touch with Jeff Lang in this regard.

Regarding the next meeting date and place, Andy Buehler said he appreciated moving the meeting location further south making it easier for the southern members. Jessie Medrow said that we could use this location if it is not already booked. Jessie checked and found the room is available and so we decided to meet here again in October.

It was motioned by Andy Buehler and seconded by Fred Koeller that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:04 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday
October 12, 2018 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Burlington
Department of Public Works 2200 S. Pine Street, Burlington, WI.

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Maria Pandazi (City of Waukesha)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Michelle Clark (Village of Big Bend)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)

Also present: Dan Treloar of Kenosha County.

1. At 1:04 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.
3. **Minutes** The minutes from the September 7, 2018 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Fred Koeller that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Andy Buehler. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer Reports** – Jim Pindel reviewed the September 2018 treasurer's reports. We started the month with \$39,909.98 in our Money Market Account. We made one deposit of \$4,635.11 which was the final payment from ENUM-19. We received \$14.09 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$44,559.18. The change to the non-grant funds was the \$14.09 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$40,800.38. There were no changes to the grant fund page. During the treasurer's report Jim Pindel jumped ahead to the correspondence and read the statement "In an email from Sara DeBruijn, she explaining that the AB911 funds will flow through RBF-EMUMs because this vehicle exists which can be used to appropriate funds for us and document how the funds were used. Even though the funds come through RBF (Recreational Boating Facility) we are not required to meet RBF requirements, only our Implementation Plan requirements. Alan Barrows explained for the benefit of the two new commissioners present that our funding in the past came

through the RBF and so we had to abide by their requirements, like funds can only be used for motor boat launches and not for canoe or kayak launches, because the RBF funds are derived for the gasoline tax on gas used by motor boats and canoes and kayaks don't pay for gas, so they cannot be supported. Dean Falkner pointed out that another advantage of the new AB911 funding eliminates the time constraint on how long we have to spend the money. Jim Pindel added that because we are using RBF-ENUM procedures there are set time limits but Sara DeBruijn said that she will extend the grant period whenever we need it, so this shouldn't be an issue. Dean Falkner said that now that we have grant funds available the three counties should start applying for funding. Dean went on to say that in the case of Kenosha County, with our cooperative agreement with the Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois, they(we) should be able to apply for federal grant funds for projects. Dan Treloar then said that he and Andy Buehler and Andrew Lois have been discussing a project to be called the Wheatland Fox River Park Streambank Stabilization Project where the Fox River is cutting away the bank on a curve of the river. Dan said this is actually a safety concern because the bank drops off so steeply and so many children play in this park. The park is on land that is owned by the Town of Wheatland and the stretch that needs repair is about 175' to about 200' long. Dan asked if a presentation on the project could be put on the agenda for our next meeting and that he would forward the presentation to Jim Pindel in advance of our next meeting, so Jim can distribute it to all the commissioners beforehand. Jim Pindel said he would put it on the agenda for November under new business. It was motioned by Alan Barrows that the treasurer's report be approved and seconded by Donny Hefty. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Fox River Partnership 2019 Summit: Tom Slawski was not present. Jim Pindel said that he brought the final payment for the 2018 Summit with him to give to Tom, but now he will have to mail it to Tom. Chad Sampson added that he and Tom had been contacting Ray Archeluta about possibly doing a presentation at the 2019 Summit, but it turned out to be too expensive. Chad did say that they are now pursuing one of Ray Archeluta's students, who might do a presentation that we can afford.
- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that this was a 150' long shoreline restoration project along the Mukwonago River. He said that the final invoice came in last Monday and Jim Pindel forwarded it to him. Alan said that he has not had an opportunity to visit the site and do his final walk through. Once this is done, Alan will advise Jim to pay the invoice to Applied Ecological Services.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present. Jim Pindel reported that at the last WWMD annual meeting a motion was made to stop funding the dredging project and divert those funds

to the weed control. The motion was defeated by a vote of 87 to 137. Due to the fact that some of the frustration with the dredging project is the fact that it has gone on so long with no end in sight. To address this frustration the following time line was put together. The Land Spreading Work Plan (Pilot Study) has to be submitted to the WDNR by 10/9/18 by Graef, the plan was submitted on 10/8/18. The preliminary review by the WDNR has to be completed by 10/18/18, which is in process. Conditional approval of the plan has to be made by 10/25/18 listing out all the conditions for approval. And finally on 10/27/18 the WWMD board needs to decide to either go ahead with the project or scrap the 10 years of work that has gone into it. Dean Falkner asked if these discussions considered the effectiveness of the drawdown on Little Muskego Lake. Jim said that he had asked Rachel Sabre to find out about how successful the drawdown was on Little Muskego Lake. Rachel said that she talked to Heidi Bunk the lakes biologist who worked with the local invasive species expert. Rachel said that they have entered all the data and are now working on mapping of the project and there are no results at this time to report. Rachel said that the report is expected to be completed by the end of November or early December. Jim Pindel asked if they were just concerned with the starry stone wort or were they checking on the affect the drawdown had on other aquatic plants. Rachel said she did not know what all they were inventorying.

- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that in an email he received from Sara DeBruijn this week, she said she was going to work on this project this week and expected to get it finished.
- e) Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration – Alan Barrows said that as he entered the room Jim Pindel handed him a check for final payment for the project. Alan said we should remove this project from the agenda. Alan again promoted the use of the native vegetation mats, he said they really work well and look great. Dean Falkner pointed out that the geese have moved away and Alan said that they have moved to new locations not on the waters edge. Dean then asked how much phosphorus and nitrogen is contained in the goose feces. No one was able to address this question and Dean concluded that it must be a lot.
- f) Village of Waterford East Shore river bank Restoration: - Fred Koeller likewise said that Jim Pindel handed him a check for the amount due for this project, just before the meeting started. This project likewise will be taken off the agenda.
- g) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski was not present. Donny Hefty said that he has had some email contact with Tom over the last month and Tom had asked for permission to park on some City of Burlington land. Donny said that he knew Tom was involved in

sampling some mussel species in the river.

