

# 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 FEBRUARY 9, 2017, RIVERWAY BOARD MEETING

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board (LWSRB) met on Thursday, February 9, 2017, at the Kratochwill Memorial Building in Muscodia to conduct a regular monthly business meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Fred Madison. All members were present with the exception of Ron Leys. (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 January 12, 2017, meeting was made by Cary, seconded by Dorscheid. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Executive Committee report was presented by Chairman Madison who asked Cupp to report on the status of pending appointments. Cupp noted Ritchie Brown will appear before the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee for his re-appointment hearing on February 15<sup>th</sup>. (NOTE: Only “at-large” or “recreational user group” appointees require Senate confirmation. The county nominees are appointed directly by the Governor without Senate confirmation.) Cupp said the Sauk County and Crawford County slots and the at-large slot that is vacant will expire on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Gigi LaBudde and Ron Leys hold the two county positions currently.

Cupp reported he had met with area legislators regarding the board’s budget request for 2017-2019 biennium. He noted a photo of the DNR bird mound on Hwy. 60 will be used in a book slated for publication next year by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press. The board then received training on the open records law.

The Operations Committee report was presented by Chair Dorscheid. The permit extension request of John Jacobs for construction of a cabin in the Town of Wauzeka, Crawford County, was considered. Dorscheid said a field inspection was conducted by Cupp on April 1, 2016. Field inspection revealed the bluff site is visible from the Wisconsin River during leaf-on conditions. Plans call for construction of an Amish built cabin with a rough wood exterior and brown roof at the site. Adequate screening vegetation exists. Maximum height will be 20 feet. Slope is not a factor. Cupp said the site has been cleared but wet weather last fall prevented cabin construction. Dorscheid made a motion, seconded by LaBudde to approve issuance of a one-year extension with retention of the following standard conditions:

- The existing screening vegetation shall be maintained and replaced if damaged or destroyed;
- The height of the structure shall be limited so that the structure does not become visible from the Wisconsin River during leaf-on conditions and shall not exceed 24 feet;
- The exterior colorization of the structure shall harmonize with the natural surroundings during leaf-on conditions and shall be approved by the LWSRB prior to initiation of construction;
- There shall be a limited amount of glass or other reflective material;
- The LWSRB shall review any modifications to the plans, as submitted, for compliance with the applicable performance standards and must provide approval of the modified plans prior to initiation of construction;
- The landowner shall notify the LWSRB upon initiation and completion of the project; and,
- The activity shall comply with all other federal, state and local regulations.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The permit application of Roy Lassen for modification of an existing structure in the Town of Mazomanie, Dane County, was considered. Dorscheid noted the Operations Committee had visited the site prior to the board meeting. In addition, Cupp conducted a field inspection at the site on January 6, 2017. Mr. Lassen was present for the both field inspections. Plans call for the addition of two porches to the existing house. One porch will face away from the river and will not be visible from the river during leaf-on conditions. The second porch will be constructed on the east side (upstream side) of the structure and may be partially visible from the river but will not add significantly to the overall visibility of the house when viewed from the river during leaf-on conditions. The structure will be screened. No new glass will be utilized. Other routine maintenance activities will occur. The structure is located in a developed area upstream of the Town of Mazomanie public access site. The area downstream of the boat landing is similarly developed but is excluded from the Riverway boundary.

Dorscheid made a motion, seconded by Cary, to approve issuance of a permit for the activity with the following conditions:

- The existing screening vegetation shall be maintained and replaced if damaged or destroyed;
- The height of the structure shall be limited so that the structure does not become visible from the Wisconsin River during leaf-on conditions and shall not exceed 16 feet;
- The exterior colorization of the structure shall harmonize with the natural surroundings during leaf-on conditions and shall be approved by the LWSRB prior to initiation of construction;
- There shall be a limited amount of glass or other reflective material;
- The LWSRB shall review any modifications to the plans, as submitted, for compliance with the applicable performance standards and must provide approval of the modified plans prior to initiation of construction;
- The landowner shall notify the LWSRB upon initiation and completion of the project; and,
- The activity shall comply with all other federal, state and local regulations.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Dorscheid reported the Operations Committee also had visited the Kathy Santos and Kheli Mason property in the Town of Clyde, Iowa County. LaBudde and Ms. Santos also were present for the site visit. Cupp explained that the board had issued a permit with conditions for the new house. A condition required establishment of additional screening vegetation. Ms. Santos requested the board rescind the requirement that additional trees be planted due to her contention that the structure is not visible from the river during leaf-on conditions. Discussion onsite led to a consensus that an on-river field inspection after the leaves pop would be best to assess visibility. Dorscheid made a motion, seconded by Cary, to extend the deadline for implementation of the tree planting condition until June 10, 2017. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cupp reported he had received a timber harvest permit application for a landowner in the Town of Prairie du Sac, Sauk County, which will be considered at the next meeting. Also, he was contacted by a landowner in the Town of Wyoming, Iowa County, which wishes to install a communications tower. The base of the tower will be outside of the Riverway boundary. There were no permits issued by the Executive Director since the last meeting.

The Budget Committee report was presented by Chairman Cary who reviewed the status of the FY 17 budget. Cupp noted the Executive Budget Proposal submitted to the Legislature by Governor Scott Walker did not include the additional \$14,000 requested by the agency in the addendum to the board's

original budget request. Cupp said he is working with area legislators to see if the funding can be obtained through a budget amendment. If the additional funds are not included in the FY 18 & 19 allotments, austerity measures will have to be implemented to cover the anticipated shortfall in the salaries line and fringe benefits line. LaBudde noted Cupp spoke at the Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway (FLOW) annual meeting in January. She said his message encouraging people to contact legislators as individual citizens was well received. She suggested board members do likewise. Cupp said he would draw up some talking points for board members to use when speaking to legislators about the Riverway.

There was no report from the Personnel Committee.

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

Under board members business, LaBudde reported on upcoming meetings in Sauk County regarding the proposed high voltage transmission line and the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant grounds. Dick McFarlane noted his family's business will celebrate 100 years in March and will be distributing the book "My Healthy Woods" to landowners. McFarlane noted he and his wife hope to sell their riverfront property west of the Mazomanie boat landing. Steve Williamson said a missing elderly man from Beloit was found deceased on Riverway property near Blue River. Cupp reported a gentleman had found a pile of discarded tires in the bottoms and was gracious enough to pick up the tires and haul the truckload of rubber to the village dump where DNR officials had to pick up and dispose of the tires.

There was no DNR report.

During public comment, Timm Zumm, FLOW President, thanked LaBudde and Cupp for attending the FLOW annual meeting. He noted FLOW and Flo the Paddlefish will be at Canoecopia in March. He said the next Kids Don't Float kiosk is slated for Woodman.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dorscheid, seconded by McFarlane. **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.