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

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www.Foxlocks.org

# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 15, 2026, 8am (CST)
**Location: 1008 Augustine Street, Kaukauna, WI 54130**
**https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/781018437**
**United States: +1(646)749-3122 Access Code: 781-018-437**

**Members:** Jeff Feldt (Chair), Tim Short (Treasurer), Bruce Enke (Vice Chair), Steve Erb (Secretary)

**Agenda:** Jeff Feldt, Tim Short, Steve Erb, Phil Ramlet, Jeremy Cords, Beth Taubel, WFRV (virtually), Fox 11 (virtually)

**Absent:** Bruce Enke

Start: 8:00am End: 8:50am

I. Review and approval of past meeting minutes
   A. Discuss
      1. Items carried over from the previous meeting for follow-up and to verify completion of tasks:
         a. None
   B. **Tim Short motions to approve meeting minutes, seconded by Steve Erb, all approve**

II. Convene to Closed Session
   A. **Tim Short motions to go into closed session, seconded by Steve Erb, all approve**

III. Closed Session: Under Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)g "Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation which it is or is likely involved"
   A. Discuss with Andy Rossmeissl, Herrling Clark re Menasha Lock

IV. Reconvene to Open Session for possible action regarding Item III
   A. **Steve Erb motions to return to open session, seconded by Tim Short, all approve**
   B. No action taken

V. Executive Director Phil Ramlet
   A. Discuss UWGB Grant Request
      1. Discussion
      2. Phil Ramlet will send a set of questions to Patrick Forsythe with UWGB

B. Operations Update
    1. Lock Operations Report
        a. Jeremy Cords reviewed his report with the committee
        b. Brief discussion on increases/decreases to day pass and season pass prices
        c. Fees that are brought in by sales is immaterial compared to our budget
        d. Phil Ramlet will come up with three options to bring to the Board of Directors during the last meeting of the year to discuss and decide which option would be accepted
    2. If/when Menasha opens for operations, we can expect numbers higher than De Pere
    3. Menasha and De Pere locks would also be similar to refurbish
        a. Will go out for bid in Spring 2027, with work commencing after Labor Day and completed by end of November
        b. Will have one combined contract for both locations
        c. Estimated cost to be approximately $300K ($150K each)

C. Kaukauna Guard Lock/Levee Reconstruction Budget Request
    1. Discussion
        a. Jeremy Cords has been working on a “State Capital and Operating Budget Request – Critical Infrastructure Preservation” letter to ask for additional funds for three critical projects
            i. Rehabilitation of the Kaukauna Guard Lock
            ii. Structural reconstruction of three levee embankments associated with the Kaukauna Lock System
            iii. Increase FRNSA’s SEG appropriation for preventative maintenance
        b. FRNSA is a state facility, questions as to why the funding needs to come from FRNSA’s endowment, is this the best use of FRNSA funds, concerns about FRNSA’s fund balance
        c. These projects are “high hazard” items with a huge safety concern, liability and risk to schools, businesses, library and residencies
        d. State would be more inclined to assist if FRNSA did a partial “match” financially
            i. Approximate capital investment requested from state is $4,314,000.00
                1. A 10% “match” from FRNSA would be approximately $432,000.00, FRNSA feels this would be doable
        e. Phil Ramlet and Jeff Feldt will follow up with Senator Wimberger

VI. Adjournment
    A. **Tim Short motions to adjourn, seconded by Steve Erb, all approve**