

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 23, 2026 – Board Meeting **3:30 PM PROMPTLY**

Meeting Location: **Pullman's 619 South Olde Oneida St, Appleton**

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

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

Access Code: 412-495-285

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

Attending: Jeff Feldt, Tim Short, Bruce Enke, Tom Mace, Steve Erb, Chad DeGrave, Ashley Dooley, Phil Ramlet, Jeremy Cords, Beth Taubel, Yvonne DeGroot (FVTC), Mary Schmidt (Schmidt Communicates), TV 11, WHBY (virtual), Caller "Dave" (virtual)

Start: 3:45p End: 5:05p

Agenda:

- I. Introduction
 - A. Introductions made by all present
- II. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes
 - A. Discuss
 - B. **Tim Short motions to approve previous board meeting minutes, seconded by Tom Mace, all approve**
- 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. Funds up \$220K
 2. \$153K in expenses
 3. Currently 11 months into fiscal year
 - D. **Tim Short motions to approve Treasurer's Report, seconded by Tom Mace, all approve**
- V. Strategic Plan Update (Yvonne DeGroot)
 - A. Discuss

1. Steve Erb reviewed proposed strategic priorities as discussed at previous board meetings and reviewed by the Executive Committee
 - i. Develop comprehensive plan for the re-opening of the Menasha Lock
 - ii. Develop new statutory charter, lease agreement, and funding plans
 - iii. Increase public value of the navigational system
 - iv. Develop a comprehensive facilities plan for all FRNSA property
2. Priorities may stay consistent for next few years
3. Members/staff signed up for specific strategic priorities
 - i. Will get together as groups to review, set objectives, and implement
 - ii. Each group will set a goal and present it to the Board of Directors
 - a. Possibly use a Gantt chart for progress
 - iii. Each group will appoint a facilitator

VI. Executive Director- Phil Ramlet

A. Quarterly Goby Update (Ashley Dooley)

1. Ashley Dooley reviewed the status of all the DNR-led planned detection efforts, and no additional gobies beyond the Bowen Street landing area in Oshkosh have been found in the Winnebago system
2. Angler goby reports included gobies reportedly caught at the Steiger Park and Menomonie Park areas, but DNR fishing blitzes in those areas did not confirm the finds.
3. The first phase of the FRNSA/UWGB goby study did not find any gobies in new locations

B. Menasha Lock, DNR/FRNSA Agreement

1. Review and Approve
 - i. *The purpose of the MOA is to establish an agreement between FRNSA and DNR for the purpose of applying rotenone to the Menasha Lock and eradicate all fish contained within the lock to prevent invasive round goby from entering lake Winnebago during passage of commercial vessels through the lock and to facilitate reimbursement for the costs associated with this project.*
2. **Tom Mace motions to approve MOU with DNR, seconded by Chad DeGrave, all approve – Ashley Dooley and Tim Short abstain**

C. Operations Update (Jeremy Cords)

1. Season is going well; locks are operating great
2. Boat and passenger traffic is up YTD versus 2025, but sales revenue is down due to a mix shift to more day passes and fewer annual passes. Seasonal and day passes are up from the same time last year
 - i. 2026 Navigational Season – Week 6
 - a. Boats - 653
 - b. Passengers – 3069
 - ii. 2025 Navigational Season – Week 6

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- a. Boats – 501
- b. Passengers - 1931

VII. Capital Projects Committee – Chad Degrave

A. Motion to approve to pay the following invoices

- 1. Westwood Invoice 1260601174
- 2. IEL Invoices
 - i. Blue Timbershed
 - ii. Locktender Shack
- 3. Radtke Invoice #3
- 4. Turf and Tundra Invoice

B. Chad DeGrave motions to pay invoices, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approve

VIII. Executive Committee – Bruce Enke

A. Update

- 1. Steve Erb gave update on Strategic Planning
- 2. Discuss agreement between DNR and FRNSA re: commercial lockage
- 3. Update on Associated Bank meeting
 - i. Relationship going well
 - ii. More responsive than previously
- 4. Discuss upcoming meetings
 - i. July 28, 2026, Board meeting to be held at FRNSA office in Kaukauna
 - ii. August 25, 2026, Board meeting to be held in De Pere
 - a. Lock tour
 - b. Potential location to be De Pere lock tender house

IX. Rapide Croche Committee – Bruce Enke

A. Discuss

- 1. Lock tender house has been completed

X. Adjourn

A. Tim Short motions to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Enke, all approve