

Fox River Navigational System Authority

1008 Augustine St
Kaukauna, WI 54130

Philip Ramlet, Executive Director
Telephone: 920-850-1677
Jeremy Cords, Operations Director
Telephone: 920-309-4501



MINUTES

FRNSA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – Board Meeting **3:00PM PROMPTLY**

Meeting Location: **1008 Augustine Street, Kaukauna, WI 54130**

Virtual: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/412495285>

United States: [+1 \(786\) 535-3211](tel:+17865353211)

Access Code: 412-495-285

Members: Ron Van De Hey (Chair), Jeff Feldt (VP), Tim Short (T), Bruce Enke (S), John Vette, Tom Buchholz (DOT), Dean Haen, Ashley Dooley (DNR)

Attending: Ron Van De Hey, Jeff Feldt, Tim Short, Bruce Enke, Tom Buchholz, Tom Mace, Steve Erb, Phil Ramlet, Beth Taubel, Mike Pederson (Mead & Hunt)

Not in Attendance: Ashley Dooley, Dean Haen, John Vette

Start: 3:00pm End: 3:47pm

Agenda:

- I. Introduction
 - A. Introductions made by all those in attendance
- II. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes
 - A. Discuss
 - B. **Jeff Feldt motions to approve board meeting minutes, seconded by Tim Short, all approve**
- III. Items carried over from previous meeting for follow-up
 - A. Phil Ramlet to contact Judy Ruhl at FVTC to facilitate the Strategic Planning Process
 1. Judy Ruhl did not feel she would be a good fit with FRNSA
 2. Additional two strategic planners will be contacted by Phil Ramlet the week of July 7, 2025
- IV. Review and approval of Treasurer's Report – Tim Short
 - A. Financial Summary
 - B. Unlock the Fox monthly summary from Associated Bank
 - C. Monthly expense details
 - D. **Tim Short motions to approve Treasurer's Report, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approve**
- V. Executive Director – Phil Ramlet

A. Mike Pederson; Mead and Hunt

1. Little Rapids Lock Tender House

i. Discuss and approve

- a. Basement wall bowing in
- b. Sure-Dry is the recommended vendor
 - i. Contract amount, \$17,800

ii. Tim Short motions to approve vendor, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approve

2. Rapid Croche Lock Tender Shack, Blue Timber Shed

i. Discuss and approve

- a. Both projects have received approval from the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO)
 - i. Completion of these two projects was important to former board member, Daina Penkiunas
 - ii. Completion could make FRNSA's working relationship with SHPO better; possibly make future approvals more acceptable to SHPO
- b. Phil Ramlet estimates that both projects can be completed for \$200-250K
 - i. \$175-200K for Blue Timber Shed
 - 1. Mead & Hunt stabilized one year ago
 - ii. \$50-75K for Rapid Croche Lock Tender Shack
- c. Would like to get bids by mid-August and have job(s) completed by November
 - i. FRNSA Board would have the "right to reject" bids
 - ii. Tom Buchholz recommends applying for the DOT TAP grant
 - 1. Phil Ramlet will look into requirements and submit submission-due in October
- d. Concern that these projects will cost us more than we are earning
 - i. There is no real need to have the Blue Timber Shed restored for storage at this time
 - ii. Possibly do one project or the other, not both
 - 1. Phil Ramlet stated that SHPO would not agree with that-want both projects completed
 - iii. We've been waiting this long, why do we need to rush to push approval through at this time
 - 1. Possibly wait so new board members have the ability to view/discuss projects so they can be familiar with project(s) and impact/need

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- a. Ron Van De Hey states that FRNSA is not only responsible for the locks themselves, but also the buildings and wants to get these projects done

- ii. **Jeff Feldt approves moving forward with projects, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approve, if FRNSA applies for DOT TAP grant, motion passed with one vote against by Tim Short**

B. Friends of the Fox (FOF) Parcel Donation

1. Update

- i. Our attorney, Andy Rossmeissl has contacted David Peck with (FOF)
- ii. David Peck is attempting to contact board members who would have approved the parcel donation
- iii. Department of Administration (DOA) has approved transaction
- iv. Transaction should be completed in 60-90 days

C. Appleton Canal We Energies Settlement

1. Update

- i. Andy Rossmeissl has reviewed verbiage in settlement and has sent it back to We Energies for review

VI. Capital Projects Committee – Tom Buchholz

A. Motion to approve to pay the following invoices

1. Westwood Invoice 1250502444
 - i. Invoice amount \$7,744.80
2. **Tom Buchholz motions to approve payment, seconded by Tim Short, all approve**

VII. Executive Committee – Jeff Feldt

A. Update

1. Executive Committee
 - i. Discussed Hawkins Ash Audit
 - ii. Discussed FVTC Facilitator

VIII. Fundraising Committee – John Vette

A. Update

1. No update

IX. Rapide Croche Committee – Bruce Enke

A. Discuss

1. Would like to see what kayak portages would look like at this location
2. See what washing station possibilities look like

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X. Chairman

A. Ron Vandehey retirement

1. Review and approve

i. **Tim Short motions to accept Ron Van De Hey's retirement, seconded by Jeff Feldt, all approve**

B. Jeff Feldt appointment as Chair (effective 6/25/25)

1. Review and approve

i. Jeff Feldt to act as Chair in the interim until official elections in July

ii. **Tim Short motions to approve, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approve**

C. Steve Erb appointment as Outagamie County Representative (provisional, effective 6/25/25)

1. Review and approve

2. **Jeff Feldt motions to accept, seconded by Tim Short, all approve**

D. Tom Mace appointment as Winnebago County Representative (provisional, effective 7/1/25)

1. Review and approve

2. **Jeff Feldt motions to approve, seconded by Tim Short, all approve**

XI. Adjourn

A. **Tim Short motions to adjourn, seconded by Jeff Feldt, all approve**