

**WISCONSIN WATERWAYS COMMISSION AGENDA & RECORD**

**April 12, 2022**

Zoom Meeting  
Meeting Minutes Recorded: Emily Mitchell

Presenter/ Time	Agenda Item	Key Points	Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments
8:30 AM	<b>1. Call to Order</b>	<p><b>Members Present:</b> Chair, Roger Walsh, Jan Allman, Bruce Neeb, and Korin Doering</p> <p><b>Others Present:</b> Bobbi Winebar, Sara deBruijn, Jessica Terrien, Cheryl Housley, Gina Keenan, Chris Halbur, Mary Rothenmaier, Annie Loechler, Faith Murray, Cathy Burrow, applicants and members of the public.</p>	Meeting called at 8:30 AM by Roger Walsh.
	<b>2. Welcome to Mike Wiggins, Jr.</b>	New Lake Superior Representative	Mike did not attend the meeting, so this was postponed.
	<b>2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	Minutes of January 11, 2022	Motion by Jan Allman, seconded by Bruce Neeb to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
	<b>3. Department Reports</b>	Fund Condition (see attached budget)	<p>Bobbi Winebar presented the budget indicating that we had a total appropriation of \$2,900,000 plus \$612,175 of SEG carryover for a total balance of \$3,512,175 for SFY2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No enumerations from legislature.</li> <li>• Total funding commitments thus far: \$2,024,150.10.</li> <li>• Total funds available this meeting: \$1,488,024.57 which consists of \$475,849 from the Inland Lakes pot and \$1,012,174.67 from the Great Lakes pot which were combined on April 1, 2022.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>4. Recreational Boating Project Review and Action</b></p>	<p>Projects and funding requests at this meeting:</p> <p><b>INLAND &amp; GREAT LAKES</b></p> <p><b>Development/Renovation:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Town of Fox Lake, Town Park ADA Kayak Launch, \$20,199</li> <li>2. Price County Forestry &amp; Parks, Solberg Lake Boat Landing, \$136,500</li> <li>3. Village of Milltown, Half Moon Lake Boat Ramp Replacement and Dock, \$80,393</li> <li>4. City of Sheboygan Falls, Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch &amp; Boat Ramp Rehabilitation, \$82,500</li> <li>5. Village of Winneconne, Seawall and Parking Lot Rehabilitation and Expansion, \$250,000</li> <li>6. City of Chetek Recreational Boating Facility, \$58,463</li> <li>7. Town of Pleasant Springs Lake Kegonsa Boat Launch Parking Renovations, \$22,500</li> <li>8. Town of Gordon, Gordon Lake Bathroom/Pavilion, \$27,500</li> <li>9. City of Fond du Lac, Lakeside West Boat Parking Renovation, \$20,000</li> <li>10. Waupaca County Parks, Gill's Landing Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch/Dock, \$23,500</li> <li>11. <del>City of Fountain City, Fountain City Upper Landing Transient Dock Upgrade, \$65,000;</del> Deferred</li> </ol>	<p>Project presentations:</p> <p><b>INLAND &amp; GREAT LAKES</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Town of Fox Lake Town Park ADA Kayak Launch: Presented by Ron French and Wayne Cook. Town would like to place an accessible kayak launch in their Town Park. This would allow people of all abilities to access the lake. Existing amenities at the site include accessible fishing pier, 3 boat launch sites, 25 parking spaces, and 4 accessible parking spaces. Bruce Neeb asked how far it will be from the kayak launch to the accessible restrooms. Applicant's response was about 20 ft.</li> <li>2. Price County Forestry &amp; Parks, Solberg Lake Boat Landing: Presented by Fred Framen Assistant Forestry Administrator – Joe Grappa could not attend this meeting. – Price County would like to replace the boat landing at Solberg Lake with a longer ramp. Current ramp has heaved a lot due to winter conditions. Parking and access roads would also be improved which will also improve the flow of boating traffic. Ramp would be ADA accessible. County has a budget for maintenance of this boat ramp. Jan Allman asked if they have their permit. Applicant responded that, yes, they have their permit and they also have secured the matching funds through the county and through a federal SFR-Boat Access grant. That is why they are only asking for 38% cost share. Bruce Neeb asked how far the ramp extend into water. Applicant responded that the end</li> </ol>
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- 5. Village of Winneconne, Seawall and Parking Lot Rehabilitation and Expansion: Presented by Al Schafer. This project will rehabilitate the last section of the seawall and will also include rehabbing the parking lot and add parking spaces. They will also be installing a power wash station. Jan Allman asked if they have designated handicap parking? Applicant responded that yes, they do. Bruce Neeb asked if there will be 64 vehicular/trailer parking? Applicant responded that yes there are 64 vehicular/trailer parking stalls plus they will be adding single car parking stalls. Korin Doering asked if the town of Winneconne plans to place signage indicating that single vehicles would not be allowed to park in the vehicle/trailer parking? Applicant responded that they are considering this. Korin Doering asked about what the depth of the channel for mooring is. Applicant responded that he didn't know the exact depth but that is deep enough in the channel for boats to use it. Bruce Neeb asked about funding the power wash station. Bobbi Winebar stated that we have funded them in the past as part of a larger project.
  