- h) **Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project:** Chad Sampson said that all the rain events lately have put off the start of the project. Chad still expects to get the project done this fall as soon as it stops raining. Chad later said that the cost of the project had originally been estimated at \$26,654.50 and he asked the commission for \$10,000 toward the project. Now Chad said he needs \$18,000 which amounts to an \$8,000 increase. Chad said that the other grant funds he was working with have run out of funds. Chad Sampson made a motion to increase our participation in the project from \$10,000 to \$18,000 the motion was seconded by Jeff Lang and the motion carried unanimously. Dan Treloar asked what percent of the overall project the commission was contributing and Chad said it was 67%.
- i) **VoW Riverside Dr. Launch** – Fred Koeller. Fred said that the project is in the queue and they are waiting for the consultants from Madison to come out and evaluate the situation.

New Business

- a) **Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan** – Dean Falkner said that they finally have all the data they need to discuss. Dean said he will be surveying the members of the subcommittee to see when they can get together and make decisions on what areas to work on and when to start. Dean asked Alan Barrows if a .pdf file of his GIS data could be made and if it would be helpful. Alan said that he could do it but because he was out of the office this last week, he didn't have a chance to look into it in detail. Dean said that he is trying to get all the pertinent information together for the subcommittee including all sources on non-point source pollution, phosphorus concentrations and soil maps he hoped that Tom Slawski could provide so the subcommittee could make an informed decision on what areas to concentrate on and where to get started.
- b) **Recycling of Nutrient Rich Sediment within the Fox River Watershed:** Jim Pindel said that this item has already been covered when we discussed the Land Spreading Work Plan that Graef Engineering prepared for the WWMD. This item will be removed from future agendas.

Reports and Updates

- a) **Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois** – Nether Jeff Lang or Dean Falkner attended the FWA's last meeting. Dean did point out that the FWA is willing to support projects along the Fox River in Wisconsin. This support would be in the form of letters of support when trying to get federal funding but certainly not actual money. Rachel Sabre pointed out that one of the categories the EPA looks at for 319 funding is interstate participation across state borders. Rachel said she thought that this was one of the higher priority

categories for granting funding.

- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: Jeff Lang said that he talked to someone named Dave from SEWRPC at a seminar held at the Village of Waterford. And Dave told Jeff that all he hears is dead silence. Rachel Sabre said that she is one of the resource managers that review data for this project. She said she was asked to review the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that was generated a couple years ago to make sure it was still up to date. Rachel said that she has until next Wednesday to update the EIS with any additional data that has surfaces in the last two years.
- c) Progress toward designation as a “National Water Trail” – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that since the report Barbara Messick made at our last meeting there has been no new news. He said he is waiting for the next meeting to be scheduled.
- d) SEWFRC Website – No one had anything to report but Alan Barrows pointed out that as projects finish up, as several have recently, the sponsors should send before and after pictures to Al Sikora to be added to our website. Jeff Lang asked if the SEWFRC signs were being provided for all the completed projects and for how long should the signs be posted. Alan Barrows said he has quite of few signs in two different sizes available. No comments were made on how long the signs should be kept up, so it looks like it is up to the discretion of the project sponsor how long the signs stay up.

Correspondence –

- a. 9/11/18 Email from Jim Pindel – Mark your calendars for today’s meeting.
- b. 10/1/18 Email from Jim Pindel on 9/27/18 to Mike Havey of Rep. Chuck Wichgers office asking for a meeting to find out how to get our AB911 funds.
- c. 10/3/18 Forward of an email from Sara DeBruijn explaining that the AB911 funds will flow through RBF-EMUMs because this vehicle exists which can be used to appropriate funds for us and document how the funds were used. Even though the funds come through RBF (Recreational Boating Facility) we are not required to meet RBF requirements, only our Implementation Plan requirements.

Miscellaneous Issues – There were no miscellaneous issues.

It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Andy Buehler that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 1:40 PM

THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday

November 9, 2018 at 1:00 PM. (Meeting Location: Burlington
Department of Public Works 2200 S. Pine Street, Burlington, WI.

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington) briefly
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Michelle Clark (Village of Big Bend)
Bill Hopkins (Village of Salem Lakes)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Doug Koeller (City of Waukesha)

Also present: Dave Corrigan and Randy Sweet of the Fox Waterway Agency of Illinois.

1. At 1:05 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.
3. **Minutes** The minutes from the October 12, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Jeff Lang pointed out that his name was missed spelled in the Reports and Updates section and Jim Pindel said he would fix it. It was motioned by Andy Buehler that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Fred Koeller. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer Reports** – Jim Pindel reviewed the October 2018 treasurer's reports. We started the month with \$44,559.18 in our Money Market Account. We made one deposit of \$56,094.46 which was the first payment from ENUM-20. We made two payments \$26,654.73 to the Village of Waterford for the East Bank Shoreline restoration and a payment of \$21,475.33 to Waukesha County for the Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration. We received \$38.86 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$52,096.00. The change to the non-grant funds was the \$38.86 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$40,849.24. Regarding the grant funds, four projects the VoW East Bank Shoreline Restoration, the Mukwonago Park Shoreline Restoration, the 2018 Fox River Summit and the Parking Lot & Sidewalk Salting Workshop

