

LOWER WISCONSIN STATE RIVERWAY BOARD

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MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 11, 2016, RIVERWAY BOARD MEETING

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board (LWSRB) met on Thursday, August 11, 2016, at the Wyalusing State Park Peterson Shelter to conduct a regular monthly business meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Fred Madison. All members were present with the exceptions of Ron Leys, Ritchie Brown and Gigi La Budde. (NOTE: One vacancy exists.) Acknowledgment that the meeting was properly noticed was provided by Mark E. Cupp, Executive Director. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jerry Dorscheid, seconded by Bob Cary. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2016, meeting was made by Cary, seconded by Dorscheid. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Executive Committee report was presented by Madison who asked for an update on appointments. Cupp said Gigi LaBudde will attend her first meeting as Sauk County representative in September. The confusion regarding George Arimond's resignation has been resolved. A vacancy will exist until the recreational user slot formerly filled by Arimond is addressed. Dave Martin noted he has requested that Governor Walker find another person to serve as Richland County representative but he will continue to serve until a replacement is named.

Cupp then gave a report regarding his testimony to the Natural Resource Board on August 1st as related to the DNR Riverway Master Plan. Cupp said the meeting was held in Ashland but he was able to testify remotely from the DNR office in Madison. Cupp said there were technical problems so he was unable to hear the presenter which placed him at a distinct disadvantage. He further noted that the three minutes allotted for his statement was inadequate to address the LWSRB concerns. Cupp said he will follow-up with a written memorandum to the Natural Resources Board but he is waiting for information from DNR staff which he requested via a formal open records request.

The Operations Committee report was presented by Chair Dorscheid. The request by Tom Bremmer for an extension to a previously issued timber permit was considered. Cupp said the property is located in the Town of Orion, Richland County. There have been no changes to the harvest plans since the permit was issued. Mr. Bremmer will conduct the logging operation himself and hasn't had time to do it. A motion to approve an extension with retention of the original permit conditions was made by Dorscheid, seconded by Cary. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cupp said he had reviewed removal of storm damaged trees at two locations in the Town of Spring Green, Sauk County. Both properties are downstream of Wisconsin Riverside Resort. Don and Irene Golembiewski wish to remove additional trees that are a property hazard. Cupp said he approved the project. The Christy Helms site also received storm damaged to trees which had to be removed. Additional tree planting is taking place with more tree planting anticipated. Cupp said he has a field inspection scheduled for a Town of Wauzeka, Crawford County, landowner who wishes to do a small timber harvest. He also conversed with Terry Askevold regarding regulations for construction of a wharf at Trader's Island Campground in the Town of Arena, Iowa County. Cupp said he hosted Department of Transportation and DNR staff on a canoe tour of the Gotham to Muscodia segment to review the proposed reconstruction of STH 60.

The Budget & Office Committee report was presented by Chair Cary who reviewed the FY 17 budget and the figures for the FY 16 close out. Cupp said the budget proposal for the 2017-2019 biennium will be presented at the September meeting.

There was no report from the Personnel Committee report although Cupp noted board members had completed his annual performance evaluation. Madison and Martin both complimented Cupp on his performance as LWSRB Executive Director.

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

The DNR report was given by Matt Seguin, DNR Riverway Property Manager. He said the DNR Riverway Master Plan was approved by the Natural Resources Board at their August 3rd meeting in Ashland. Information is available at the DNR website. He thanked the LWSRB and Cupp for the participation in the process. He noted DNR is providing \$50,000 to the Town of Millville, Grant County, to assist with improvements on Barker Hollow Road. Jason Sable, DNR Forester, said adoption of the master plan will require DNR to review forestry inventory for the Riverway.

During the public comment session, Forest Jahnke, Crawford Stewardship Project (CSP), said the group is working on a karst survey and will host an event related to karst geology. Bill Howe-Prairie du Chien noted the importance of continually questioning natural resources management decisions and to be involved in the process as citizens.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dorschied, seconded by Dick McFarlane. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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