- 6. City of Chetek Recreational Boating Facility: Presented by Tia McCarthy, consulting engineer: The current boat ramp is deteriorating and there is rebar sticking out of the deteriorated concrete ramp that is under the water and is damaging boats. The new ramp would extend farther into the lake than the current ramp. They are also planning on

		<p style="text-align: center; opacity: 0.3; font-size: 48px; transform: rotate(-30deg);">DRAFT</p>	<p>expanding the pavement leading into the ramp area to prevent erosion on the steep slopes. Korin Doering asked if there is a budget for maintenance of this launch? Applicant responded that the launch fee will be used to maintenance of this launch. Korin Doering also asked if there are there any plans to reduce the storm water runoff into the lake or to divert the runoff into a filtration location. Applicant responded that there is not enough land/room to divert the runoff to a filtration station.</p> <p>7. Town of Pleasant Springs Lake Kegonsa Boat Launch Parking Renovations: Presented by Alex Mesdjian. The current parking area is currently all gravel except for the ADA parking stall. When heavy rains occur, there is significant runoff and gravel displaced all over the area. All winter long the gravel area turns to ice. The town is forced to place salt and sand on this area constantly through winter to prevent slipping. The project includes adding asphalt to the parking area where it is currently gravel. Roger Walsh asked if they have a money collection box. Applicant responded that yes, they do but about 3 years ago someone ripped the concrete box out of the ground and stole the money. They will have the box replaced with a heavy-duty box. Roger Walsh mentioned that the DNR does have a design plan for collection boxes and can get it from his regional project manager. Bruce Neeb asked where their runoff pond is located.</p>
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			<p>Applicant responded that it is next to the boat launch sign.</p> <p>8. Town of Gordon, Gordon Lake Bathroom/Pavilion: No rep from Gordon was present when this project came up for presentation but did join later on for questions at the end of them meeting. Annie Loechler spoke on behalf of the Town. The project includes construction of a new restroom facility and ADA accessible walkway to the boat launch and parking area. There will also be an open-air pavilion and kitchenette which are not part of the grant request. Jan Allman why they do not charge a fee at this launch? Applicant responded that this is a small community, and the community was not in favor of charging a fee. Jan Allman asked if the boat launch ADA accessible. Applicant responded that yes, they have an ADA accessible boarding dock. Roger Walsh asked if this will be one building that will house both the bathrooms and the pavilion. Applicant responded that yes, the building would be a bathroom, pavilion, and kitchenette. Bruce Neeb as to whether this should really be funded with RBF funding. Annie Loechler responded that they had applied for stewardship last year, but that they did not obtain enough points to qualify for stewardship funding. Annie Loechler stated that since they have an ADA boat launch that it is appropriate to have an ADA bathroom facility.</p> <p>9. City of Fond du Lac, Lakeside West Boat Parking Renovation: Presented by</p>
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			<p>John Redmond. The project includes repairing cracks and other damage to the asphalt parking lot. The launch goes into the Fond du Lac River which leads into Lake Winnebago. A few years ago, a grant was received to replace the launch which went well. Bruce Neeb asked if their launch permits are up to date and if the launch is ADA compliant? Applicant responded with yes. Korin Doering stated that this launch is on the river and not actually on Lake Winnebago as they indicated on the application. Applicant stated that Korin is correct and that it is 200 yards away from lake Winnebago. It is a popular launch and provides a safe launching facility for boaters heading out onto Lake Winnebago.</p> <p>10. Waupaca County Parks, Gill's Landing Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch/Dock: Presented by John Francis. The project includes installing an accessible canoe/kayak launch because currently there isn't another put-in/take-out location for those using the Weyauwega launch on the Wolf River where a similar dock was installed a year or two ago. This dock allows for easy access in and out of the water. Gills Landing has 3 launches for boats and this new canoe/kayak launch would be placed north of those motorized boat launches to allow for a safer access away from the motorized boats. Restrooms are located close to this launch along with 3 ADA parking stalls. Questions: Bruce Neeb asked if they felt that their budget will be enough to complete the project.</p>