moved up into the Completed and Closed Grant Project section. Also Jim pointed out that we added \$7000.00 to the Birch Lane Shoreline protection project and listed the \$3000 that we are providing for the VoW Riverside Launch project. Jeff Lang pointed out that the 2019 Fox River Summit was not listed as a commitment against our grant funds. Jim Pindel said he would add it to next month's treasurer's report. It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Fred Koeller that the treasurer's report be approved and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Fox River Partnership 2019 Summit: Tom Slawski said that planning is still going on and he is still looking for speakers and topics. Tom reminded everyone that the Summit will be held on March 22, 2019 at the Veterans Terrace in Burlington. Jeff Lang said that he thought that we should go ahead and get the dynamic speaker Ray Archeluta to talk about cover crops. Chad and Tom said that they would consider it but probably would go with a disciple of Archeluta who would come in at a lower price. Jeff stated that he felt that this topic was very important and that we should get a charismatic speaker and Chad said that the disciple was a salesman, which requires some charisma, and he was recommended by several farmers. Jeff Lang asked Tom to explain what the Summit is all about for the sake of the two FWA members who were attending our meeting for the first time. Tom pointed out that this would be the seventh annual Summit and that the SEWFRC has supported the Summit from the beginning. Tom said that the Summit is a learning conference where a lot of ideas are shared on things that can be done throughout the watershed. Topics covered range from agricultural to urban and even recreational. Tom said he tries to get speakers from Wisconsin and Illinois and originally the intent was to move the Summit back and forth between a site in Wisconsin and one in Illinois that wasn't too far south. However no good site was found in Illinois and everyone seems to like the Veterans Terrace in Burlington so that is where it has always been held.
- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he did his final site inspection this last week and found two temporary measures still on site. The temporary sprinkler pipe and a stack of PVC pipes were still there as well as a temporary snow fence to keep the geese out of the area. Alan said he contacted the contractor who said he would take care of removing these items next week. Alan said that he contacted the contractors accounting department to advise them why we have not made the final payment and we will do so once they remove the two temporary items on site. Alan said that WE Energies has requested a summary report on the project including before and after pictures.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present. Jim Pindel reported that Graef Eng. has provided a Land

Spreading Work Plan to the WDNR who has conditionally approved it. A public hearing on the Plan will be conducted by the WDNR next week Wednesday (11/14/18) at 5:00 PM at the Town of Waterford Hall. Jim Pindel stated that he had a conflict with this timing and so will not be able to attend. Dean Falkner and some others indicated that they might attend. Chad Sampson asked if the disposal site would be WDNR land and Jim Pindel said that the first phase which will be a pilot project were they will only dredge about 30,000 cubic yards of sediment out of the north end of Conservancy Bay, where there is a natural sediment trap, and will spread some or most of the sediment on the WDNR land west of Marsh Road. Jim added that one of the delays was the fact that the WDNR was concerned with spreading the sediment on farmed wetlands and left the final decision on permitting this to the Army Corps of Engineers.

- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he received an email from David Burch asking him to remove his name from this project on the agenda, seeing he thought that the project was totally completed. However Jim said that he emailed Sara DeBruijn asking for the status of this project and Sara responded identifying two pieces of documentation that are still required. Jim Pindel said that he forwarded this email identifying the two documents required to David Burch and Melisa Phillips so that they could provide the documents and he has not seen anything being sent to Sara thus far.

- e) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski explained for the sake of the two new attendees from the FWA that the SEWFRC expanded their territory down from the Waterford dam to the Illinois border. Tom provided a map for everyone that showed the shoreline erosion sites along the mainstream of the Fox River in the northern section identified by Graef Eng. some years ago and also the sites that were identified in the southern section (the lower 26 river miles) which were identified by Tom in the survey he conducted for the SEWRPC. The survey looked for streambank erosion and monitored water depth along the river. Tom said that he added 40 new priority erosion sites in the lower section of the river. Tom said we are combining the two sets of survey data and applying a new prioritization criterion for streambank protection and water quality improvement. Some of the criteria to be considered will be infrastructure protection like proximity to roads, bridges and utilities including the age of bridges and scheduled roadway reconstruction. Other criteria will be channel position, channel vulnerability, and channel condition. Erosion severity will be judged on erosion rate, bank height, bank length, slope and soil composition. Other considerations will be local vegetation types and condition, riparian buffer ranking positioning lands within the floodway or within 1,000' feet of the edge of the mainstream. A final consideration will be the ease of implementation looking at public versus private lands, accessibility, cost, and landowner willingness to participate. Tom showed a

large map of the 40 HUC12 sub basins and Tom said that Andrew Craig of the WDNR provided the nonpoint phosphorus loading in lbs. /year for each of the basins. Tom used this data to calculate the phosphorus loading per acre for each section. The map depicted the basins with low medium and high phosphorus loading in different colors. Tom said that while fishing on the Fox River this summer he noticed that the water that comes in from the Wind Lake channel is extremely dirty and dark colored. Tom said that this might be an area that needs some work to eliminate the sediment infusion whatever the source might be. Jim Pindel pointed out that the channel was mechanically dredged this last winter and it is possible that the channel has not stabilized yet. Fred Koeller said that when they did the dredging they did not incorporate the appropriate slope on the banks which of course can add to the erosion. Fred did say that it has been only recently that they have decided to enforce the 20' setbacks along the channel. Fred also said that in the past whenever there is a heavy rain event you can observe the darker color of the water coming out of the channel. Fred said that it is a great opportunity to help clean up the Fox River by addressing the Wind Lake channel. Tom said that he is getting close to having the priority maps available to the counties and for us to be used to decide what to do and where to do it. Alan Barrows said that he could incorporate these maps into his county map system and possibly generate mailing to landowner who are identified on these maps making them aware of the need and advising them of what grant funds might be available. Lastly Tom covered the Fox River Width comparison graphs he provided. The graphs show the stream bank width from an 1836 survey compared to today's data throughout our area of responsibility. Although the graphs are preliminary Tom said that they show that the river has not changed appreciatively over this time period. There is no evidence of extreme bank erosion and in fact north of the Waterford impoundment the river has actually become narrower. Jim Pindel said that he thought that the first dam creating the Waterford impoundment went in in 1836 and he questioned whether the 1836 stream bank width data was taken before or after the Waterford dam was installed. Tom said that the notes on the 1836 data provided the exact dates that the data was taken and so he should be able to find out if the data was taken before or after the dam. Tom said that it might be possible to overlay Dean Falkner's water quality data on these maps to see if it provided any additional insight.

