

LOWER WISCONSIN STATE RIVERWAY BOARD

202 N. Wisconsin Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Muscodia, WI 53573
(608) 739-3188 or 1-800-221-3792

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2015, RIVERWAY BOARD MEETING

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board (LWSRB) met on Thursday, November 12, 2015, at the Village Hall in Avoca to conduct a regular monthly business meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Don Greenwood. All members were present with the exceptions of George Arimond and Ritchie Brown. Acknowledgment that the meeting was properly noticed was provided by Mark E. Cupp, Executive Director. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Fred Madison, seconded by Jerry Dorscheid. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2015, meeting was made by Dorscheid, seconded by Madison. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Executive Committee report was presented by Chairman Greenwood who noted the guest speaker for the evening would be Travis Anderson, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Ecologist, based at Tower Hill State Park near Spring Green. Anderson discussed wildlife activities ongoing on state lands from Prairie du Sac to Muscodia. He reviewed wildlife habitat work at the Lone Rock Unit, Avoca Unit and Mazomanie Unit. The drawdown of the flowage near Bakken's Pond/Long Lake was successful. Other projects included mourning dove banding, wood duck banding and pheasant stocking. Some fall prescribed burns are being conducted. Anderson confirmed wolf and bear sightings in the area. He explained invasive species control work he hopes to complete at the Helena Unit and Arena Unit.

Greenwood noted he, Dorscheid and Cupp had met with officials from the Pattison Sand Company at the nonmetallic mining site in the Town of Bridgeport, Crawford County. Cupp said the purpose of the meeting was to review the "areas of concerns" or "aesthetically sensitive areas" as identified by the maps used during review of the permit applications and subsequently used in court. Cupp said the Pattison Sand Company likely will use drone technology to further assess the accuracy of the LWSRB maps. Greenwood said LWSRB members and/or staff were invited to join the Pattison crew when the drones are used.

The 2016 LWSRB meeting schedule was discussed. Cupp said there were two meeting locations to consider and the possible switching of the August and September meeting locations. He said the proposals were put forth at the request of the board at the October meeting. The first discussion focused on the June meeting which traditionally has been held at the Black Hawk Unit's Rhinelander Cabin. The alternative of meeting at the Mazomanie Town Hall was considered. A motion to move the meeting to the town hall was made by Ron Leys, seconded by Dave Martin. The **MOTION FAILED** on a vote of 3 "ayes" to 4 "nays". A motion to continue meeting at the Black Hawk Unit was made by Bob Cary, seconded by Madison. **MOTION CARRIED.** Discussion then centered on the September meeting which has been held at Wyalusing State Park's Peterson Shelter for many years. The alternative of meeting in Prairie du Chien was considered. A motion to meet in Prairie du Chien was made by Cary, seconded by Martin. The **MOTION FAILED** on a vote of 3 "ayes" to 4 "nays". A motion to meet at Wyalusing State Park and change the month from September to August with the September meeting to be held in Spring Green was made by Dorscheid, seconded by Melody Moore. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to adopt the 2016 meeting schedule and locations was made by Madison, seconded by Cary. **MOTION CARRIED.**

January 14, 2016	Muscoda	Kratochwill Memorial Building
February 11, 2016	Muscoda	Kratochwill Memorial Building
March 10, 2016	Muscoda	Kratochwill Memorial Building
April 14, 2016	Sauk City	Public Library
May 12, 2016	Boscobel	City Hall
June 9, 2016	Mazomanie	Black Hawk Unit (Rhineland Cabin)
July 14, 2016	Muscoda	Kratochwill Memorial Building
August 11, 2016	Prairie du Chien	Wyalusing State Park
September 8, 2016	Spring Green	Public Library
October 13, 2016	Wauzeka	Village Hall
November 10, 2016	Avoca	Village Hall
December 8, 2016	Muscoda	Kratochwill Memorial Building

Cupp then noted the 2013-2015 biennial report was available online or in hard copy format upon request. He will notify the Riverway legislative delegation of the report's availability on the LWSRB website.

The Operations Committee report was presented by Chairman Dorscheid. The permit request of Jeff Brownlee for a timber harvest in the Town of Watterstown was considered. Cupp noted the board had deferred action on the application until additional information was obtained. Cupp said he had met with the landowner and timber buyer onsite to discuss road building and harvest options. Alan King, DNR Forester for Grant County, also was present. Following the field inspection, the landowner requested additional time to consider his options. Dorscheid made a motion to defer action on the permit request pending receipt of additional information, seconded by Madison. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cupp said he would proceed with issuance of management permits for invasive species control to Travis Anderson, DNR Wildlife Ecologist, for sites in Iowa County and to Jim and Brenda Carlson for a site in the Town of Roxbury, Dane County. Cupp said had met with Eric Rapp, a landowner in Iowa County's Town of Clyde, regarding a prospective project at a property he had recently purchased. The Operations Committee also was able to view the site prior to the board meeting. An initial review of the proposed activities indicates there will be a positive aesthetic impact upon completion. No formal application has yet been filed. Cupp reported he had approved an extension to a timber harvest permit for Jason Sable, DNR Forester, for a parcel in the Town of Buena Vista, Richland County, and approved a general permit for a timber harvest on lands not visible from the river to John and Julie Grogan for a parcel in the Town of Wyalusing, Grant County.

The Budget Committee report was presented by Chairman Cary who reviewed the status of the FY 16 budget.

The Personnel Committee report was given by Chair Moore who noted the LWSRB must revise a policy related to issuance of awards to staff for merit, equity or retention. Cupp said the language of the policy required changes due to reorganization of personnel/human resources functions in the Department of Administration. A motion to approve the revisions was made by Madison, seconded by Dorscheid. **MOTION CARRIED.** Cupp explained that, for FY 16, only lump sum awards for merit would be allowed.

A motion to approve a two-step lump sum award for Cupp and for Marsha Curtis, LWSRB Office Associate, was made by Moore, seconded by Madison. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Executive Director's report was given by Cupp who reviewed the materials in the board members' packets.

Under board members business, Madison encouraged board members to review the new power lines at the Prairie du Sac dam. Leys asked if the Pattison Sand Company mine in the Town of Bridgeport, Crawford County, was active. Cupp said the mine is in operation but not currently active. Greenwood asked Anderson to clarify the difference between oak savanna and oak barrens. Anderson said barrens are found most typically in drier, sandier soils.

The DNR report was presented by Matt Seguin, DNR Riverway Manager, who said staff is working hard to increase signage of state lands and private lands on borders in advance of the gun deer hunting season. He said the draft of the Riverway Master Plan is expected to be released in February of 2016.

During public comment, Forest Jahnke, Coordinator of the Crawford Stewardship Project (CSP), commented on the decline of frac sand mining activity and associated layoff of workers, black locust control and the CSP newsletter.

Timm Zumm, President of the Friends of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway (FLOW), said a prescribed burn was conducted at the Spring Green Preserve. He said work continues on installation of the Kids Don't Float kiosks.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dorscheid, seconded by Cary. **MOTION CARRIED.**

END

For further information, corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes, contact Mark Cupp, Executive Director, at (608) 739-3188 or 1-800-221-3792.