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FOX RIVER NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Summary of Proceedings

Fox River Navigational System Authority Annual Meeting
3:00 P.M. Tuesday, July 22, 2014
Authority Office
1008 Augustine Street, Kaukauna, WI

Authority Members in Attendance:

Ron Van De Hey, Outagamie County
Will Dorsey, Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Jean Rombach-Bartels, Wisconsin Department of
Natural Resources
Tim Rose, Outagamie County
John Vette, Winnebago County
Daina Penkiunas, Wisconsin State Historical Society
John Shier, Brown County

Authority Members Absent:

Open, Brown County
Bill Raaths, Winnebago County

Guests and Staff in Attendance:

Phil Ramlet, Omni
Tim Bolwerk, Omni
Harlan Kiesow, FRNSA CEO
Robert Stark, FRNSA COO
Rodger Urbanek, FRNSA Administrative Assistant
Steve Lockhart, Friends of the Fox
Candice Mortara, FWHP
Ann Biebel, Cornerstone Preservation, LLC

Chairman Ron Van De Hey called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

1. Introductions:

Chairman Ron Van De Hey asked all present to introduce themselves to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes of the June 24, 2014 Authority Meeting:

Chairman Van De Hey asked for approval of the Minutes of the last meeting.
Motion made by John Shier to approve the Minutes. Seconded by Daina Penkiunas.
Motion carried.

3. Financial Status Reports, *T. Rose*

a. Operational Budget

Tim Rose reported that we have looked at the Budget for 2015 and it looks pretty decent. He noted that the Operational Budget is up about \$90,000.00 over the year before. Tim said he had a question for Robert Stark on how much reduced revenue we will be receiving due to the Menasha Lock Refund Program. Robert estimated that we would be refunding about \$3,500.00, of the Seasons Permits Fees. Robert stated that the Authority took care of dockage for stranded boaters which cost about \$300.00. The Authority is being proactive offering refunds to Season Permit holders to provide good will.

b. Capital Budget

Tim Rose reported there are no changes to the Capital Budget. We covered any concerns with the Capital Budget last month.

c. Unlock the Fox Fund

Tim Rose reported that there is a meeting scheduled with the Foundation to work on the MOA. Tim Rose and Harlan Kiesow will attend. Any Board members who would be interested are welcome to attend also. The meeting will be on August 11, 2014. Tim Rose said that our return on the Fund is over 7 percent which is higher than what was planned.

Tim Rose made the motion to accept the Financial Report. Will Dorsey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Engineering Committee Report, *W. Dorsey*

a. Approve Boldt #009 Revised Kaukauna Lock 1, 2, 3, and Dry Dock Invoice

Will Dorsey presented to the Board Boldt Construction's revised # 009 invoices in the amount of \$226,061.72 for approval by the Board. Will Dorsey made the motion to approve the Boldt Construction invoices. Motion was seconded by John Shier. Motion carried.

b. Approve contractor selection for Little Chute Canal Walls Restoration Project

Will Dorsey presented to the Board two bids for the Little Chute Canal Walls Restoration Project. The first one was from Boldt Construction Company in the amount of \$690,000.00 and the second was from Janke Contractors for \$ 417,000.00. Tim Bolwerk of Omni Associates gave an overview of the two bids. Discussion followed. Will Dorsey made the motion to approve contracting with Janke Contractors not to exceed \$417,000.00, but to also pursue value engineering to reduce that amount where ever possible. Motion seconded by Daina Penkiunas. Motion carried.

c. Menasha House Demolition Status

Phil Ramlet, of Omni Associates reported that he received approval from the Wisconsin State Historical Society to go ahead with the demolition of the house and the

garage. There is no use for the garage on this property. The concrete slab of the garage will be used for parking after the demolition. A fence will be erected to prevent construction equipment from going on to the archeological site.

d. Menasha Lock Repair Update

Robert Stark reported that the Authority has met with individual engineers who recommended steps to correct the problem and to make modifications to the lower right gate upper hinge design. The Army Corps of Engineers suggested that we come up with a protocol for adjusting door and Pintle. Pintle is underwater and the lock will need to be de-watered to check it. A protocol will be established to schedule regular maintenance of the lock. Time frame for the completion of the repair optimistically is two to three weeks if machining gets done. Altogether we estimate 4 to 6 weeks. The information is being put out on the website so that the public is kept informed with accurate information.

e. Update and Projects Status

A Projects Status and Update handout was passed out to the group. Harlan Kiesow explained the handout. The handout listed the projects and the costs involved showing what has been completed and future projects. Many of the projects have now been completed. It was estimated at the start of the program that the restoration of the locks alone would be \$18,500,000.00. With the hard work of many, the projects have been completed at a much lower cost. Total estimated restoration is estimated at \$14,500,000.00.