- f) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that the project is completed. For the sake of the new attendees from the FWA, Chad explained that the project amounted to a 50' of shoreline with a steep slope and a failing sea wall. On October 23 they worked with contractor to select rock for the right sizes and also color to make it look better. On October 24 and 25th the contractor delivered the rock and other required materials to the site and removed the sea wall. The contractor installed geotextile fabric and then placed the large rocks on the bottom and interlocked the smaller rocks on top and then did a native seed planting in the first 15 to 20' of the shoreline.

The backyard of the property had to be fixed up because of damage done during the wet conditions. Chad said that the property owner is very happy with the project results and his neighbors are excited about it and might want to do something similar. The total cost was \$26,500 of which we provided \$18,000 and the landowner provided the rest. Chad said the work was completed on October 26th and he provided the invoices and other documentation to Jim Pindel just before the meeting started.

- g) VoW Riverside Dr. Launch – Fred Koeller. Fred said that the project is on the official project list of the Village for next year. Fred also said that he agreed with the suggested change in the project name to “Jefferson Street Park and Launch”. Fred said that the cost of engineering is in the Villages budget and that they were considering purchasing the homes across the street within the Village. They would then remove the houses move Jefferson St. over and use the expanded area for parking for cars and boat trailers. Fred ended by saying that the project is moving along for completion next year.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that they have been having subgroups meeting and they have been discussing what to do. Dean said they are considering downloading a 9-Key Elements Plan to see how that might be reinvented. For another project, Alan Barrows created a map of all the nonpoint source loading in our entire area and we have the monitoring data for essentially the entire run of the river. Dean said that Chad is working with Andrew Craig on a STEPL information transfer to get the loading and removals to get a 9-Key Elements Plan. Dean told Tom Slawski that they are having a subgroup meeting on 11/27/18 at 1:00 PM. Alan Barrows pointed out that he and Tom Slawski and several WDNR people have a conflict at that time. The conflict concerns a lake with a dam failure and will involve about 50% of the people that should be at the 9-Key Elements meeting. Dean said he would do a survey of the people involved to choose a new meeting date. Dean said that looking at the magnitude of what needs to be done, \$100,000 a year will not do the job, so we must find other means of funding, which the 9-Key Elements Plan might help with.
- b) Wheatland Fox river Park Shoreline Stabilization Project – Dan Treloar Dan was not present, so Andy Buehler passed out copies of the presentation prepared by Dan. Jim Pindel stated that he received a copy of the presentation from Dan and forwarded it to all the commissioners the same day. The project will henceforth be known as the Oakwood Shores Park Streambank Stabilization Project. The presentation included an aerial view of the project site and pictures of the eroded shoreline as well as a timeline for completion of the project starting in spring of 2019 and ending in the fall of 2019. Andy passed around a tablet that showed a video of the shoreline as passing by on the river. Andy pointed out that this site is one of the spots marked on the map Tom Slawski showed earlier as a priority

erosion area. Andy also pointed out that this location was one of the sites he listed earlier this year when we were working on the 2018-2019 budget. The site runs from a drainage ditch that comes into the river, south for 200'. The 90% cost share requested from the commission amounts to \$32,400 with a 10% cost share by the Kenosha County Soil & Water Resource Management Program of \$3,600, coming to an overall project cost of \$36,000. Looking at the condition of the stream bank it looks like a necessary project. We will review the project acceptance criteria and vote on accepting the project for grant funding at our December meeting. Alan Barrows asked if Kenosha was going to do the engineering themselves or use a consultant and Andy said they will use a consultant. Alan also asked if the county would do the work themselves or hire a contractor and Andy said they will use a contractor. Dean Falkner said that additional funds may be available for this project from a river management grant, however there is concern that this might be considered double dipping. Rachel Sabre said that the river management grants must be applied for in February and they are for \$50,000 each and are very competitive.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Randy Sweet the chairman of the Advisory committee of the FWA was present and said he expects to attend our meetings whenever Joe Keller cannot attend. Randy said he was impressed by the amount of data we have taken, especially the data gathered by Tom Slawski during the survey he did for SEWRPC. Randy said that the collective group we have of Counties, municipalities and WDNR is something they don't have but need. Randy said he is in charge of developing their watershed plan. Randy said he is just in the formative stage of the plan and needs to define what they will do, how much it will cost and what size HUC's they should include in their watershed plan. The intent is to do a small HUC to establish a templet for the overall watershed plan which he expects will cost over \$250,000 and take at least 2 years. Randy said they have had 4 high water events in the last year. Randy said he is concerned about structures like a new Woodman's center going in which will cause 70 to 80 acres of land to be paved over and this runoff will flow into the Fox River adding to their flood events. Randy said that the watershed plan should bring together all the parties in the watershed hopefully to address some of these issues. One of the main things they need to do is reactivate the sponges (wetlands) so they can absorb some of the stormwater during high rain events. Randy said that he expects to have the small watershed plan ready for presentation to the FWA board for their next March meeting. Randy said he will be looking for some grant funds to help with the planning and said they need to move out of the dredging only mode they are in. Randy was asked if there is a stormwater management plan for the Fox waterway. Randy said there is none for the lakes in the Fox River Chain but there are some in areas around the Chain of Lakes some of which are probably out of date. He indicated that this is something that should come out of the watershed plan.

- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: No one had anything to report. Jeff Lang pointed out to the FWA people present that he has brought this topic up at some of the FWA meetings he attended. Jeff explained that the City of Waukesha got approval to obtain Lake Michigan water and at some point will stop inputting more than 8,000,000 gallons a day of water into the Fox River. This diversion will have to have some effect on the FWA. Jim Pindel pointed out that during dry low flow conditions this water represents 90% of the flow in the Fox River here in Wisconsin. Jeff Lang pointed out that here in Wisconsin every land owner is responsible for storm water management on their property and asked what is the situation in Illinois. Randy said he did not know but did say some of the counties had storm water management organizations which were responsible within their counties.
- c) Progress toward designation as a “National Water Trail” – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that he has not had a chance to talk to Barb Messick and so had nothing to report. Tom Slawski said that they are still working on the brochure and still accumulating data. They are working with CMAP the Chicago Metropolitan Area Planners which is the Illinois version of SEWRPC. Tom explained to the FWA people present that the Fox River water trail is intended more for passive use of the river, like canoeing and kayaking.
- d) SEWFRC Website – Alan Barrows pointed out that he noticed that some of the projects we have completed are missing their before and after pictures and so he said these should be sent to Al Sikora.

Correspondence –

- a. 10/13/18 Email from Jim Pindel asking commissioners to mark their calendars for today’s meeting.
- b. 10/31/18 Email from Jim Pindel with WDNR weekly report showing \$5.7 M available for Wetland Restoration projects.
- c. 11/5/18 Email from Dan Treloar with attached presentation concerning Oakwood Shores Streambank Restoration Project.
- d. 11/8/18 US Mail letter from MT Boyle of Racine County stating that the SEWFRC will receive \$10,000 in the Y2019 Racine County budget.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Jeff Lang asked to have attendance fees for attendees from the FWA reimbursed by our commission, just as we do for our own commissioners.

It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Andy Buehler that the meeting be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:39 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Monday
December 10, 2018 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Burlington
Department of Public Works 2200 S. Pine Street, Burlington, WI.

Commission members present:

Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago) (Chairman)
Katelyn Bratz (Town of Mukwonago) (Vice-Chairperson)
Ken Miller (Town of Waukesha)
Doug Koeller (City of Waukesha)
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)
Chad Sampson (Racine County)
Jeff Lang (Town of Burlington)
Fred Koeller (Village of Waterford)
Donny Hefty (City of Burlington)
Andrew Lois (Town of Wheatland)
Wayne Jensen (Village of Rochester)
Bill Hopkins (Village of Salem Lakes)
Tom Slawski (SEWRPC)
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

Commission members absent:

Bob Bartholomew (Town of Vernon)
Michelle Clark (Village of Big Bend)
Andy Buehler (Kenosha County)
Rachel Sabre (Wisconsin DNR)

Also present: Dan Treloar of Kenosha County, Rob Bowman and Randy Sweet of the Fox Waterway Agency of Illinois.

1. At 1:05 PM, Chairman Dean Falkner called the SEWFRC meeting to order.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.
3. **Minutes** The minutes from the November 9, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Jim Pindel pointed out that the copy of the minutes that was emailed to everyone omitted listing Bill Hopkins as attending, but the paper copies he brought to the meeting listed him correctly. It was motioned by Alan Barrows that the minutes be approved and the motion was seconded by Jeff Lang. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer Reports** – Jim Pindel reviewed the November 2018 treasurer's reports. We started the month with \$52,562.46 in our Money Market Account. We made two payments \$2,750.00 to the SE Fox River Partnership for the 2018 Summit and a payment of \$18,000.00 to Eagle Excavating for the Birch Lane Shoreline Restoration project. These are the final payments for these two projects. We received \$16.14 in interest bringing our Money Market account to a balance of \$31,828.60. The change to the non-grant funds was the \$16.14 in interest resulting in the net non-grant funds available being \$40,855.38. Regarding the

grant funds, the amount we are providing for the Birch Lane project was increased from \$11,000 to \$18,000 due to the increased cost of the project, which we approved at our November meeting. \$8,000 of this is being provided by the 2018 Racine County allocation to the SEWFRC. Additionally \$2000 of the Racine County allocation was applied to the Village of Waterford Riverside Park and Launch study and engineering. Jeff Lang asked if we should use some of the Racine County allocation for another Parking Lot and Sidewalk Salting Workshop, after considerable discussion it was agreed that the workshop was a good thing and should be repeated. The last workshop was attended mostly by vendors and landscapers not municipalities. Considering the fact that the next workshop is not planned yet and the funding is not known we did not allocate any of the 2018 Racine County funding to a possible next workshop. Jim Pindel then reported on an email he sent to Sara DeBruijn regarding the status of ENUM-21. Sara responded saying that she submitted a request to their financial department to encumber the funds for us and will process the \$100,000 cash advance as soon as they notify her that the funds have been allocated. Jim Pindel also reported that he received an email thanking us for paying \$28, 00 to Host Drive for hosting our website. Jim said he had not paid anything to Host Drive and assumes it was paid by Al Sikora again. We thank Al for his support. The report shows that we have -\$15,500 in grant funds available, which means that we have already assigned this amount of grant funds out of ENUM-21. It was motioned by Chad Sampson and seconded by Jeff Lang that we apply the Racine County allocations as we did. It was motioned by Donny Hefty and seconded by Alan Barrows that the treasurer's report be approved and both motions carried unanimously.

