

**Commission members present:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Jim D' Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
David Kopp (City of Waukesha)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Dale Fennel (Village of Mukwonago)  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)

Also present: Dick Kosut WWMD, Jim Ritchie, Craig Helker, Maureen McBroom and Brian Glenzinski WDNR

At 1:05 PM, 2/5/10, Chairman Greg Kessler called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the December 4, 2009 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Dave Kopp and seconded by Jamie Soneberg that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for December 2009 was reviewed. Jim Pindel pointed out that we had gone into the red by \$15.22 on our non-reimbursable expenses due to the payments to the Waukesha Freeman and the Racine Journal Time to pay for the publication of our proposed 2010 budget and announce the December 4, 2009 public hearing. Dave Kopp motioned to accept the Treasurers Report for December and Chad Sampson seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved. The Treasurer's Report for January 2010 was reviewed. The only real change from the December statement was the interest made on our money market account which brought us out of the red for our non-reimbursable expenses. Dave Kopp motioned to accept the Treasurers Report for January and Jamie Soneberg seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)  
Shelley Tessmer was not present. Jim Pindel reported that Shelley indicated in a

voicemail that she had a call from Chad Sampson regarding annual inspection of the site. Chad then said Racine County will do an annual inspection of the site which will include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the erosion control methods. Chad also said that Shelley requested a cost share document from him that she could provide to the landowners to indicate exactly what they needed to contribute. Chad had prepared the document and gave it to Jim & Mary Pindel just prior to the meeting so they could get it to Shelley. Jim Pindel pointed out that when the landowners provide their 10% cost share of \$514.81, this money will be deposited in our money market account and will add to the funds available for grantable projects.

- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Jamie Soneberg said that the Village of Big Bend just received approval from the WDNR for the project. Now the next step is to put the project out for bid, which should happen in March.
- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that they are in the process of evaluating the project and checking on some items and he will be ready to make a more extensive report at our next meeting.
- d) Idlewood Drive Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that this project was on hold for the time being due to the ground water situation. Apparently the contractor applied a layer of clay over the filtration bed. A letter has been sent by their engineers instructing the contractor that the situation must be fixed by May 10, 2010. If the situation is not resolved by that time the WWMD will go to the contractor's insurance company (this was a bonded project) to get the funds needed to get this work done by some other contractor. The bottom line is that the contractor did not do the job according to the plan and specification. The problem appears to be confined to the east end of the filtration bed. Once the ground thaws out, soil samples will be taken to determine the extent of the area that needs repair.
- e) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz was not present and so no report was made.
- f) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Dale Fennel Dale Fennel was not present and no one else had anything to report.
- g) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim Pindel stated that he sent Mary Kossik an email to notify her that we have included the stone for channel lining and the restoration seeding and planting at a 10/90% cost share in our 2010 budget. Additionally the email listed the documentation we would require from her for reimbursement. These items include a copy of the DNR permit, a copy of the construction contract, copies of invoices and verification of payments. Jim D'Antuono said that Mary Kossik has not submitted a permit application with design as of yet. Jim D' Antuono said he would follow up on this point to see if the DNR has an application from her and if not, he would contact her to see where

she is in the process.

- h) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows was not present and no report was made.
- i) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (pending) – Brian Glenzinski said that at the last commission meeting he attended he reported that he was applying for a \$75,000 grant from the American Wetlands Conservation Act. Through some miscommunication between Ducks Unlimited and the US Fish and Wildlife Service the application was never registered on time. Since this money is not available the plan now is to roll these required funds into a larger North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant. Brian said they are applying for a \$1,000,000 grant which will be used mostly for land acquisition but some of it will be reallocated to the flowage restoration project. Brian also reported that the DNR had over allocated the funds available from the state waterfowl stamp account and so he has been asked to delay receiving the \$95,000 from this account until fiscal year 2012, which starts in July 2011. Brian said that he had asked Jim Ritchie if we could extend ENUM-16 through fiscal year 2012 and indicated that Jim Ritchie said this would be difficult if at all possible. Jim Ritchie clarified the situation by stating the ENUM-16 is due to expire on June 30, 2010 and that he expected us to apply for and receive an extension of the ENUM until June 30, 2011. However he did not think we could extend into fiscal year 2012. It is our expectation that all current projects will be concluded and paid for by June 30, 2011. Brian then went on to explore ways in which he could use our \$20,000 contribution in calendar year 2010 (the calendar year being our fiscal year) like buying \$20,000 worth of rock which will be needed for the project, stage it for now at the construction site and then install it later when the actual work is done. When it was pointed out that the project must be completed for us to apply to the DNR for reimbursement, Brian suggested possibly developing a smaller sub project that could be completed and use up our \$20,000. When asked by Chad Sampson, Brian said that the large NAWCA grant is due March 5, 2010 and he should know if his project was accepted for funding by August. The consensus of the commission was to sit tight and wait for the different grant possibilities to unfold. Brian asked that we send a similar letter as the one we sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the NAWCA grant that was refused for the new larger grant he is now applying for. We said we would send the letter. Jamie Soneberg motioned that after the letter of support is sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Service this project be tabled until August. Don Scott seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- j) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Brian Glenzinski said that this project is proceeding as planned. The DNR's storm water engineer is proceeding with the design and he expects to go out for bids this spring. The work should be completed this summer. Brian also said that they will start preparing the area by removing the buckthorn this winter already.

**New Business**

- a) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Craig Helker (WDNR Water Resources Biologist) Craig passed out copies of his presentation to the commissioners present. Craig started out by explaining watershed planning. The federal Clean Water Act requires water resources monitoring in Wisconsin. The WDNR has the responsibility to go out into all of its streams and report back to the federal government on the quality of our streams. The mechanism used to report to the federal government is the 305B report which reports the status of all the waters in Wisconsin. The report summarizes whether the waters are meeting their potential or are they impaired. A list of the impaired water bodies has to go to the federal government every two years. With all this data gathered the DNR is required to target a watershed and generate an implementation plan to correct the problems. Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 121 governs this sort of activity and dictates what goes into the watershed plan. The watershed plan requires the determination of the condition of the waters based on sound science, identifying waters that do not meet water quality standards, identifying stakeholders and possible resources for implementation and defining management actions. There are numerous watersheds in the state of Wisconsin and they have decided to target specific ones, which include the Frame Park Creek and its tributaries. Frame Park Creek is a small 1.5 mile stream with tributaries that flows into the Barstow impoundment in the city of Waukesha. A number of sampling efforts were performed on Frame Park Creek including fish community, habitat, sediment and toxicity levels. The DNR has listed Frame Park Creek as an impaired body of water and it has been listed as such since a report in 1965. As the watershed plan moves forward Craig will be looking to the commission for comments on the plan they are drafting. The draft document of the plan will be available for everyone to monitor at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/condition/wtplans/index.htm>.
  