5. Property Committee Report, *D. Penkiunas*

a. Little Chute House Status

Candice Mortara, of Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway reported on the progress being made on the Little Chute House. There is now electricity to the house and the tear out is being accomplished. A permanent front door has been installed. Will need to tear out rotten flooring and replace it. Looking at getting two estimates for the heating. A wiring plan is in the works and should be done early August. The interior to be completed over winter. Candice said that she is getting a lot of inquiries from people who are very interested in the work. She said that the time table looks good.

b. Lawe Street House Status

Harlan Kiesow reported that we are in the process of getting estimates on the painting of the house. The soffits have lead paint and it needs to be addressed before the painting can be done. Any loose lead paint will be removed and paint over the rest. The house should be painted this year and the budget of \$11,000.00 should be adequate and project should come in under the budget.

c. Visitor Center Status

Tim Rose presented the update on the Visitor Center. He reported that he has been working on some accurate cost numbers. Right now we have estimates from \$350,000 to \$900,000. Once we have some reliable figures we can go out to fund raise for this

project. At present we have an individual really interested in occupying the center and the locktender house across the street. The project is moving forward.

d. Approve Rapide Croche Historic Preservation Plan, A. Biebel

Ann Biebel presented the Rapide Croche Historic Preservation Plan. The presentation was very informative covering the period of significance from 1850 to 1941. Rapide Croche was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1993. The presentation provided historical documentation and preservation recommendations. A copy of the Preservation Plan was given to Daina Penkiunas for WHS. John Shier made the motion to accept the report as delivered by Ann Biebel. Motion seconded by Tim Rose. Motion Carried.

e. Approve Donor Recognition Sign Design and Location to submit to SHPO

Robert Stark reported that a selection was made for the design of the Donor Recognition sign. After much consideration and planning we have a final design. The plan is to have 3 Donor Recognition Signs up by the end of the year. Today, the goal is to have a motion to approve the go ahead with the Donor Recognition Sign at the Menasha Lock. Tim Rose so moved. The motion seconded by Jean Rombach-Bartels. Motion carried.

f. Corps Property Transfer Status

Harlan Kiesow reported nothing new has occurred. However, about a week ago or so the Army Corps of Engineers had a meeting about the property transfer. We haven't heard anything so far. Harlan stated that he had sent out an E-mail to them again to get something scheduled. This is important because we need to get back to the State Building Commission and will need six weeks lead time.

6. Rapide Croche Transfer Committee Report, J. Shier

a. EA Status Update

Robert Stark reported that we have a meeting tomorrow with Jim Doperalski Jr. who is the lead on the EA project at the DNR. He is going to discuss the report draft with us. The report will go out for the 30 day public notice period in August. Robert said he didn't think we can make any changes to it but will be able to review it before the public notice. Robert said that the DNR has worked hard on this and a lot of people have reviewed it in the public interest.

7. Operations Report, D. Arnoldussen & J. Van Boxtel

a. Lockage Report

Dennis Arnoldussen reported that traffic thru the locks system was down. Menasha Locks closed for repair adding to the situation. The lockages in Appleton and the Cedars were also down substantially. In De Pere they were experiencing good traffic this last weekend. Ron Van De Hey requested that Dennis to do a study on the Lockage Report to analyze the situation.

b. 2014 Work Plan Status Report

Jim Van Boxtel reported that they were clearing brush in Appleton along the walkways. Appleton #4 is getting real bad. In Kaukauna they are working every day on the canal walls tuck pointing. The work is coming along real good and is about three quarters done now.

8. Communications, H. Kiesow

Harlan reported that the Authority received a formal response from the Assistant Secretary of the Army about the funds owed. The letter basically said that the Authority has presented everything that is needed on its part and they have our request. The problem is that the Army Corps of Engineers doesn't have any funds at this time. Tim Rose stated that we have been working the political channels and have received a response from U.S Senator Tammy Baldwin. Tim is working the political channels trying to find someone who can help. It looks like the earliest we could see anything would be the 2016 budget.

9. Other

a. FY 2015 Committee Appointments

Harlan is working on the appointments looking for people to help out. He would hope to have the appointments together in the next couple of weeks.

Harlan reported that the Authority has two perspective Board Members applications down at the Governor's Office waiting approval.

Will Dorsey reported on his meeting on the Veteran's Memorial Bridge in Kaukauna. The Coast Guard has issued a letter stating that the bridge needs to be operable by April, 2017. Will said that they have done some work at the DOT and have found that there could be some funds through the STP Urban Program Funding. The current funds have been allocated to projects but if a community could allow their funds to be used for the bridge it could help out a lot. Will said the most that the program would pay is 80 percent. Tim mentioned that we should work with the County Board Chairman to help out with funding. Will said that it would be a good idea to work with Little Chute about funding.

Candice Mortara, FWHP gave a report on recent bookings. She talked about recently having 225 people portaging at the Menasha Locks. They were able to use the rest room facility there which helped out a lot.

Chairman Ron Van De Hey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Shier made the motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Will Dorsey. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.