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			<p>the biggest and most heavily used launch facility the city has, and the parking area surface is at least 30 years old. The project includes filling cracks and resurfacing to bring it back to decent condition. Roger Walsh asked if this parking is used for marina parking. Applicant responded that the nearby marina has its own parking area. There is a marina just to the south of the launch, this lot is specific to the launch ramp use only not for the marina.</p> <p>14. Town of Union, Shoemaker Road Boat Ramp Rehabilitation: Presented by Beth Hanson, Town Clerk and Bruce Alberts, Town Chair. Due to water and ice shoves the concrete ramp has deteriorated. The project includes replacing the concrete slabs. Roger Walsh asked about the parking situation. Applicant responded that users could park along the sides of the public road. This launch is for canoe/kayak and small boat launching. Bruce Neeb asked if there is a boarding dock associated with the launch. Applicant responded that no, there isn't a boarding dock. The water is very shallow and if there was a dock there it would have to be removed and stored during the winter. Water levels change frequently at this location. Bruce Neeb asked if an ADA boarding dock is required. Bobbi Winebar responded that there isn't a requirement to have one but if there is going to be one then it needs to be ADA accessible. Korin Doering asked if there are any concern that a low water year would cause ice shoves on this ramp.</p>
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			<p>Applicant responded that the ramp would be constructed in the water far enough that the slabs would be at the end of the launch causing any ice shoves to slide right up the concrete.</p> <p>15. Waterford Waterway Management District (WWMD), Harvester and Trailer Acquisition: Presented by Bill McCormick, WWMD. The lake has two public boat ramps that service the water. Trying to move away from the herbicide treatments to be cautious of how much herbicide is placed into the water. They have contracted others to come in and harvest weeds in the past. The channels have been increased with permission from the DNR and now there is an additional 10-15 acres that need to be maintained. They currently have an eco harvester and this request is for a regular harvester. Roger Walsh commended them for moving away from herbicides. Korin Doering asked about whether the DNR allows for the use of an eco harvester since it pulls plants instead of cuts them. Applicant responded that they were the first to have an eco harvester in Southern Wisconsin and that they provided a demonstration to the DNR on the waterway before they purchased their previous eco harvester. This demonstration showed that the harvester breaks the weeds and does not pull the weed root. Korin Doering requested more information on eco harvesters being approved by the DNR. Applicant extended an invite to view the eco harvester in action in early May.</p>
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			<p>Roger Walsh asked as to whether they were not going to be using the eco harvester anymore with the purchase of a new harvester? Applicant responded that a weed harvester would provide for better cutting and would be primarily used and the eco harvester would be used in the shallow areas as this harvester can get into these areas better. Roger Walsh asked if there were any shipping costs included in the total? Applicant responded that they are also purchasing a trailer and will haul the harvester back themselves. Roger Walsh suggested that Mauston and Waterford should discuss the benefits of the eco harvester as the City of Mauston is looking to purchase an eco harvester. The eco harvester would be perfect for Mauston's location as it is a shallow lake.</p> <p>16. Blake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, Harvester, Conveyor, Trailer and Other Equipment Acquisition: Presented by Sam Rivers Weber. They are looking to purchase an inland harvester with a trailer and the cost includes delivery. A little over 25 years ago, the lake became unnavigable. It reached a point where you could nearly walk across the lake on top of the weeds. A meeting was held with members of other lakes with similar issues. A decision was made to mechanically harvest the weeds. The lake was not ecologically available to the public. Chemically treating the lake would not be feasible for 88 acres of pond weed. In 2006 a harvester was</p>