Old Business

- a) Fox River Partnership 2019 Summit: Tom Slawski said that planning is still going on. Tom reminded everyone that the Summit will be held on March 22, 2019 at the Veterans Terrace in Burlington. Tom said that he has started posting some of the topics and speakers for the summit. One of the postings is for Eddy Daniels who is a renowned author and will be speaking about an organization which identifies parks and recreational facilities to make people aware of these opportunities. Tom said he asked Eddy to tailor his talk to the Fox River watershed. Tom said he is trying to get all the speakers and topics listed on the Fox River Partnership website so people can see what the summit is all about and get them enthusiastic about attending. Tom said the contact information will be included on the website so people can contact the speakers before or after the summit. Tom said that another speaker will be Cody Nelson who will address cover crops, no till farming and soil health in general. Tom said he needs a biography and photo of all the speakers to post on the website. Chad Sampson pointed out that Cody comes from the farmer organization Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County. Chad said that he is meeting with this committee tomorrow and expects some attendance from them at the 2019 Summit. Tom said that we have not been successful at involving the agricultural sector in the summit and is open to anyway we can

get them to attend and participate. Dean Falkner asked if the Counties had lists of their farmers and both Chad Sampson of Racine County and Alan Barrows of Waukesha County said they had such lists. It was suggested that we could send out the brochure for the summit to farmers using these mailing lists. Dan Treloar of Kenosha County asked Chad if the brochure could be posted on 'Gov-delivery' to get the word out and Chad agreed. Chad said that this posting would reach 180 to 190 farmers in Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha Counties. Tom said that Dale Busser of SEWRPC will be making a presentation based on the results of the SEWRPC survey we commissioned regarding streambank erosion and phosphorus/sediment loading. Chad said that they are planning a workshop for the Watershed Protection Committee for February 5, 2019 but have not selected a location so far. Chad said this would be an opportunity to get the summit brochures into the hands of the farmers in attendance. Chad said that 50 to 60 farmers show up for these workshops. Dan Treloar asked Chad to explain a little bit about this organization and Chad said that the committee got \$40,000 in state farm grants last year and again for next year which it can use to share in the expense of farmers to do watershed protection activities like cover crops and environmental education. It was pointed out that some of these farmers have installed signs on their fields along highways that state "this is a cover crop for clean water".

At this point Tom Slawski passed out copies of letters he wrote to Governor Elect Tony Evers of Wisconsin and Governor Elect J. B. Pritzker of Illinois. The letters ask them to attend the 2019 Summit. The well written letters define our watershed in both states and point out other environmental organizations that collaborate in maintaining the Fox River watershed. Tom pointed out that the letters are intended to make both Governors Elect aware of the value of the Fox River to their states. In both letters Tom indicated that collective and coordinated endorsement by the two states may stimulate financial backing at the federal level. While working on composing these two letters, Tom said that Dale Busser of SEWRPC pointed out to him a report titled "Illinois River Basin Restoration Comprehensive Plan with Integrated Environmental Assessment", which was written by the Army Corps of Engineers and the IDNR. The document is 500+ pages long and includes our Fox River watershed as part of the Illinois River watershed with a complete environmental assessment. Tom passed out copies of the 25 page long executive summary to all present. Tom made a special point of the fact that this document points out that the Illinois River (which we are part of) was recognized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 as a "nationally significant ecosystem" as part of the upper Mississippi River System. Tom pointed out all the programs and federal funding that has been made available to the Great Lakes another nationally significant ecosystem that have not been made available to Illinois and Fox River ecosystems. Tom said the hope here is that involving the two state Governors Elect might get some action on the federal level to create programs and funding for our ecosystem. Tom asked everyone to read the two letters and make any

comments and suggestions to him. Then there was considerable discussion concerning using state legislators in both states to present these letters with a recommendation of support to the Governors Elect. There was no clear decision on whether to use legislators or go directly to the Governors Elect transition teams. There is some follow up work to be done here. Dean Falkner asked the commissioners to get back to Tom within a week with any feedback. Dan Treloar pointed out the importance of attendance size when a Governor decides whether to attend an event or not. Tom said that he would consider providing the historical attendance and/or the projected attendance. This agenda topic took 35 minutes to complete.

- b) Mukwonago River shoreline restoration at WE Energies Site. Alan Barrows said that he did his final site inspection about 3 weeks ago and told Jim Pindel to pay the final invoice. For the sake of the attendees who are not familiar with this project Alan explained that the project amounted to 350 feet of shoreline restoration and it is probably the longest duration project in the FRC history at 8 years to complete. Alan said the project can come off of the agenda, but it will be kept on until it is cleared by Sara DeBruijn of the WDNR. Alan said that the property owner WE Energies wants a report on the project, which Alan said he will provide. Additionally Alan has to send some final pictures to Al Sikora for our website. Alan said that the project really turned out well. Jim Pindel said that he sent a check for \$2,854.50 to the contractor as our last payment.
- c) ESR Project disposal sites environmental impact: No one from the WWMD was present. Jim Pindel reported that they are in sort of a holding pattern right now. The public hearing on the sediment spreading was held and he thinks they are now waiting on the Army Corps of Engineers to say if they will permit the spreading of sediment on farmed wetlands. Jim said he thought that Graef Eng. was going ahead and preparing the bid documents which hopefully will go out early next year.
- d) Schuetze Playground Storm Water Abatement: - Jim Pindel said that he forwarded the two documents that Sara DeBruijn said she needed on November 15th. The documents were provided by Melissa Lipska of the City of Waukesha.
- e) SEWRPC Survey for Waterford Dam to the Illinois Border – Tom Slawski Tom Slawski said that he got together with Al Sikora and obtained the CD that Graef Eng. provided for the upper Fox River survey some years ago. Tom said he is still working on some final maps and the draft of the report. Tom said he hoped to have the draft of the report ready for our next meeting.
- f) Birch Lane Shoreline Protection Project: Chad Sampson said that the project is completed and can be taken off of the agenda. Jim Pindel said he will leave

it on the agenda until we get reimbursed by the WDNR.

