

# 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 OCTOBER 10, 2019, RIVERWAY BOARD MEETING

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board (LWSRB) met on Thursday, October 10, 2019, at the Wauzeka Village Hall to conduct a regular monthly business meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Jerry Dorscheid. All members were present with the exceptions of Ritchie Brown and 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 Randy Poelma, seconded by Dick McFarlane. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2019, meeting was made by LaBudde, seconded by Steve Williamson. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Executive Committee report was presented by Chairman Dorscheid. Cupp reported he was informed that an individual was advertising a sandbar near Portage as an Airbnb site. He is waiting for more information from law enforcement. Fluctuating river flows have been a concern for canoe livery operators. Information from Amanda Blank at the Prairie du Sac dam will be forthcoming. He noted the Pattison Sand Company semi-annual report on mining had been received with no mining in the Riverway. Cupp met with Sauk County officials on the proposed Great Sauk Trail bridge at the former railroad bridge site between Sauk City and Dane County. He discussed the LWSRB role in permitting and consulting as related to design and lighting. Cupp said Isthmus magazine has a story on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Riverway. A celebration to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup> in Sauk City. He said the appointment of Randy Poelma has been finalized.

The Operations Committee report was presented by Acting Chair Steve Wetter. Several permit requests and extension requests from Mike Finlay on behalf of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) were considered. A new management permit was requested for the Munz tract in the Town of Millville, Grant County. A tree planting was invaded by grape vines that are damaging the saplings. The activity will cut and treat the vines. The activity is not visible from the Wisconsin River during leaf-on conditions. A motion to approve issuance of a permit with the following conditions was made by LaBudde, seconded by Williamson:

- No existing structure(s) shall become visible from the river as a result of the activity;
- The LWSRB shall approve of any modification to the plans, as submitted; and,
- The landowner or his/her agent shall notify the LWSRB upon initiation and completion of the activity.

### **MOTION CARRIED.**

A management activity at the Tubbs tract in the Town of Wyalusing, Grant County, was discussed. Plans call for removal of cottonwood and other woody vegetation that are adversely affecting the DNR tree plantation at the site. The activity will not be visible from the river during leaf-on conditions. A motion to approve the permit with the following conditions was made by LaBudde, seconded by McFarlane:

- No existing structure(s) shall become visible from the river as a result of the activity;
- The LWSRB shall approve of any modification to the plans, as submitted; and,
- The landowner or his/her agent shall notify the LWSRB upon initiation and completion of the activity.

### **MOTION CARRIED.**

A timber harvest permit application for a bottomlands area owned by DNR in the Town of Troy, Sauk County, was discussed. Plans call for harvest of merchantable hardwoods during leaf-off and frozen or dry ground conditions. Most of the activity will not be visible from the Wisconsin River during leaf-on conditions. A motion to approve issuance of a permit with the following conditions was made by McFarlane, seconded by Williamson:

- The harvest shall comply with the basal area limits for the residual stand in the River Edge Zone and Riverview Zone, as detailed in Chapter NR 37, Wisconsin Administrative Code;
- In the River Edge Zone and Riverview Zone, all trees selected for harvest shall be appropriately marked and reviewed by the LWSRB for compliance with the applicable performance standards prior to initiation of the harvest;
- In the River Edge and Riverview Zone, the harvest shall be limited to the times when the ground is frozen or dry and the leaves are off the deciduous trees;
- The LWSRB shall review the location and design of all new logging roads, if any, in the River Edge Zone and Riverview Zone;
- The new logging roads, if any, shall comply with the applicable performance standards regarding grade and erosion control and shall be re-seeded upon completion of the harvest;
- The LWSRB shall review the location and design of all small regeneration cuts, if any, in the Riverview Zone to assure compliance with the applicable performance standards;
- The River Edge Zone and Riverview Zone shall be delineated prior to initiation of the harvest, if necessary;
- The landowner or his/her agent shall notify the LWSRB within 10 working days upon completion of the harvest and, if necessary, the LWSRB shall conduct a post-harvest field inspection; and,
- The LWSRB shall review modification of the plans, as submitted, for compliance with the applicable performance standards.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Extensions requests for previously issued permits to the DNR were considered. Finlay explained that there were no changes to the activities as originally proposed. A motion was made by Williamson, seconded by LaBudde, to approve a two-year extension for the Laudon tract timber harvest and management permits in the Town of Pulaksi, Iowa County. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to extend the timber harvest permit for the Bogenschneider tract in the Town of Wyoming, Iowa County, for a two-year period was made by McFarlane, seconded by LaBudde. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to extend the timber harvest permit for the Black Hawk Unit in the Town of Mazomanie, Dane County, for a two-year period was made by McFarlane, seconded by Williamson. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to extend the general permit for the Monument Road tract in the Town of Spring Green, Sauk County, for a two-year period was made by LaBudde, seconded by Williamson. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to extend the general permit for the Bakken's Pond Unit in the Town of Wyoming, Iowa County, for a two-year period was made by LaBudde, seconded by Williamson. **MOTION CARRIED.** A motion to extend the general permit for the Amenda Road tract in the Town of Mazomanie, Dane County, for a two-year period was made by LaBudde, seconded by McFarlane. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cupp said the DNR harvest on the bluff near CTH OO in the Town of Orion, Richland County, will begin soon. Finlay noted the Bluff Zone will fall below the normal 60 sq. ft. basal area/acre standard due to oak

wilt and an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation. At Cupp's request, Finlay distributed a press release to local newspapers noting the reasons from heavier than usual cutting in the Bluff Zone at the CTH OO sale and another in the Town of Marietta, Crawford County, the former Morrison tract.

There were no permits issued by the Executive Director since the previous meeting.

The Budget & Office Committee report was not presented by Chair McFarlane due to discrepancies in the totals for the FY 20 budget. Cupp said the problem will be corrected and a new report will be distributed to members.

There was no report from the Personnel Committee.

The Executive Director's report was presented by Cupp who reviewed the materials in the board members' packets. Cupp said he was interviewed by Discover Wisconsin at Frank's Hill for a program on Richland County to be released in February of 2020. He noted unusually high river flows continue and records for early October dates were set.

Under board members' business, topics included the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and flooding in the Town of Buena Vista, Richland County.

The DNR report was presented by Finlay who said timber harvesting has been slow due to rain. He said the Riverway crew has been working on storm clean-up and mowing.

During the public comment session, Forest Jahnke of the Crawford Stewardship Project spoke about the Marietta CAFO moratorium and the DNR scoping statement for karst area performance standards. Timm Zumm of Spring Green spoke about FLOW's interest in the Crystal Lake flooding situation. He said the FLOW science team is reviewing the issue.

A motion to adjourn was made by Wetter, 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.