- b) 2011 SEWFRC Budget or alternate means of funding for the Commission. Greg Kessler said that he intends to work on this need in the immediate future. Jim Pindel passed out a copy of a very preliminary draft copy of a proposed 2011 budget showing the supposed structure of what the budget would look like if we have funding from the state in ENUM's, and both Waukesha and Racine county through county appropriations. Greg Kessler pointed out that we need to approach the county executives and make ourselves known. We need to establish a strategy, which has not been discussed at the commission level. Greg hoped that the new implementation plan being developed by SEWRPC would give us something tangible to present to the county executives. Jamie Soneberg pointed out that we need to move fast for 2011 because the counties are already working on their 2011 budgets. Jeff Thornton pointed out that we need to make ourselves known to the county executive and present documentation such as the brochure developed by the SEWRPC for the bus tour to them. Also we need to point out the framework as developed by the state legislature for how we were supposed to be funded. Chad Sampson said he thought it was important for him to at least work in a budget item for the commission even with a zero balance to get us

established on the county budget. Chad also said there were different Federal and USDA programs that might have funds available for us to utilize. Greg Kessler said that he would meet with Chad Sampson representing Racine county and Alan Barrows representing Waukesha county to set up a strategy on how to approach the county supervisors. Jamie Soneberg pointed out that we need to introduce ourselves to the local town and village boards so we can get some visibility and grass roots support.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan –Jeff Thornton reported once the ice has melted they will go out and monitor some of the shoreline issues that still exist and then move forward with the plan.
- b) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said he has been working with Public Works to get updates. They had applied for a grant to do extensive work on the dam but it was not granted. They are finishing up a scour study of some of the areas around the abutments of the dam. The county has been in contact with the DNR concerning the timing of the work and the level to which the water has to be dropped and the length of time the water level will be lowered. The project is still planned for mid to late 2010. Chad also mentioned that recently some of the gears within the dam broke and have been repaired. Randy Craig asked why the water level of the River is higher now than is usual and Chad said he would present this question to the engineers to see what they say.
- c) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Jeff Thornton reported that this plan is back on the front burner and has to be finished by June. It is planned to have a draft of the document by March. The draft of the plan was on SEWRPC's website but was lost when they experienced a server failure. As more information becomes available Jeff will bring it to the commission.
- d) Barstow Impoundment Project – Jim D'Antuono said that Craig's report on the Frame Park Creek Watershed covered the activity on the impoundment. It was decided to change the name of this project to the Frame Park Creek Watershed because this is the work being accomplished which directly affects the impoundment.
- e) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton said there was nothing to report from the agency at this time because of the holidays and a death of one of the agency members. Jeff said that at the last meeting he attended the FWA asked that they be kept abreast of the activities of the City of Waukesha water utility regarding discharge of clean wastewater into Lake Michigan instead of the Fox River. Jeff said that a draft of the request for Great Lakes water was available on their website and Jeff sent them an email to alert them of this fact. Currently the City of Waukesha is utilizing ground water

cleaning it and discharging it into the Fox River. If the City uses Lake Michigan water it will be required to return its discharge to Lake Michigan. During dry periods of the year this could result in a significant reduction in water flow in the river. .

- f) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora was not present and no report was made.

**Correspondence –**

- a) 12/15/09 Email from Jim Pindel to Mary Kossik stating that we will fund the cost of 90% for the stone for channel lining as well as the restoration seeding and planting for the Kossik Stream Restoration project. Mary responded the same day thanking us for the help.
- b) 1/21/10 Email from Maureen McBroom (WDNR Storm water Specialist) requesting time at our 2/5/10 meeting to present the Frame Park Creek Watershed project.

**Miscellaneous Issues –**

Jamie Soneberg requested an agenda item for next meeting regarding adding a water level gauge back into the Big Bend Village area. There was some discussion that this gauge should be a modern automated gauge station that would be accessible on the internet.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Randy Craig and seconded by Chad Sampson, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:07 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, March 12, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel

**Commission members present:**

Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Jim D' Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
David Kopp (City of Waukesha)  
Dale Fennel (Village of Mukwonago)  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut WWMD and Jim Ritchie WDNR

At 1:30 PM, 3/12/10, Vice-Chairman Howard Garvens called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the February 5, 2009 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Randy Craig and seconded by Jamie Soneberg that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for February 2010 was reviewed. The only real change from the January statement was the interest made on our money market account. Barb Holtz asked why the payment we made to the Town of Mukwonago for Phase 1 of the Phantom Woods Road project did not show up in the Enumeration Status Summary portion of the report. It was explained that the payment we made came out of our Money Market Account and we will not apply to the DNR for reimbursement until the second phase of the project is completed. Don Scott motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Al Sikora seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)  
Shelley Tessmer was not present. Jim Pindel reported that Shelley indicated in an email that there was nothing to report at this time. She did indicate that she had received the 'cost share' document provided by Chad Sampson after our last

meeting.

- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Jamie Soneberg said that the Village of Big Bend is moving forward with the bidding process and expects to complete the project this coming summer.
- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that the engineering was completed in January and February and now they are moving forward with the project.
- d) Idlewood Drive Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that they have to wait for the weather to break before they can attend to the corrections that need to be done to complete the project.
- e) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz reported that phase 2 of the project was moving forward waiting for the permitting process with the DNR to be completed and for the weather allow them to do the work. They have the plugs, biologs and other materials on order.
- f) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Dale Fennel Dale Fennel was not present. Jim Pindel reported that Steve Brunner of Ruekert \* Mielke sent an email to Greg Kessler indicating that he was not aware of the fact that Dale had not been making reports to the commission on this project. The email further indicated that Steve would be coming to this meeting to make a report, but since Steve was not present we had to move along without it.
- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim D’Antuono said that Brian Glenzinski had briefed him on the status of this project. Phase 1 on the project was to remove the buckthorn along the channel so that they could then do the structural work along the banks. The structural work consists of laying back the banks, stoning them and stabilizing the system. Jim passed around some pictures that show the removal of the buckthorn. Some heavy duty DNR equipment and chainsaws were used to cut the buckthorn. The buckthorn was chipped and left in place to help reduce runoff once the ground thawed out. The pictures showed an area shaded in green indicating where the buckthorn was removed and six other pictures show the area to the south where these channels drain into a ditch which flows into the Fox River. With this work done they are now waiting for the weather to improve and the ground to dry out so that they can do the grading portion and other mechanical work. Jim Pindel asked for a copy of the pictures for the project file and Jim D’Antuono said he could keep the pictures going around the room. Al Sikora asked for electronic versions of the pictures for the Website and Jim D’Antuono said he would provide them.
- h) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Brian Glenzinski asked Jim D’Antuono to report that he has applying for the large grant



from the Wildlife Federation. Jim said that Brian is very optimistic that he will get the grant. The grant is for over a million dollars with the Vernon Marsh project just being a portion of the grant and most of the rest of the grant is to be used for land acquisition requests by the DNR for land in and around the Fox River watershed. Brian expects to hear about the grant in late summer. Jim Pindel reported that he had filled out the NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT PROPOSAL PARTNER CONTRIBUTION FORM as requested by Brian at our last meeting and had emailed it to Brian.

