Fox River Navigational System Authority
1008 Augustine St
Kaukauna, WI 54130

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www.Foxlocks.org

MINUTES
FRNSA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 – 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
Access Code: 412-495-285

Members: Jeff Feldt (Chair), Tim Short (T), Bruce Enke (VC), *Tom Mace, *Steve Erb (S), Tom Buchholz (DOT), Dean Haen, Ashley Dooley (DNR), Tricia Canaday (SHPO)

Attending: Jeff Feldt, Tim Short, Bruce Enke, Tom Mace, Steve Erb, Dean Haen, Ashley Dooley, Tricia Canaday (virtual), Jeremy Cords, Phil Ramlet, Beth Taubel

*Members voting in an advisory role

Start: 3:00p End: 4:25p

Agenda:

I. Introduction

II. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes
   A. Discuss
      1. **Tim Short motions to approve previous board meeting minutes, seconded by Ashley Dooley, all approved**

III. Items carried over from previous meeting for follow-up
   A. None

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
      1. **Tim Short motions to approve Treasurer's Report, seconded by Tom Mace, all approved**
   D. FVTC Strategic Plan Update (Steve Erb)
      1. Reviewed and discussed "Core Values" and "Current State" of the Strategic Plan
      2. Jeremy Cords and Phil Ramlet met with three Key Stakeholders yesterday
         i. Friends of the Fox (FOF)
         ii. Appleton Yacht Clut (AYC)
         iii. Little Lake Butte des Morts Association

iv. Key concerns expressed by Key Stakeholders
   a. Opening of Menasha Lock
   b. Navigation Safety – buoys needed
   c. Keeping the system operational beyond 2034
   d. More destinations and facilities
   e. Next Key Stakeholders to meet with will be City of Menasha and City of Appleton

3. March 10, 2026, Board meeting will take place at the D.J. Bordini Center to continue working on the Strategic Plan
   i. 2:30pm to 5:30pm

E. Hawkins-Ash Audit
1. Executive Committee made some minor changes related to policies
2. Still need to complete these policy changes
3. Audit has been submitted to the Department of Administration (DOA)

V. Executive Director – Phil Ramlet

A. 2027 Budget
1. Discussion
   i. Reviewed Budget
   ii. Jeremy Cords answered questions regarding bridge operation reimbursements and lease income

B. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Testing
1. Review and approved
2. Ashley Dooley shared the DNR's preliminary plans for goby testing in 2026, which includes:
   i. Continue angler reporting system and with credible reports of gobies in new locations, conduct angling and trapping "blitzes".
      a. If no angling blitzes are triggered by angler reports, then conduct some late season
   ii. Continue surveys
   iii. Continue trawling surveys
   iv. Implement NEW sturgeon stomach analysis (in 2027) after a pilot program just conducted in Oshkosh with zero goby finds
   v. Implement NEW E-DNA testing/screening
3. FRNSA will retain University of Wisconsin - Green Bay (UWGB) to continue AIS testing
4. UWGB to collaborate with DNR
5. Initial approval for $20K
6. **Tim Short motions to approve UWGB AIS Testing, seconded by Tom Mace, all approved**

C. Ahlstrom Update

1. Discussion
    i. Environmental Site Assessment, Phase I was previously completed on property
    ii. Ahlstrom has documented spills
    iii. DOA will not assist with legal issues and/or cost of litigation
    iv. FRNSA will initiate an Environmental Site Assessment, Phase II on property Ahlstrom is utilizing
    v. Ahlstrom has not paid rent for twenty+ years
    vi. DNR enforces clean-up of any environmental contamination

D. Rapide Croche Update
1. Discussion
    i. Estimate received from Mead & Hunt for multiple projects at Rapide Croche
        a. Abandonment
        b. Portage
        c. Lock House Maintenance assessment
        d. Lock House abandonment consultation and plan development
        e. Project management
    ii. Phil Ramlet anticipates that the Rapide Croche Lock will be closed permanently
    iii. Currently there are concrete barriers on both ends of lock
    iv. Board would like a ballpark figure of abandonment cost prior to spending money on a plan
    v. $70K is currently not in our budget
    vi. Project can possibly wait 1-2 years; however, FRNSA would want a plan prior to possible extension of lease with state
    vii. Jeremy Cords will take any interested members to Rapide Croche Lock on Friday, February 27, 2026

VI. Capital Projects Committee – Tom Buchholz
A. Motion to approve to pay the following invoices
1. Westwood Invoice 1260201021
2. Outagamie County Invoice
B. **Dean Haen motions to approve invoices for payment, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approved**

VII. Executive Committee – Bruce Enke
A. Update
1. Overview of Strategic Planning
2. Preliminary Budget

3. Jeremy Cords gave an update on the dry dock property
4. Alstrom update

VIII. Fundraising Committee
A. Update
1. N/A

IX. Rapide Croche Committee – Bruce Enke
A. Discuss
1. N/A

X. Adjourn
A. **Tim Short motions to adjourn, seconded by Tom Mace, all approved**