- g) VoW Jefferson St. Park & Launch – Fred Koeller. Fred said there is nothing new to report at this time.

New Business

- a) Consideration of developing a USEPA 9-Key Elements Watershed Management Plan – Dean Falkner said that at the last sub-committee meeting the suggestion was made that they look at a completed plan. Andrew Craig of the WDNR suggested looking at the Apple Creek 9-Key Elements Plan. They decided to use as much of this plan as possible and so to this end Dave Spurlock of the WWMD converted the document to a word document. Dean said he contacted Outagamie County to ask permission to use their document. Dean said he did not get a negative response and is still waiting for a formal answer. Using this plan as a shell or framework will save a lot of time. A river assessment must be included and the Apple Creek plan touches on all the other programs or topics that need to be included. Dean said much time had to be spent on cover crops as one of the elements of the plan. Dean said that their issues were amazingly similar to the issues we have, like sediment transfer and high volume flows. Dean said he is hopeful of permission to use the Apple River plan and will call the next meeting of the sub-committee after he receives the Outagamie County response. Then they will look at the issues like prioritization of the erosion areas and all the other issues they need to address. Tom Slawski was asked if the SEWRPC survey included phosphorus loading and Tom said that it would. Tom said that Andy Buehler of Kenosha County mentioned at our last meeting that the worst area of erosion in Kenosha County has been fixed and was addressed with sheet pilings. Dan Treloar said that they paid \$523,000 out of the county funds to repair this worst erosion area. They have preliminary estimates on the cost for the next two most erosion areas but do not have the funds in the highway budget to cover them. So these next bad areas are on record to be addressed when funds become available. Dan said it is not foreseen that either of these projects can be done in 2019. Tom Slawski said that with this worst location fixed it will cause him to readjust his priority schedule in the survey report.
- b) Oakwood Shores Park Streambank Stabilization Project – Dan Treloar Jim Pindel said that at our last meeting Andy Buehler of Kenosha County presented the presentation prepared by Dan Treloar after which we said we would take the next month to think about it and then at today's meeting see if the project meets the Project Acceptance Criteria and if it does, we would vote on accepting the project. Reviewing the acceptance criteria the project earned 48 of a possible 55 points which meets the qualification of at least 28 points and it also met categories 1 and 8, so it passes the acceptance criteria. The estimated total cost of the project is \$36,000 with our 90% share being \$32,400 and the sponsors (Kenosha County Soil & Water Resource management Program) share will be \$3,600. During the acceptance criteria evaluation Dean Falkner told Dan Treloar that he heard of a

new program called the Healthy Waters grant. Dean said he would forward whatever information he had on this program to Dan. Tom Slawski said that he thought that this was a small scale grant with a limit of less than \$5000. The potential problem of double dipping using the Healthy Waters grant funds and our SEWFRC grant funds on the same project was considered. We really need someone like Jim Ritchie who can tell us if this is a problem or not. Jim Pindel will try to arrange for someone at the WDNR who will answer this question and be someone we can contact whenever we have a question of whether we can fund something or not.

Jeff Lang motioned that we accept the project for grant funding and the motion was seconded by Fred Koeller. The motion carried unanimously. Jim Pindel said he brought along a copy of the Cost Share Agreement for this project to give to Dan Treloar. However Jim said that in preparing the agreement he noticed that the last line states a date when the project must be completed by and a date by which the documentation must be completed. Jim explained that we added this line to the form because of the fact that our grants came with a fixed completion date. This is no longer a requirement, so Jim suggested that we change this line to simply state that complete documentation for reimbursement must be submitted within 3 months of the completion of the project. This change was unanimously accepted. Jim Pindel said he would revise the Cost Share Agreement and email it to Dan Treloar who can sign it and send the signed agreement to Dean Falkner for signing for the commission.

- c) Consideration of reimbursing the attendance fees for the Fox River Summit, for members of the FWA as well as the Governors of Illinois and Wisconsin and other invited elected officials. These funds would have to come from our non-grant funds. Jeff Lang said that he brought up the idea and motioned that we reimburse these people as a courteous thing to do. Alan Barrows seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports and Updates

- a) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Randy Sweet the chairman of the Advisory committee of the FWA was present and said he had a couple things to tell us about and that he brought Rob Bowman with him who is the Field Superintendent of the FWA. Randy said they are still on target for presenting their watershed plan to the FWA board this coming March. He is in the process of preparing their presentation for the board as well as discovering other items they need to address. Randy said he might be contacting some of us for help as to where to find some of the information he needs. Randy said the second thing he wanted to cover is the fact that they narrowed down the scope of the plan. The area of the watershed they are going to include goes from the Wisconsin-Illinois border down to the Stratton dam. Originally they were intending to cover the whole watershed all the way down to Algonquin, but this was too much to handle. Now he is in the process of contacting and hoping for cooperation from all the entities in the newly define watershed area including municipalities, counties and non-profit organizations. Randy said they were very