- i) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim D’Antuono stated that the DNR had received the permit application for this project this last week. They are in the process of reviewing it and will be providing feedback comments to the consultant Mary Kossik used in the near future. There are some deficiencies she needs to correct but he is hopeful that she can go forward with the project this summer.
- j) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows said that the bridge was scheduled for redecking in 2012 and this would be the first time the county would be willing to address this issue. He said that there is a gully in the roads right-of-way that might be utilized in the short term. As far as a boat launch is concerned Alan said that the county is committed to the launch where the Fox River Inn was located.

### **New Business**

- a) Water level gauge for Village of Big Bend – Jamie Soneberg said that they were still gathering information and hoped he would have more information by our next meeting. He said that he had talked to Jeff Thornton and Jim Pindel concerning this matter and that Jim had shown him drawings dating back to 1978 indicating a water level gauge in Big Bend. Apparently a system had existed to measure water levels upstream to control the opening of the Waterford dam. The consensus was that the system or at least the water level gauge in Big Bend had been destroyed by lightening. Jamie said that he remembered the water gauge and that it was located at the Lions Club.
- b) Disposition of SEWFRC Digital Camera Jim Pindel reported that the commission had purchased a digital camera for \$250 back in 2002 and that Francis Stadler had the camera updated for \$76 dollars a few years ago when he was the commission chairman. We have never used the camera since that time and he wondered if we shouldn’t sell it for whatever money we can get to add to our non-reimb funds, since we are short on cash. It was the opinion of the group that the camera probably didn’t have much value anymore, but Jim was asked to bring the camera to our next meeting so it could be inspected and see if anyone had a use for it. Alan Barrows said that he might want to use it when he accompanies SEWRPC on the boat tour (evaluation) of the Fox River this spring as part of SEWRPC’s effort to develop our next implementation plan.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan –Jeff Thornton said that he had nothing special to report at this time, but that some federal dollars had become available and would be put toward this project. Jeff said they have a staff member named Joe Boxhorn who has been assigned to work on this plan. As soon as we have some water levels reasonably close to normal, they would be taking an assessment trip down the river to identify issues of concern.
  
- b) 2011 SEWFRC Budget or alternate means of funding for the Commission – Greg Kessler. Jim Pindel said that he received an email from Greg this morning which stated that Greg had made attempts with both Waukesha and Racine counties. Greg said that there was some support and interest with Waukesha County through collaborating in their planning efforts, but there was no success with Racine County because they didn't want to meet with him. Alan Barrows asked to elaborate on this topic. He said what we need to do is find a way in which the commission can enhance the money that the county allocates for its citizens. Find some way to make the system more efficient to get \$1.10 out of every \$1.00 the county spends on a project. To make our case we need to find a way to show we can be more efficient with the distribution of these funds. Jamie Soneberg suggested that maybe we need to go further upstream from the City of Waukesha. Possibly these communities which provide the source flow into the Fox River, might be viable sources of new allocations. Jeff Thornton pointed out that one of the mandates for the new implementation plan the SEWRPC is working on is to expand the area of our jurisdiction to the north, south and even to the west.
  
- c) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson was not present so no report was made.
  
- d) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Jeff Thornton reported that the plan is moving forward. They are in the process of organizing another public meeting. This meeting will be concerned with the implementation or recommendation side of the plan and will probably occur in mid-April. The plan is on track to be wrapped up by the end of June. At the next meeting Jeff said he should be able to advise the exact time and location for the meeting.
  
- e) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim D'Antuono said that the WDNR and the University of Wisconsin extension are cooperating to put together a plan to identify conditions and future goals for the watershed. The draft of this report is due to be sent to Madison by the end of this month. As soon as the report is available for public viewing, Jim will provide the information in the report to the commission.

- f) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton said there was nothing to report from the agency at this time. Jeff also said that he had just received an email from them indicating that they had their dam gate wide open at the Stratton dam and chain of lakes and are monitoring the spring thaw and runoff.
- g) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora said he is willing to keep the website updated at no additional cost to the commission. He did remind us that he needs the project leaders to provide narratives and photos (preferably electronically) for their projects so he can keep the website current. Al went on to ask the project leader to attach a dollar value to the projects. At some point this website will be a huge tool for fund raising for the commission. Giving the website viewers some prospective of what we have invested should help promote us.

### **Correspondence** –

- a) 2/18/2010 NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT PROPOSAL PARTNER CONTRIBUTION FORM Signed and sent by Jim Pindel for SEWFRC to Brian Glenzinski for the Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project.
- b) 2/19/2010 Email from Steve Brunner of Ruekert \* Mielke to Greg Kessler updating him on the progress of the Mukwonago River Bank Stabilization Project. Also notifying us that Dale Fennel is leaving the state and our commission.
- c) 2/25/2010 Email to Dave Kopp requesting a Letter of Appointment for his next term
- d) 2/25/2010 Email to Shelley Tessmer asking for update on Schmidt & Canton Island project.

### **Miscellaneous Issues** –

Dick Kosut of the WWMD asked if the commission or the DNR had any information concerning the Asian Carp coming up the Fox River from Illinois. Jim D'Antuono said that he had not heard any discussion concerning the Carp coming up the Fox River. Both he and Jeff Thornton felt that the height of the Stratton dam (probably on the order of 50 to 60 feet high) would prevent the Carp from migrating past that point. Don Scott added that nature might have a way, like eagles catching and dropping fish, to circumvent the dam.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jamie Soneberg and seconded by Randy Craig, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:00 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, April 23, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel

**Commission members present:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Jim Ritchie (Wisconsin DNR)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
David Kopp (City of Waukesha)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Dale Fennel (Village of Mukwonago)  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut WWMD and Ron Barker of the Fox Waterway Agency of Illinois

At 1:03 PM, 4/23/10, Chairman Greg Kessler called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the March 12, 2009 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Howard Garvens and seconded by Barb Holtz that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer’s Report for March 2010 was reviewed. The only real change from the February statement was the interest made on our money market account. Jim Pindel suggested that for future Treasurer’s Reports the details of the Schmidt & Canton Island project be dropped from the report and a new summary section be added that lists all the projects that are practically completed and just waiting for some final action or for the paperwork to be completed. Alan Barrows motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Howard Garvens seconded the motion. The treasurer’s report was approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton’s Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)  
Shelley Tessmer was not present. Jim Pindel reported that he had emailed Shelley on 4/7/10 asking if anything had happened on the project and if she had any idea of when the property owners might pay their 10% cost share. Once we receive this cost share we can submit the paperwork to the DNR for reimbursement.