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			<p>purchased to begin work on removal of weeds on the lake. The harvesting has definitely improved the lake. Roger Walsh asked if they have any other harvester equipment. Applicant responded that their old harvester is no longer usable.</p> <p>17. City of Mauston, Harvester Acquisition: Presented by Randy Reeg, City Administrator Asking for funding to purchase an eco harvester for Lake Decorah which is a 300-acre lake located in City of Mauston. Looking to increase the navigability of the lake with the use of this harvester. The eco harvester was picked due to the shallow water depth of the lake. They will not have to pay shipping costs because they will pick up the harvester themselves. Bruce Neeb asked if the eco harvester creeps along the bottom. Applicant responded that no, it operates like on paddle wheels. Korin Doering asked if they have a budget for maintenance of the equipment. Applicant responded that yes, they do. He also provided links to YouTube Videos on the use of the eco harvester: <a href="https://youtu.be/mKqkBHvufDI">https://youtu.be/mKqkBHvufDI</a> <a href="https://youtu.be/Czo9l0J8K3U">https://youtu.be/Czo9l0J8K3U</a></p> <p>18. City of Sturgeon Bay, Shore Conveyor Acquisition: Presented by Mike Barker: The heaviest areas are 1 to 1.3 miles away from where the current conveyor is located. A round trip to offload can take up to close to an hour. Looking to replace the oldest conveyor that would cost nearly as much to repair as it would</p>
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		<p style="text-align: center; opacity: 0.5; font-size: 48px; transform: rotate(-30deg);">DRAFT</p>	<p>be to purchase a new one. This would allow the new conveyor to be more centrally located to the heaviest area. Currently harvest 116 acres. Jan Allman asked how many conveyors they currently have. Applicant responded that they currently have two, but one has been out of service for three years. Jan Allman asked if they were able to continue to maintain the area for the past three years. Applicant responded that yes, but it was a great strain on time and workload having only the remaining conveyor to use. The weeds are taken to the city compost site.</p> <p>19. Clam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, Harvester and Trailer Acquisition: Presented by Rick Peterson and Jim Lang. Repairs to their 1993 harvester is getting too expensive and need to replace it. Their newest machine broke 6 cutters clearing areas covered with pond weed. Roger Walsh asked if their total includes shipping costs? Applicant responded that the quote sheet states that all shipping costs are at the hand of the buyer. Staff reminded attendees that shipping costs are an eligible expense. Korin Doering asked when was their plant management plan last updated? Applicant stated that it was updated in the Fall of 2021 and that the plan is good for 5 years. Bruce Neeb asked if the public launches are ADA accessible? Applicant responded that yes, there is one launch that is ADA accessible. Bruce Neeb asked why the number of parking spots at the launch facilities on the lake are below the</p>
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		<p>Finding of feasibility</p> <p>Project placement on priority list</p> <p>Recommendation for project funding</p>	<p>minimum parking number and whether there are any private launches on the lake. Applicant responded that no, they are owned by the municipalities and that there is additional parking on the streets as well.</p> <p>Bruce Neeb motioned to find all projects feasible. Jan Allman seconded. Discussion: None Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Jan Allman motioned to approve the project placement on the priority list. Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Town of Fox Lake Town Park ADA Kayak Launch for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$20,199, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</li> </ol> <p>Bruce Neeb made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Price County Forestry &amp; Parks, Solberg Lake Boat Landing for 38% of total project costs, not to exceed \$136,500, Jan Allman seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</li> </ol> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Village of Milltown, Half Moon Lake Boat Ramp Replacement and Dock for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$80,393, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</li> </ol>