interested when we were discussing non-point source funding, because that is one of the things they are looking for as well. Another point Randy made is that Illinois has put together a flood control commission. Randy then read from an official legislative document which states that the legislature has amended the 1945 Flood Control Act to create the Flood Control Commission which is to study current flood control practices by the 5 counties involved. The commission has to produce a report on their findings to the state general assembly by the end of 2019. Randy said that the FWA will take an active role in producing this report. Randy asked Rob to make a few comment and Rob said that his role is primarily field project management. Rob said that the FWA does a lot of projects in house and has a full time staff. Rob said that they bring in part time summer help and their major operation is dredging. Besides the sediment management they also provide more than 450 navigational aids in the waterway. They work with debris related concerns as identified by constituents. They try to do all the work in house but occasionally contract out some work. Rob said he works with Randy in the discovery group to try to figure out the benefits of the watershed plan to the point that the FWA board will support the watershed plan. Tom Slawski mentioned to Randy and Rob that he shared the two letters to the two Governors Elect with Joe Keller of the FWA and asked them to tell Joe Keller he needs his electronic signature for the letter to the Illinois Governor Elect. Tom said that he wondered if the FWA had any ideas on how to improve the letter and Randy said he would follow up on it.

At this point Katelyn Bratz said that while we were talking she looked up the Healthy Watershed Consortium Grants by the EPA. Last year they did 76 grant for a total of \$15,000,000. Katelyn pointed out that one of the grants was for St. Croix River watershed going from Wisconsin into Minnesota and Katelyn wondered if we could leverage work on our watershed going from Wisconsin to Illinois in the same way. Rob from the FWA said that as far as he know the federal 319 funds come down from the federal EPA to the Illinois EPA (IEPA) who then controls dispersion of the funds in their state. Tom Slawski pointed out that Wisconsin does not have an EPA and the federal 319 funds are controlled by the WDNR. Katelyn said she would forward the link to this grant information to Jim Pindel who would then forward it to everyone else present. Jim asked and obtained Randy's email address so he can forward this information to him.

- b) Possible diversion of City of Waukesha water treatment plant discharge away from the Fox River: Dean Falkner said that he tried to get some information from a person he works with regarding phosphorus loading but hadn't received anything in writing and will forward that information to all of us when he receives it. Rob Bowman of the FWA said that initially he was concerned about what effect the loss of 8,000,000 gal/day (this number took a beating today, ranging from 6,000,000 to 10,000,000 gal/day, with the number submitted to the Great Lakes Compact being 10,000,000 gal/day) would have on the Fox River in Illinois. Rob said that he contacted the office of Water Resources and was told that it would have a negligible effect. Jim Pindel pointed out that the findings of the SEWRPC stating that during low flow conditions as we experience in late

summer and early fall the 10,000,000 gal/day represents 90% of the flow in the Fox River within our area of jurisdiction.

- c) Progress toward designation as a “National Water Trail” – Village of Waterford. Fred Koeller said that he has not seen the minutes from the last meeting of the Water Trail committee and said he knows that a timeline has been established and asked Tom Slawski to comment. Tom said that the timeline is in a state of flux right now and is still being worked on. Tom then passed out draft copies of the three fold brochure that the team has developed. The brochure states their Mission Statement, their Mission and their Goals. The brochure includes a map of the entire water trail in Wisconsin and Illinois as well as four color pictures of people recreating on the Fox River. Tom made a point of the fact that one of their tasks was to develop a logo and that logo appears twice on the brochure. It is the Fabulous Fox Water Trail sandwiched between a canoe paddle and a kayak paddle. Their website fabulousfoxwatertrail.org is the portal which has all the revised and updated access sites, their amenities and locations. This work has been done by their contractor Map Hero. Tom said that they are on track to present this brochure at the 2019 Fox River Summit.

At this point Tom Slawski brought up another new topic. Tom said Pete Jensen is the new chairman of the Eagle Springs Lake Association now that Tom Day has retired from this position. Pete has contacted Waukesha County and the WDNR Emergency Management group looking into potential flood mitigation. There are new flood plain maps that have been developed for Wisconsin which is new and more current data. It appears that Pete is looking to manage the dams in the Fox River to mitigate flooding in the system. Tom said that he will attend a meeting on this issue next week and will report on it to our commission. Tom said that this might become an agenda item for us to track.

Backing up to the effect of the Waukesha diversion, Dean Falkner said that data he has from the WDNR shows that the Fox River flow in the Mukwonago area is 17,000,000 gal/day and the monthly low flow was 35,000,000 gal/day so a change of 8,000,000 gal/day would have a significant effect in the river's flow. Whereas the flow down in Illinois is 75,000,000 gal/day and so a change of 8,000,000 gal/day would not be as noticeable.

- d) SEWFRC Website – Alan Barrows said that he had nothing to report at this time. Jim Pindel stated that he received a Thank you email from HostDrive.com for paying our \$28.00 fee for our website hosting. Jim said he didn't pay anything so this fee must have been made by Al Sikora again. We thank you Al for your support.

Correspondence –

- a. 11/12/18 Email from Jim Pindel asking all of us to mark our calendars for today's meeting.
- b. 11/29/18 Forward of email correspondence between Dean Falkner and FWA regarding Wisconsin/Illinois Watershed Planning.

- c. 11/15/18 Forward of an email from Melissa Lipska of the City of Waukesha to Sara DeBruijn with the two documents needed to complete the documentation for the Schuetze Playground project.

Miscellaneous Issues –

Many of the miscellaneous issues had already been discussed during the course of the meeting.

Chad Sampson asked for a new agenda item for our next meeting to be called the Ranke Road Water Control Project. Chad expects to make a presentation on this project in January.

It was motioned by Jeff Lang and seconded by Chad Sampson that the meeting be closed and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 2:47 PM

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday
January 25, 2019 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Burlington
Department of Public Works 2200 S. Pine Street, Burlington, WI.