- Chad Sampson said that he had talked to Shelley and that Racine County would visit the site every year for a while take photos and evaluate the effectiveness of the different shoreline stabilization / erosion control method employed. He further said that they would take notes and Greg Kessler said that it would be best to document these findings.
- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Ron Peterson said that they are just waiting for bids to come in and the project will be started. Ron said that the Village had received permission (permit) from the DNR to go ahead with the project, so everything is well on its way.
  - c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that he was out of commission for a few weeks and will be meeting with the engineers within the next two weeks and will be prepared to make a report at our next meeting.
  - d) Idlewood Drive Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that the contractor had until May 15, 2010 to correct the problem at the project site. The WWMD has gone back and forth with the contractor who contends that the work done was proper and that the design was flawed. The WWMD when out and hired another testing company to get a third opinion. This testing company made four borings and this company concurs with engineers report that there is too much topsoil over the filtration bed. When the contractor was made aware of these findings he said that it will work just as well as it is. Therefore the WWMD contacted their attorneys today and asked them to proceed with the bonding issue on this project. The contractor (Augie's Excavating, Burlington, WI) will not concede that he did anything wrong even though the work done is not to specification. Alan Barrows asked what kind of testing was done on the soil, pointing out that the texture of the soil or inclusion of too much silt or clay could be detrimental to the operation of the filtration system. Alan suggested that the soil be tested by a certified soil testing facility and Dick Kosut said the third party tester was certified. The soil was a sandy loam with some clay content. Chad Sampson asked that since we have a financial stake in this project, do we need to take a stance or take some sort of action. After some discussion it was decided to let the WWMD, the project managers, pursue the bonding issue through their attorneys. Alan Barrows said that if a letter concerning this issue was sent to the contractor a copy of that letter should be sent to the bank that is holding the bond. The bank would probably bring some pressure to bear on the contractor because they don't like to see these bonds pulled.
  - e) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz reported that the project is progressing well. They have their permit applications in to the DNR. Once the permits are approved they will then apply to the County. She passed out pictures which showed first the original condition of the site; then the buffer zone of about 40 feet that will allow the runoff to be filtered and slowed down before it reached the lake. A revised plan view of the project which showed

the new buffer zone. The project is coming along well and she expects to be spending most of May preparing the site and doing the planting in June. Greg Kessler asked that digital copies of these pictures be given to Al Sikora for our website.

- f) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Dale Fennel Jim Pindel said he could address the status report for this project. He referred to two emails from Steve Brunner of Ruekert \* Mielke. In the first email dated February 19, 2010 Steve stated "We recently finished our preliminary design for the project and forwarded it on to We Energies for their approval, since they are the owner of the majority of the project site. I expect comments back from their Ecological Department staff in the next week or two. We coordinated our design with Andy Hudak from the DNR, so once We Energies signs off on the project, I anticipate a smooth process to obtain the biological shoreline restoration permit. The design will attempt to mimic the work that was done on the opposite bank, with the main difference being a much steeper bank due to more intense erosion. We plan to accomplish the stabilization with multiple layers of envirolok soil bags stacked on top of a single layer of coconut fiber rolls. Native plant plugs would be installed into the fiber rolls, and into the void spaces between the soil bags. The upland area above the bank would be seeded with a wooded wetland native seed mix and intermittently planted with groupings of native trees and shrubs. Due to the extensive underground and overhead wires running through the property, we have carefully selected the type and location of the plantings so as not to interfere with any of the site operations.

I understand that Dale is soon moving out of state, and the Village will be appointing someone to take his place on the Commission." In a second email dated April 7, 2010 Steve stated "I don't believe that the Village has appointed anyone yet to replace Dale on the Commission. I will contact Paul Moderacki, Village Administrator, to remind him of this issue. As for the Mukwonago River project, we met recently with We Energies and they requested some revisions to our design based on maintenance considerations. We are now in the process of making those revisions and will be meeting with them one more time in the next couple of weeks. Overall, the design concept is still the same as what I described in my last email, so I don't know if you would need anyone at the meeting to discuss this. It would probably make more sense for me to attend the meeting next month instead, after we have design approval from We Energies." Greg Kessler said we should follow up on these reports and said that he will shoot an email to Steve about a possible report at our next meeting.

- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim Ritchie standing in for Jim D'Antuono said that at the last meeting it was reported that all the buckthorn and vegetation had been removed during frozen conditions in wintertime and that had gone very well. Brian Glenzinski is now going through the final design with the DNR's engineering staff; he must go through the same permitting requirements as we do for our projects. He is still on schedule for summer construction probably in July.

- h) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Jim Ritchie reported that the status had not changed since last month. The large grant had been applied for on time and now they are waiting for a decision which is forthcoming this summer. Greg Kessler said that if anyone was interested in seeing the letter of support we provided for Brian for this grant application, they should notify him or Jim Pindel and a copy would be provided.
- i) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim Ritchie said that he talked to Jim D’Antuono this morning concerning this project and that Mary Kossik had indeed submitted a preliminary plan and permit application to the DNR. They are still working with her to get some information that was lacking that needs to be finalized. Chad Sampson asked what the extent of the project was and Jim Ritchie said Mary was diverting the stream around the dammed up pond. Alan Barrows said that he met with Mary recently concerning the county permitting and that Mary was now considering dredging the pond. This blossoms into considerations of spoil spreading in the area as well as dam reconstruction.
- j) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows said that there was nothing new to report at this time. The bridge is scheduled for redecking in 2012. Alan also said that he recently drove by the site and observed three cars parked there, so the site is being used and enjoyed by people.

### **New Business**

- a) Water level gauge for Village of Big Bend – Jamie Soneberg was not present. Jeff Thornton said that he had received a response for the USGS staff on the cost of a stream flow gauge. The cost of the system initially would be \$12,500 with an annual operations and maintenance cost of \$11,500. This would include publication of this data in their water resources publication. The data would include daily water flow values in cubic feet per second. Jeff said his commission was to get this cost data for the Village and now it was up to them to decide what to do. Jeff said historically there was a gauge at highway ES up until 1996 and now there is no data being taken even though it would seem to be helpful. When Greg Kessler asked Ron Peterson if this was something the Village of Big Bend would be pushing for, Ron indicated this was quite expensive. Ron then asked what happened to the consideration of a simple visual height gauge and Jeff pointed out that this could be implemented at a much lower cost. It was left that this information should be forwarded to Jamie Soneberg to see how he wanted to proceed. Jeff asked Jim Ritchie if this flow gauge would be eligible for a river protection grant and Jim Ritchie said he would ask that question of the DNR. Jeff went on to say that this gauge might be something that we might be able to endorse in the SEWFRC implementation plan under rework right now.
- b) Disposition of SEWFRC Digital Camera - Jim Pindel displayed the camera that the commission had purchased back in 2002 and that Francis Stadler had updated a few years ago when he was the commission chairman. We have never used the



