

Meeting Notice

Fox River Navigational System Authority Meeting
4:30 P.M. Tuesday, March 8, 2016
FRNSA Office
1008 Augustine Street, Kaukauna, WI 54130

AGENDA:

The Fox River Navigational System Authority board will meet Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 4:30 PM to discuss the future status of the Menasha Lock.

Robert J. Stark, FRNSA CEO

1008 Augustine Street
Kaukauna, WI 54130
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FOX RIVER NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Summary of Proceedings

Fox River Navigational System Authority Meeting
4:30 P.M. Tuesday, March 8, 2016
FRNSA Office
1008 Augustine Street, Kaukauna, WI 54130
Conference Call 641-715-3580 Access 825630#

Authority Members in Attendance:

Tim Rose, Outagamie County
Bruce Enke, Brown County
Bill Raaths, Winnebago County (via phone)
Jeff Feldt, Outagamie County (via phone)
Will Dorsey, Wisconsin Department of Transportation (via phone)
Jean Romback-Bartels, Wisconsin DNR (via phone)

Authority Members Absent:

Kathryn Curren, Brown County
John Vette, Winnebago County
Daina Penkiunas, Wisconsin Historical Society

Guests and Staff in Attendance:

Robert Stark, FRNSA CEO
Phil Ramlet, OMNNI Associates
Scott Vanevenhoven, Assistant COO
Mary Schmidt FRNSA Marketing
David Horst Community Foundation
Scott Maves, Appleton Yacht Club
Duke Behnke Appleton Post Crescent
Alex, WLUK-TV
Channel 11 Camera Reporter
Mike Kemeter, WHBY Radio

Chairman Tim Rose called the meeting to order at 4:31 P.M.

Chairman Rose reported that there are two items to discuss during the meeting and they concern the Menasha Lock situation. The first would be to develop a plan on how we are to handle any future infestations of invasive species which could occupy the waterway. Deputy Secretary of the DNR suggested that we establish a joint committee to discuss the development of a plan on how we are going to handle the situation. The meeting should be held after March 24, 2016.

Chairman Rose indicated that Jean Romback-Bartels has 5 individuals from the DNR that would be willing to be part of this Ad Hoc committee. Chairman Rose would be interested in having Board Members Jeff Feldt and Bruce Enke along with Bob Stark, Phil Ramlet from Omni Associates, Bart De Stasio from Lawrence University and a representative from the Appleton Yacht Club.

Chairman Rose said the second issue we want to talk about is how we deal with the current situation of the Menasha Lock being closed. Five months have gone by and the 2016 season is coming and we do not have a solution to the issue. One solution to look at is to move the Boat Transfer Station from Rapide Croche to Menasha. Tim Rose talked with Bart De Stasio from Lawrence University about this move. Bart said that moving the Boat Transfer Station to Menasha would prevent AIS from entering Lake Winnebago. At Rapide Croche you would lift the boats and spray them off which would get rid of big things like fish, snails etc. The spraying would not remove the invertebrates. Bart said there are already invertebrates up river. The boat then would be cleaned at Menasha where the boat would be lifted and placed into the hot water cleaning tank which would clean the boat of any AIS preventing the spread of AIS into Lake Winnebago.

Chairman Tim Rose stated that the reason he called the meeting would be to get the consent of the Board on where we should be going down the road and how we are going to get there, not only in the short term, but also in the long term. Chairman Rose said there are four things to be considered here. First, FRNSA is committed to keep the Winnebago System in pristine condition. Second, in some fashion we want to get the locks operating again. Third, developing some process so that if something were to happen with some other species we would have a battle plan a way to at least look at it with steps to take to get through it. Fourth, the Authority will take the high road in anything we do to meet the regulations.

Chairman Rose asked if anyone had any comments. Jean Romback-Bartels said she was surprised that Bart De Stasio said that there are already invertebrates in the river upstream of Rapide Croche. Tim Rose said that Bart's comment was that he'd bet on it that there is something there already. We are looking at a long term solution to the AIS problem. Bill Raaths commented that we should look at this situation and then talk over the plan for the other locks for this year. Tim Rose asked for any other comments. Tim said that by the silence it is best to go and look at the process of moving the Transfer Station.

Tim Rose said that at another meeting the question came up as to whether or not the plans, studies and engineering of the Rapide Croche Transfer Station could be moved to Menasha using all the present plans. Tim asked Jean Romback-Bartels if the plans, studies and engineering of Rapide Croche could be used in Menasha. Jean said that a lot of the plans and studies could be used. Jean said that it is early enough to look at what could be used at Menasha. Robert Stark asked if Jean was talking about the EA's and the EIR's done in the past could apply to Menasha. Jean said no she was thinking that he was talking about the studies that Bart has been doing. Jean said that we probably would not have to do all that work over.

Tim Rose asked the Board if they felt that we should move forward looking at the possibility of moving the Rapide Croche Transfer and Cleansing Station to Menasha. Robert Stark asked that we have a motion to authorize the investigation in to the moving of the Rapide Croche Transfer and Cleansing Station to Menasha. Bruce Enke motioned to authorize the Feasibility Study of the

move of the Rapide Croche Transfer and Cleansing Station to Menasha and a boat transfer at Rapide Croche. Motion was seconded by Jeff Feldt. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bill Raaths asked about the 2016 Lock Schedule. Robert Stark reported that we are planning to operate the Appleton, Cedars, Little Chute Locks, Little Rapids and De Pere Locks this summer. Should we get clearance at Menasha to open the Lock we would also operate that lock for the remainder of the season with a schedule similar to the Menasha 2015 schedule.

Ron Van De Hey asked if the Menasha Lock is permanently closed. Jean Romback-Bartels said that at present the lock is closed. However, if the Round Goby is found in Lake Winnebago the lock would be allowed to reopen. The DNR is working on different scenarios and how they would affect the lock. The DNR wants as much as FRNSA to open the lock.

Chairman Tim Rose asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Enke motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Jeff Feldt. Motion carried.

Chairman Tim Rose adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.