

LOWER WISCONSIN STATE RIVERWAY BOARD

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MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2017, RIVERWAY BOARD MEETING

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board (LWSRB) met on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at the Boscobel City Hall 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 exception of Ritchie Brown. (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 Ron Leys, seconded by Gigi LaBudde. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2017, meeting was made by Jerry Dorscheid, seconded by Dick McFarlane. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Executive Committee report was presented by Chairman Madison. Tom Oldenberg and Travis Mikshowsky from the LaCrosse Department of Transportation (DOT) office provided an overview of the STH 60 project from Gotham to Muscodia. Oldenberg focused on the segment between Bogus Bluff and the Bremmer corner, the stretch where the highway threads between the river and the bluffs. He said plans are to create the necessary road and shoulder width by removing some of the rock face but limiting tree removal and other disturbance on the river side of the road. Some property owners will be affected. The project is slated for 2021. A public informational meeting is expected to be held in June in Muscodia.

The guest speaker for the evening was Dan Goltz, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Biologist. Goltz discussed activities on state owned lands related to habitat improvement and invasive species control. He also discussed provided information on eaglet banding in the Riverway and elsewhere in the state. Goltz noted the importance of the bald eagle population resurgence as an environmental success story.

Cupp noted LWSRB member Ritchie Brown is recovering from health problems. Cupp said the search continues for a replacement for George Arimond as a recreational user on the board. He said Crawford County has submitted names to Governor Walker which included incumbent Ron Leys and James Czajkowski of rural Wauzeka. Sauk County is expected to submit the names of Gigi LaBudde and another person in the near future. Madison then noted election of officers will occur at the June meeting. The Personnel Committee will perform as the Nominating Committee at that meeting. Anyone interested in seeking the offices of Chair, Vice-Chair or Secretary should notify Cupp.

The Operations Committee report was presented by Chairman Dorscheid. The permit extension request of Steven and Mary Peterzak for a parcel in the Town of Spring Green, Sauk County, was discussed. An initial field inspection was conducted by Cupp on January 21, 2015. Mr. and Mrs. Peterzak were present for the field inspection. A field inspection was conducted by the Operations Committee and Cupp on February 12, 2015. An additional field inspection was conducted by Cupp on June 2, 2015. The Operations Committee again visited the site on June 11, 2015, and May 11, 2017. Cupp and Brian Cunningham, Sauk County Planning and Zoning, and Mrs. Peterzak also were present on May 11, 2017.

Plans initially called for construction of a new house (1700 sq. ft.) and garage at an undeveloped lot on High Bank Lane. There is development on both sides of the lot (seasonal residences). The applicant has provided diagrams and an architectural model of the structure. The house will be ranch style with the garage attached by a breezeway. The exterior color will be sandy brown and the roof color will be a darker brown. Final approval of the colorization will be required. There will be a limited amount of glass or other reflective

material. Adequate screening vegetation exists at the site. Based on the May 11, 2017, field inspection and conversation with Mrs. Peterzak, the proposed structure will now be smaller in size (1530 sq. ft.). Colorization will remain the same. The windows facing the river will be covered by a screened porch.

A motion to amend and extend the permit for one year with the following conditions was made by Dorscheid, seconded by Bob Cary:

- 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 20 feet;
- The exterior colorization of the structure, including roof color, shall harmonize with the natural surroundings during leaf-on conditions and shall be reviewed for compliance with the Riverway regulations and approved prior to initiation on 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;
- The landowner or his/her agent shall notify the LWSRB upon completion of the project; and,
- The activity shall comply with all other federal, state and local regulations.

MOTION CARRIED.

The permit request of Christy Helms for construction of a treehouse in the Town of Spring Green Sauk County, Dorscheid noted field inspections have been conducted by Cupp and the Operations Committee on several occasions in conjunction with previous permit activities at the site. The committee and Cupp visited the site on March 9, 2017. At that time, plans called for construction of a 10 ft. x 10 ft. x 12 ft. (height) treehouse with a deck of 8 ft. x 10 ft. with the structure to be built 10 feet off the ground using trees as a support. A ladder or stairway will provide access. The exterior colorization will be green to match the other structures on the property. The amount of glass facing the river and the adequacy of screening vegetation was assessed when the committee revisited the site on May 11, 2017. Cupp and Brian Cunningham from the Sauk County Planning and Zoning Office and Shawn Kuhse, contractor, also attended. Dorscheid noted the committee felt the planting of an additional soft maple tree should be required to assure compliance with the screening vegetation performance standard. Cupp noted the activity will comply with Sauk County shoreland and floodplain zoning ordinances.

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

- The existing screening vegetation shall be maintained and replaced if damaged or destroyed;
- A silver maple tree of not less than 36 inches shall be planted at a location designated by the LWSRB following completion of construction;
- The height of the structure shall be limited so that the structure does not become visible from the Wisconsin River during leaf-on conditions;
- The exterior colorization of the structure, including roof color, shall harmonize with the natural surroundings during leaf-on conditions and shall be reviewed for compliance with the Riverway regulations and approved prior to initiation on 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;
- The landowner or his/her agent shall notify the LWSRB upon completion of the project; and,
- The activity shall comply with all other federal, state and local regulations.

MOTION CARRIED.

Dorscheid said there were several extensions to management permits held by Dan Goltz, DNR Wildlife Biologist, for vegetative management activities on state owned lands. Goltz made a presentation regarding the extension requests for the following parcels:

- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Marietta, Crawford County);
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Richwood, Richland County)
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Wauzeka, Crawford County);
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Muscoda, Grant County);
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Woodman, Grant County);
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Millville, Grant County);
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Wyalusing, Grant County); and,
- DNR/Goltz(management/extension)(Town of Muscoda, Grant County).

Dorscheid made a motion, seconded by Steve Williamson, to approve two-year extensions to the permits with the following conditions:

- No existing structures shall become visible from the river as a result of the activity;
- The LWSRB shall review any modifications to the plans, as submitted, for compliance with the applicable performance standards prior to implementation of the activity; and,
- The applicant shall notify the LWSRB upon initiation and completion of the activity.

MOTION CARRIED.

Cupp reported he had issued a permit to Doug Jones for the addition to a garage in the Town of Marietta, Crawford County, following consultation with Operations Committee Chairman Dorscheid. Previously, the board had approved a permit for the garage. The landowner now wishes to add a lean-to to the north side, which faces away from the river. The addition will not be as tall as the garage.

Cupp said the STH 130 bridge at Lone Rock is restricted to one lane with a 20 ton limit due to structural issues with the middle bridge. The duration of the closure and schedule for repairs is unclear. Cupp noted he had assisted landowners with boundary delineations in the Town of Wyoming, Iowa County, and the Town of Marietta, Crawford County. In both cases, the proposed house site was outside the Riverway boundary.

The Budget & Office Committee report was presented by Chair Cary who reviewed the FY 17 budget. Cupp said the Legislative Joint Committee Finance is expected to consider the LWSRB budget request during deliberations on May 16th.

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Cupp reported the new position description for the Executive Assistant had been completed. Staff evaluations should be done before July 1, 2017.

The Executive Director's report was presented by Cupp who reviewed the materials in the board members' packets. He noted the Muscoda Morel Mushroom Festival would take place on May 20-21. He will co-lead an eaglet banding trip with Goltz on May 19th for the Natural Resources Foundation.

The DNR report was presented by Goltz who said the prescribed burning season has come to a close. Crews are preparing for the summer use season. Eagle and pheasant surveys continue.

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