camera and he wondered if we shouldn't sell it for whatever money we can get to add to our non-reimb funds, since we are short on cash. When asked it was pointed out that it was a 5 mega pixel camera. Jim Ritchie pointed out that if grant funding was used to purchase the camera the money from the sale would have to be applied to grantable projects not to non-reimbursable funds. In any case selling the camera if it were purchased with grant money would be a problem. It seemed like the only acceptable conclusion would be to donate the camera to some charity like a school. Remembering that Jamie Soneberg was somewhat interested in the camera at the last meeting, it was decided to bring it back next time to see if he had any interest.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan –Jeff Thornton said that he had nothing special to report at this time.
- b) 2011 SEWFRC Budget or alternate means of funding for the Commission – Greg Kessler. Greg said that he has approach both Racine and Waukesha counties. The sense is that both counties are having budgetary problems trying to reduce their budgets and this is bad timing to try to add our commission in as an additional expense. Greg Kessler asked both of the county representatives to do whatever they can and asked if there is anything he can do to please contact him. Jeff Thornton reviewed for our visitor Ron Barker from the IL Fox River Agency that our commission was formed by the state legislature and the funding mechanism they envisioned was that we would obtain our funding from through the county budgets. As it turned out we were funded by the state of Wisconsin through grants that came through the WDNR. Due to the political climate and situation in the state budget we were not funded in the present state budget. Therefore we are looking for alternate means of funding for our projects. Some alternate cost share options like lake protection grants were mentioned. So there are some grants available but we have to find a way to come up with matching funds.
- c) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said that there was nothing significant to report. There is a planned draw down of the impoundment in late summer or early fall. The draw down would be in the area of about one foot to do the landscape work around the abutments or edges of the dam. There are some support issues that will be addressed with rock or grading in those areas.
- d) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Jeff Thornton reported that the plan is moving forward and they had a good meeting on April 8, 2010 with about 35 people in attendance representing the county and local municipalities. There was a brief update on progress to date but the purpose of the meeting was to translate the science of the data collected into recommendations. They concentrated on the stretch of the river from Eagle Springs Lake to Lower Phantom Lake. There were six areas that were identified for special protection

- through ordinance means and/or public acquisition as a priority. For the most part Jeff felt that in general the audience was in agreement with the recommendations. The project is still on schedule to be completed by the end of June. A draft copy of the plan will be available next month for review by the commission. One thing that came out as a surprise was the recognition of the value of Jericho Creek which has trout in it and is already being protected by property owners.
- e) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim Ritchie reported that Maureen McBroom indicates that the project is under internal review by DNR staff that is knowledgeable about the stream and the Frame Park Watershed. The final draft will be available in early May at which time it will be sent to all the municipalities in the watershed and other interested parties such as our commission for review and comment.
- f) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Ron Barker of the FWA addressed the current activities of the agency. Ron reported that last year they removed 100,000 cubic yards of silt from their waterways. They have found a market for the dried soil selling it to farmers, municipalities and recently it has been cleared for use in the city of Chicago. The sale of topsoil is one of the ways the FWA supports itself and its dredging work. They are now waiting for a permit to build a 50 acre island in the largest lake in their system. This island will consume 321,000 cubic yards of dredge material. The perimeter of the island will be lined with pascal baskets, rock rip wrap and other containment material before the inside is filled by hydraulic dredging. This project will replace an island that used to be in this location and has eroded away. The FWA replaced a 27 acre island ten years ago and this island is doing very well. This island is used as a nesting area for some turns that were an endangered species. The area near the island has to be declared off limits during the turns nesting season because the turns are very territorial and defend their young from boaters. Ron said that he noticed that some of us were concerned about the ‘big head’ carp coming up the river into our system. He said that the carp can not get over the dam at Ottawa. This dam is 70 feet tall. If the carp make it over the Ottawa dam they will be stopped by the Algonquin dam which is 28 feet tall and after that is the Stratton dam which is 52 feet tall. These three dams should protect our waterway from the Asian carp in the Illinois River. These dams will stay in the system because they are economic generators. The water quality of the Fox Waterways has improved due to the sediment that has been removed which can not go back into suspension. The FWA has its own equipment for dredging and handling the dredged material. The equipment includes two amphibious kick backhoes, three hydraulic dredges, two long stick excavators, two 100 acre farms where they can dry the material, a dewatering site which is capable of drying 42,000 cubic yards of material per season plus a crew of eight people. Dick Kosut of the WWMD asked Ron what is the drying time for the material once it is put on land. Ron said it varies from four days to three weeks depending on the water content of the material. At that point the FWA pulverizes the material and sells it as topsoil. In twenty-five years of testing the dredged material they have yet to find a contaminated sample. They

test for everything including heavy metals, leads, oils and everything listed by the Illinois EPA. Chad Sampson asked Ron what is the cost of dredging the material and Ron said it costs them \$8.00 per cubic yard and they sell it for \$12.00 per cubic yard. Jeff Thornton said the nominally the cost for dredging up here in Wisconsin is \$50. to \$150. per cubic yard due to the fact that we do not have the dedicated facilities and local drying sites that the FWA has.

- g) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora reminded us that he needs the project leaders to provide narratives and photos (preferably electronically) for their projects so he can keep the website current. Al went on to say that if anyone had questions or issues with preparing the photos or information they could contact him. Barb Holtz asked if there was a link from our website to the Friends of the Mukwonago River website and Al said he didn't think so. Al said if Barb would provide the link information, a short description of who they are and what they do and a logo, he would add it to our website.

**Correspondence** –

- a) 4/06/2010 Email from Barb Holtz regarding the Mukwonago River Riparian Corridor and the Managing the Water's Edge documents asking that it be forwarded to all commissioners. These files along with comments from Jeff Thornton regarding the second document were forwarded to all commissioners and friends of the commission on 4/7/10.

**Miscellaneous Issues** –

Jim Ritchie pointed out that the current ENUM-16 is due to expire at the end of June and so he requires a letter requesting an extension for an additional year from us. Greg Kessler said he would provide the letter needed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Peterson and seconded by Al Sikora, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:09 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, May 21, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel

**Commission members present:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)\  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Jim Ritchie (Wisconsin DNR)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Mike Hahn (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
David Kopp (City of Waukesha)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Dale Fennel (Village of Mukwonago)  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)

Also present: Dick Kosut of the WWMD, Paul Moderacki of the Village of Mukwonago and Rodney Zuerner of Chiles Landscaping.

At 1:08 PM, 5/21/10, Chairman Greg Kessler called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the April 23, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Alan Barrows and seconded by Howard Garvens that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer’s Report for May 2010 was reviewed. The only real change from the April statement was the interest made on our money market account. Jim Pindel pointed out that the details of the Schmidt & Canton Island project have been dropped from the report and a new summary section was added that lists all the projects that are practically completed and just waiting for some final action or for the paperwork. Jim Pindel pointed out that he had requested another cash advance from Jim Ritchie from ENUM 16, so that we could build up our interest income to pay for some of the non-grant expenses we are incurring. Jim Ritchie said that we can not get another cash advance against ENUM 16 but that the DNR could possibly write us checks for projects that are completed like the Idlewood Drive project and the Mukwonago Shoreline Restoration project. Jim Ritchie suggested that we list the Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement project as one of the nearly completed projects, seeing all of phase 1 is completed. Ron Peterson motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Howard Garvens seconded the motion. The treasurer’s report was approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)  
Shelley Tessmer was not present. Jim Pindel reported that he had received an email from Shelley stating that there had not been any action on the project recently and that she needed to schedule some time with Chad Sampson in June. She also reported that the property owners had removed two beavers from their island that had done a considerable amount of damage to trees.
  
- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Ron Peterson said that the project was open for bids from May 19 through May 26. The job is posted and on their website. The bids will be opened on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00PM and are on the board's agenda for their meeting the night of June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  
- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that the documentation is with the engineers right now and the engineering should be complete next week. At that time they will put the project out for bids.
  