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			<p>Korin Doering made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. City of Sheboygan Falls, Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch &amp; Boat Ramp Rehabilitation for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$82,500, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</li></ol> <p>Bruce Neeb made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. Village of Winneconne, Seawall and Parking Lot Rehabilitation and Expansion for 47% of total project costs, not to exceed \$250,000, Jan Allman seconded. Discussion: Will this need to go to joint finance? No, it would need to be over \$250,000. Motion carried unanimously.</li></ol> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>6. City of Chetek Recreational Boating Facility for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$58,463, Korin Doering seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</li></ol> <p>Korin Doering made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Town of Pleasant Springs Lake Kegonsa Boat Launch Parking Renovations for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$22,500, Jan Allman seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</li></ol>
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			<p>Bruce Neeb made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>8. Town of Gordon, Gordon Lake Bathroom/Pavilion for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$27,500, Korin Doering seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>9. City of Fond du Lac, Lakeside West Boat Parking Renovation for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$20,000, Korin Doering seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Korin Doering made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>10. Waupaca County Parks, Gill's Landing Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch/Dock for 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$23,500, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Bruce Neeb made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>11. City of La Crosse, Municipal Harbor Landing Parking Lot Rehabilitation 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$8,687, Jan Allman seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>12. City of La Crosse, Veterans Freedom Landing Parking Lot Rehabilitation 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$21,735, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
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			<p>Korin Doering made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>13. Town of Union, Shoemaker Road Boat Ramp Rehabilitation 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$14,639, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Bruce Neeb made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>14. Waterford Waterway Management District, Harvester and Trailer Acquisition 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$148,350, Jan Allman seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>15. Blake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, Harvester, Conveyor, Trailer and Other Equipment Acquisition 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$75,668, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Bruce Neeb made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>16. City of Mauston, Harvester Acquisition 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$51,087, Jan Allman seconded. Discussion: Korin Doering stated that she has hesitation on approval regarding ecosystem damage caused by eco harvesters. She also asked about s if the DNR is permitting the eco harvester? Gina Keenan confirmed that the eco harvester is Permitted and that DNR Biologist, Scott Provost has worked with the applicant and approved</p>
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		<p>the harvesting plan and technology. Ann Loechler provided a copy of the Aquatic Plant Management Mechanical Harvesting Guidance for use and permitting of Eco Harvesters that has been published by the DNR. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Jan Allman made a motion to approve a grant for:</p> <p>17. City of Sturgeon Bay, Shore Conveyor Acquisition 50% of total project costs, not to exceed \$28,575, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Korin Doering made a motion to approve a grant for: Clam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, Harvester and Trailer Acquisition 50% of total amended project costs of \$189,228 not to exceed \$94,614, Bruce Neeb seconded. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
	<b>6. Public Comments</b>	Public comments included thanks from applicants. Bobbi Winebar indicated new applications on public website. Hopeful that new applications will be more user friendly for all applicants.
	<b>7. Next Meetings/Locations</b>	August 9, 2022/TBD
	<b>8. Adjournment</b>	Motion by Bruce Neeb to adjourn at 11:20 AM, seconded by Jan Allman. Motion carried unanimously.