

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

FRNSA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 – Board Meeting **4:00PM PROMPTLY**

Meeting Location: Pullmans At Trolley Square, 619 S Olde Oneida Street, Appleton, WI 54915

There will be no virtual option for this meeting.

Members: Ron Van De Hey (Chair), Jeff Feldt (VP), Tim Short (T), (No Secretary), Bruce Enke, John Vette, Jean Rombach-Bartels (DNR), Tom Buchholz (DOT), Daina Penkiunas (SHPO), Dean Haen

Attending: Ron Van De Hey, Jeff Feldt, Tim Short, Bruce Enke, Jean Rombach-Bartels, Tom Buchholz, Dean Haen, Phil Ramlet, Beth Taubel, Amanda Peterson, Brennan Gilson, Vicky Winters, Mary Schmidt (Schmidt Communicates), Todd & Christine Williams, Tim Bolwerk (Westwood), Peter & Betty Bosch, Bill & Jayne Laste, Stephen Nichols, Melissa Schmidt, Kathy & Tom Lemmer, Pat Spaay, Patrick Tarkowski, Tim Vosters, John Schmitz, Gail Enke, Sam Menning, Dave Tuchscherer, Adam Teixeira, Sam Roffers, Silverio Mirao, Paul Stelter, Bill Laste, Harlan Kiesow, John Foss, Joe & Diane Bast, Janet Van De Hey, Maureen Feldt, John Foss, Dave Bartels, Ann Vanevenhoven

Not Attending: John Vette, Daina Penkiunas

Start: 4:05p End: 4:30p

Agenda:

1. Introduction
 - a. Board introduced themselves to those present.
 - b. Phil Ramlet introduced John Foss, a representative from Senator Ron Johnson's office
 - c. Phil Ramlet introduced Harlan Kiesow, former CEO of FRNSA
2. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes
 - a. Tim Short motions to approve previous board meeting minutes, seconded by Jeff Feldt
3. Review and approval of Treasurer's Report – Tim Short
 - a. June 2023 Summary
 1. June opened with \$15.7 Million in funds
 2. June closed at \$16.3 Million in funds
 1. Fiscal Year End was 06/30/23 (FYE)
 - b. Summary of 2023 FYE
 1. Expenses increased \$115.2 from last fiscal year (2021/2022)

2. Majority of capital projects were under \$50K
 3. Menasha Lock
 1. Goby study
 2. Kleinschmidt Associates
 - a. \$35.3 K for FYE 2022
 4. FYE draws taken \$1.125M
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4. Executive Director – Phil Ramlet
 - a. 2023-2024 Activity
 1. Discuss
 1. Annual Updates
 - a. FRNSA has 17 locks
 - b. FRNSA has 20 acres of property
 - c. Locks were built prior to the civil war (1850-1860)
 - i. Based on the age of the locks, there are unplanned expenditures
 - d. Menasha Lock
 - i. FRNSA Board of Directors expect round goby report from Kleinschmidt Associates by the end of August 2023
 1. Operation of electric barrier
 2. Cost of electric barrier
 - a. Next step would be in later 2023
 - i. Get public input
 - ii. FRNSA cannot afford internally
 - iii. Excess of \$8M
 - iv. Community Foundations of Oshkosh, Fox Cities and Green Bay, manage FRNSA funds, along with Associated Bank
 - v. Community Foundations can accept donations on FRNSA's behalf
 - ii. Report will also go to the DNR to review
 - e. Mary Schmidt with Schmidt Communicates is second to none
 - i. For the size of FRNSA, we have received a lot of recognition
 1. TV
 2. Magazine articles
 3. Online posts three time, or more, each week
 4. Traffic has picked up substantially.
 5. Helpful in assisting with raising funds, finding donors
 - f. Scott Thompson, FRNSA Historian
 - i. Leads tours
 1. Tour from Japan
 2. Many school tours

3. DOT- take your child to work day

- a. 100 participants
- b. 64 children

5. Chairman Remarks - Ron Van De Hey

- a. Ron Van De Hey and Harlan Kiesow were instrumental in getting the lock rehabilitation started
- b. There are good executives on the board
- c. Board couldn't be happier with Phil Ramlet
- d. Bumps in the road, but FRNSA is doing fine
- e. Best Non-profit board Ron has ever worked with
 - 1. We bring a wealth of talent
 - 2. We take hold and get things done
 - 3. Ron Van De Hey and Phil Ramlet meet one to several times a week
- f. Challenges
 - 1. Apply for grants
 - 2. \$8M electric barrier
 - 1. Getting public approval
 - 2. Keep moving towards ultimate goal
 - 3. Locks are old
 - 1. Should we be doing this?
 - 2. Never lost sight of our goal
- g. Trail
 - 1. Used to be big yachts and wealthy people on the river
 - 2. Coal boats, shipping of paper machines
 - 3. Now a lot of kayakers, walkers, kids on the trail
 - 4. River and trails have become recreational, not commercial
- h. Thank you to everyone

6. Election of Officers

- a. Board recognized Jean Romback-Bartels (DNR) has been rock solid on advising the board
 - 1. Reflection of her wise counsel and friendship
 - 2. Retiring next year
- b. Per Ron Van De Hey, board very much enjoys working with the DNR and DOT, SHPO holds us to their standards, all doing a wonderful job
- c. Motion made to keep members in their same roles
 - 1. Jeff Feldt as VP
 - 2. Ron Van De Hey as Chair
 - 3. Tim Short as Treasurer
 - 4. Jean Romback-Bartels will take on the role of Secretary
 - 1. Bruce Enke makes a motion to accept the officers as mentioned above, seconded by Tom Buchholz, all approve

Fox River Navigational System Authority

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7. Adjournment

- a. Tim Short motions to adjourn, seconded by Jeff Feldt, all approved