- d) Idlewood Drive Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that they had a general meeting with the engineers, property owners, the contractor and the WWMD. At the meeting everyone made some concessions and the property owners said that they would sign off on the project and we would not be responsible for anything after this date. The drainage system is working according to the engineer's desire. They anticipated a 36 hour drain off after a heavy rain. After the heavy rain (approximately 2.5") early last week, Dick Kosut took pictures 24 hour later showing that the water had dissipated in 24 hours and the area was completely dry in 36 hours. So the system is working well and everyone seems to be happy now. So the WWMD will be closing out the project shortly as soon as they get the final bills from the engineers and contractor. Dick brought along the pictures he took right after the rain, 24 and 36 hours later showing the effectiveness of the drainage system. Greg Kessler asked Dick if he would get these pictures to Al Sikora for our website. Dick said he would provide these and some other pictures to Al. Chad Sampson asked if the contractor had to do any additional work. Dick responded that even though the design specified 5" of topsoil and the contractor provided 7" to 9" of topsoil with some clay content, the results of the drainage test showed that the system met the 36 hour criteria, so no additional work was required. Also the landowners did not want to have their lawns torn up again.
  
- e) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz was not present but Alan Barrows reported that he was copied with a chapter 30 permit for the boat landing at the end of the road. The chapter 30 permit was issued for the restoration of the launch but he has not seen any permit applications for the rest of the work to be done on the filter strip at the end of the road. Alan said that he contacted Steve Brunner of Ruckert-Mielke to notify him that there are some no fee county permits required for this project. Steve told Alan that the applications were signed yesterday and so he should be seeing them shortly.

- f) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Paul Moderacki Administrator / Clerk / Treasurer of the Village of Mukwonago said that Steve Brunner could not make the meeting today but made the following report. WE Energies has now signed off on the project and he believes that they are still waiting on a permit but the project should be moving forward. The private land owner on that side of the river is also in favor of the project. It is expected that the project should be completed this summer. Jim Pindel asked Paul Moderacki if he would appoint a new commissioner to replace Dale Fennel, Paul stated that he might have to stand in for a while and that he wanted to appoint someone from the community who was conservation conscious.
- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim Ritchie standing in for Jim D’Antuono said that it is still moving forward and is still on schedule for summer construction probably in July.
- h) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Jim Ritchie reported that the status had not changed since last month. The large federal grant had been applied for and now they are waiting for a decision on that grant which should happen in August.
- i) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim Ritchie said that he talked to Jim D’Antuono this morning concerning this project and that there was a site meeting scheduled for today with Mary Kossik, the DNR’s water regulating / permitting staff and representatives of Waukesha County’s zoning department. The purpose of the meeting was to review the site and discuss the pending permits from both the DNR and the County. Alan Barrows said that he had notified Mary Kossik in March that there were county permits required and as of now he has not received any applications. The county permits required are a zoning permit and an erosion control permit.
- j) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows said that he stopped at the site a couple weeks ago and the gully leading down the bank is eroding. He said that he talked to the county’s public works department and asked if they could fill in the gully. Looking at maps Alan said that were the people are actually launching is on private property. So if there is to be a launch there it would have to be a cooperative effort between the county and the private land owner. Alan’s intent is to find out who owns the land and talk to them to find out if they are interested in cooperating in this possible project.

### **New Business**

- a) Water level gauge for Village of Big Bend – Jamie Soneberg was not present. At our last meeting Jeff Thornton said that he had received a response for the USGS staff on the cost of a stream flow gauge. The cost of the system initially would be \$12,500 with an annual operations and maintenance cost of \$11,500. Jeff asked Jim Ritchie if this flow gauge would be eligible for a river protection grant and

today Jim Ritchie said he did not have an answer to that question. Ron Peterson said that he felt that Big Bend would be happy with a simple level indicator on the bridge and really didn't need all that sophistication. Mike Hahn said that the SEWRPC has a cost share arrangement with the USGS where USGS pays half of the annual maintenance cost of 14 of these stream flow gauges in southeastern Wisconsin. It might be possible that the gauge in Big Bend would qualify for the same treatment.

- b) Disposition of SEWFRC Digital Camera - Jim Pindel said that he had the camera with him and would contact Jamie Soneberg to see if he wanted to inspect it. The real problem is that if we don't know if the camera was purchased from grant or non-grant funds, if we sell it where do we put the money. Alan Barrows said that he saw a feature on channel 4 news, where handicapped kids were going to photography classes locally. He thought that donating our camera to this group might be a good way of disposing of the camera.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Greg Kessler said that he didn't have anything new. Mike Hahn reported that the SEWRPC has started working on the plan. He said that Joe Boxhorn was going back over their data to itemize what projects had been executed by the commission. We pointed out that our website SEWFRC.org would be a great resource for this information. Mike went on to say that as the new Implementation Plan progresses they would send preliminary sections or versions of the plan to the secretary / treasurer so that this information could be distributed to all the commissioners with the meeting notice. In this way the commissioners could review the sections of the plan before the actual meeting and then comment accordingly without having to spend a lot of meeting time presenting the material.
- b) 2011 SEWFRC Budget or alternate means of funding for the Commission – Greg Kessler said that he hadn't done anything additional on this issue and at this point not having any response from either county it was really a dead issue. It was decided to delete this item from future agendas.
- c) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said that there was nothing new to report. The rumor that the water level was to be taken down the first week of June 2010 has been squelched. Right now the draw down is scheduled for the summer of 2011 the exact date or amount of the draw down has not determined. Chad said that there will be plenty of notice to riparian owners, so no one should be surprised. He also recommended that people plan their shoreline projects for this time period. When the extent of the impoundment to be affected by the draw down was discussed, Dick Kosut said that in the 1994 draw down Tichigan Lake experienced a 2.5' draw down.

- d) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Mike Hahn said that the SEWRPC was working hard to meet a June 2010 deadline. The plan will include a lot of inventory information as well as goals, recommendations and objectives. They are looking at a lot of land use issues trying to compare the county's comprehensive plan to the Regional Planning Commission's plan to address some of those issues. This plan is similar to the Pebble Creek plan but is more extensive because it includes both stream and lake components. When Paul Moderacki asked when a draft copy would be available, Mike said probably not until late June.
- e) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim Ritchie said that Jim D'Antuono had something prepared but was not able to attend and so we will have to wait until our next meeting for a report.
- f) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Mike Hahn said that he did not have anything to report at this time.
- g) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora was not present so no report was made.

#### **Correspondence** –

- a) 4/26/2010 Email from Jim Ritchie with attached letter advising that ENUM 16 will expire on June 30, 2010 and that we need to apply for a time extension.
- b) 5/13/2010 Email from Greg Kessler to Jim Ritchie requesting ENUM 16 extension for 1 year.
- c) 5/18/2010 Email from Jim Ritchie with attached grant extension for ENUM 16.
- d) 5/17/2010 Forward of an email from Audrey Green (Walworth County Lake Specialist) concerning Wisconsin's Invasive Species Identification Classification and Control Rule Chapter NR 40. Chad requested that this topic be discussed in the correspondence section of our meeting to see if the commission wanted a presentation by Audrey Green. Alan Barrows said that we should ask Al Sikora to add a link from our website to the DNR's website location concerning this important issue, showing our support and informing our viewers. Greg Kessler asked if Chad could obtain a draft copy of Audrey Green's presentation so we could review it to see if we want the entire presentation given to the whole commission.

#### **Miscellaneous Issues** –

Greg Kessler said that it appears that Dave Kopp is no longer with the City of Waukesha and so he has sent an email to Steve Crandall to try to get a replacement for Dave. Greg is still waiting for a response from Steve Crandall.

Chad Sampson said that he will be making a presentation at the Town of Waterford Planning Commission meeting on July 6<sup>th</sup>. The presentation will be about the new farmland preservation program for tax credits and exclusive agricultural zoning.



Chad made this announcement so that any commissioners who were concerned or interested could attend.

Jim Pindel said that he had some correspondence with Jamie Soneberg concerning Jamie possibly appointing an alternate commissioner for the Village of Big Bend. He went on to ask the other commissioners present to recommend this practice to their municipalities so that we would have a larger pool of commissioners available to guarantee having a quorum at our meetings. He also pointed out that the Town of Vernon only had two of its allocated three commissioners appointed. Don Scott pointed out that the Town of Vernon is very busy with other issues, especially the fire department, right now.

Jim or Mary Pindel to follow up with the new acting Fire Chief to reserve the meeting room for our next meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Peterson and seconded by Don Scott, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 1:49 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, July 16, 2010  
at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station  
#3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel

**Commission members present:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)\  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Joe Boxhorn (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Steven Crandell (City of Waukesha)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

Also present: Dick Kosut of the WWMD, Jim Ritchie Wisconsin DNR, Audrey Greene Walworth County Lake Specialist, and Steve Brunner Ruckert/Mielke.

At 1:02 PM, 7/16/10, Chairman Greg Kessler called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the May 21, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Jamie Soneberg and seconded by Shelley Tessmer that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for May and June 2010 was reviewed. The only real change from the April statement was the two interest payments made on our money market account and one check written to cover out website hosting for the next year. Howard Garvens motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Ron Peterson seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)  
Shelley Tessmer said that she met with Chad Sampson on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and they surveyed the project site together. Chad took pictures of the four erosion control sites. Shelley owes Chad a list of the plants that she planted but Chad was going to try to identify the plants from the pictures taken. Shelly reported that there was more beaver damage to the trees on the island. Chad summarized the survey saying that the Erosion matting with native planting and the rock riprap with native vegetation planting immediately behind the shoreline were the most successful erosion control methods used. The fiber block remained in place with

minimum movement and erosion but the plant growth was not as successful. It is possible the water level may have affected the plant growth at this site. The coconut fiber log was dislodged and missing. Without the log there was minimum plant growth at the water level. Erosion has occurred, and plant growth immediately behind the missing log contained more thistles and weeds than at the other sites. Shelley pointed out that just across the bay from this island a property owner had coconut logs installed professionally and that they stayed in place and seem to be doing a fine job. In the final analysis the erosion matting with native planting and the rock riprap with native vegetation appear to be the most successful erosion control methods on this island and probably for all the shoreline areas within this region of the Fox River.

- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) –Jamie Soneberg reported that the project has been out for bids and was awarded. Bids for the launch ranged from \$39,000 to about \$58,000 and the bids for the pier ranged from \$21,000 to \$26,000. The project as awarded comes to a total of \$60,825 which is over the estimate and the budget. Jamie requested that the commission pay 90% of the overage amounting to an additional \$13,270.90. Reviewing our 2010 budget we only have \$12,840.42 in unreserved grant funds available. Looking for alternate possibly available funds not being used by other project, we asked Jim D’Antuono to ask Brian Glenzinski, if he gets the large federal grant for the Vernon Wildlife Flowage Restoration project if he still needs the \$20,000 we budgeted for this project. If he no longer needs any or all of our budgeted money then we can use some of this money to pay for the Boat/Canoe launch. Construction should start anytime the river recedes enough to allow for work to begin. Due to present high water levels the village has extended the completion date for the project out to September 2010. In the end it was decided to wait for an answer from Brian Glenzinski on whether he needs our \$20,000 and spend some time looking for any other possible funds before making a decision at an upcoming meeting on how much if any of the overage we can afford to cover.
- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that the plans are finally done and will be turned over by Crispell-Snyder to the DNR for approval and permitting. Hopefully the project will go out for bids in two weeks.
- d) Idlewood Drive Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said the project is totally complete and the documentation has been turn over to our commission earlier this week. Dick reported that this project has also gone over budget due to engineering charges which occurred because of the dispute concerning whether the drainage system was to design specifications and/or even worked. The commission’s 90% share in the project overage amounts to \$2,831.80. Dick said that we can take this money out of the funds we have reserved for the WWMD’s Grand Drive / Buena Park project. This was agreeable with the commission.
- e) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz stated that they had experienced some incremental delays but were moving

forward. Permits have been obtained the biologists and fill are in place and the next step is to plant the native plants. Barb will be picking up the plants shortly and expects to do the planting on July 31, 2010. Barb said that she has ordered over 1000 plant plugs. Jim Ritchie asked Barb to keep track of the number of volunteers she uses to accomplish the planting. Barb said that she has photos from before and during the project and Alan Barrows said that he also has photos since he has been stopping by periodically to review the site. When asked if the project is within budget, Barb said that it was probably a little over budget, but that the town had built some contingency into their project funds and would absorb the overage.

- f) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Steve Brunner of Ruckert-Mielke passed around copies of the plan for the river bank shoreline stabilization project as well as having full size drawings he could refer to in his report. The design for this project took longer than expected because it had to be approved by WE Energies the owner of most of the property. ATC has an 80 foot easement through the property and also has to approve of the plan. There are a lot of overhead and underground wires that go through this property, resulting in many restrictions regarding maintenance and access to the wiring. Steve pointed out on the approved design drawing that most of the small trees and shrubbery are close to the river bank avoiding close proximity to the overhead and underground wiring. This is close to what we did across the river but different because of the restrictions. The new design employs a single layer of coconut fiber logs backed up by engineered soil bags. What they learned on the project across the river is that one layer of coconut fiber logs does a good job of wicking up the water to sustain vegetation, but additional layers don't work as well. When asked by Alan Barrows if they considered the fact that black soil bags tend to heat up too much burning up the vegetation, Steve said that the bags used are gray to overcome that problem. Steve said that WE Energies and ATC have given them verbal approval for the design. The expectation that WE Energies Foundation would have paid for the execution phase of this project can not happen because the rules of the Foundation state that the funds can not be used for WE Energies properties. The Village does not have the funds for this project at this time so the project must stay on hold until funds become available. The next step is to apply for permits and wait for funding. Steve said that the Village of Mukwonago is in the process of appointing a new appointee to our commission. Greg Kessler told Steve that a simple email about the project if nothing significant as occurred would be acceptable for feedback, but if anything significant occurred a report from someone from the Village would be appropriate.
- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim D'Antuono said that the buckthorn was mowed down and treated last spring and now they are working on the re-contouring of the streams. He said that Brian Glenzinski expects to do the bidding next month and have the work done this fall.

- h) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Jim D’Antuono reported that Brian Glenzinski said that he has had a very positive indication that the federal grant he has applied for will come through. Jim also said that they had to draw down the impoundment in Vernon Marsh for safety reasons because the dam needs to be replaced. Brian expects to hear a final decision on the federal grant in September.
- i) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim D’Antuono said that the DNR has reviewed the submittal of the proposed plan for the stream restoration plan and there are a lot of challenges with it. The next step is to meet with Mary Kossik and her consultant next week. After that meeting Jim D’Antuono will be prepared to report to us at our next meeting. Mary is concerned with some of the maintenance issues the County has asked her to do. The dam has to go and the question is whether she can maintain her pond is really going to be the issue.
- j) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows said that there was nothing to report at this time.

### **New Business**

- a) Aquatic invasive species – NR 40 – Audrey Greene the Lake Specialist from Walworth County passed around her business card and copies of the following three brochures, “A field guide to Aquatic Exotic Plants and Animals”, Help Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers” and “Fishing with Bait”. Audrey’s role is to provide education and information about aquatic invasive species be they plants, animals or a packogen like VHS. VHS is present in the Winnebago chain of lakes. Exactly what they are and how to prevent there spread and introduction. Any invasive species cause changes to our ecosystem and out compete our native species. Eurasian Milfoil is an example of what an invasive species can do causing a chain reaction of failures in the ecosystem causing a loss in recreational opportunities in our waterways. There are about nine aquatic invasive species in southeastern Wisconsin and about 185 in the Great Lakes. It has been illegal to launch a boat into any body of water if it has invasive species on board, but now it is illegal to leave a launch with invasive species on board. This includes weeds animals like clams or crabs and any water in the outboard motor or in the live well. This has become a local law enforcement issue. More information is available by googling “Clean Boats Clean Waters” or going to the DNR’s website concerning invasive species. SEWFRC already has a link from our website to NR – 40 about invasive species.
- b) Water level gauge for Village of Big Bend – Jamie Soneberg said that he was looking at other options because \$11,000 annual maintenance was a bit too expensive. Jamie motioned that this item be removed from the Agenda and the motion was seconded by Shelly Tessmer and carried unanimously. At this point Jamie Soneberg and Greg Kessler had to leave the meeting and so Howard Garvens took over as Chairman of the meeting.

- c) Disposition of SEWFRC Digital Camera - Jim Pindel said that because we could not sell the camera because we didn't know whether it was purchased using grant funds or nonre-embursible funds, he wanted to know where to donate it. Shelley Tessmer said that she knew that it was purchased with nonreimbursable funds, so now Jim Pindel will try to sell it to get more non reimburseable funds into our coffers. He will contact Jamie Soneberg and Paul Moderacki of the Village of Mukwonago to see if they want to buy it.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Joe Boxhorn said that they are proceeding on the plan and what he has been working on lately is trying to run down projects that the SEWFRC has accomplished to date. On some of the projects he has as little as just the name of the project. At this point he has a collection of about 40 project names that have come up from old meeting minutes. Chad Sampson said that somewhere in his archives he has probably all the meeting minutes from all the SEWFRC meetings. Joe said he will be contacting commissioners concerning these projects over the next two weeks. Joe said that they have been estimating watershed areas that might be brought into our jurisdiction. Also they have been trying to identify funding sources for our projects. They are investigating bringing in the Village of Rochester and the Town and Village of Burlington as well as everything upstream of Waukesha. Jim Pindel asked if SEWRPC considered extending our jurisdiction all the way down to the Illinois boarder and Joe was not sure. Joe reported that he does not know when Jeff Thornton will be able to get out on the river to do his assessment.
- b) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said that there was nothing new to report.
- c) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Joe Boxhorn said that Mike Hahn was in the process of reviewing the last chapter of the Plan at this time. Chapters 1 through 3 and chapters 5 and 6 are complete and the public comment period has ended. These chapters are available on SEWRPC's website. Chapter 4 should be posted on their website in the next few days. The final report will be issued on July 31, 2010.
- d) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim D'Antuono said that a draft plan for Frame Park and the upper Fox River watershed has been prepared by the University Extension in cooperation with the DNR. It is now open for public comment. This is one of twenty some watersheds around the state that had a plan prepared for them. It is required by the EPA that these plans be updated every five years. The plan is required in order to obtain EPA funding.
- e) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Joe Boxhorn said that he did not have anything to report at this time.

- f) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora reminded all project leaders to provide text and photos so that he can add them to the website to keep it current.

**Correspondence** –

- a) 5/26/2010 through 6/1/2010 Chad Sampson & Greg Kessler making arrangements for NR 40 Aquatic invasive species presentation
- b) 5/13/2010 Greg Kessler advising Steve Crandell that we need an appointee from the City of Waukesha
- c) 6/3/2010 Steve Crandell notifying Greg Kessler that he will attend SEWFRC meetings representing the City of Waukesha.
- d) 6/5/2010 Jim Pindel emailing Greg Kessler and Jim Ritchie that the WWMD's Idlewood Drive project went \$1670. over budget.

**Miscellaneous Issues** –

Howard Garvens advised the commission that Waukesha County is seriously considering adding a 'West Bypass' around the city of Waukesha. The 'West Bypass' would circumvent the city of Waukesha just as the highway 164 and highway 59 serves as a bypass around the east and south sides of the city now. The 'West Bypass' is intended to link up with Interstate 94 north of the city. There are several proposed routes for this bypass being considered. One or possibly more of the routes will go through Pebble Creek which dumps into the Fox River a half mile or so after the point of intersection with the bypass. The plans are very preliminary at this time and Howard volunteered to attend the meetings on this proposed bypass to monitor the affects on Pebble Creek and then report back to the commission. The section of Pebble Creek in question has seven springs and small streams feeding it, which could be endangered by the construction. Howard said he is familiar with this area because he spent time there during his youth. It was decided to add this 'West Bypass' to the Reports & Updates section of the Agenda so that Howard would keep the commission apprised of the consequences to Pebble Creek and consequently to the Fox River.

Dick Kosut of the WWMD asked when the draw down of the impoundment is made to work on the Waterford dam in the summer of 2011, if a general permit will be issued to allow people to do shoreline work. Chad Sampson said that a general permit was issued by Racine County during the last draw down and he would check if one is going to be issued this time. Chad also said that at this time no one has applied for such a permit.

Barb Holtz said that Waukesha County is required to have its Farmland Preservation Plan completed by the end of 2011. There is a committee working on this plan and Barb is a member of the committee. She said that the committee is considering a standard plan which will only include five square miles within the county. This would prevent most of the farms in Waukesha County from applying for any kind of farmland protection program that's now available from the state. Barb stated that this affects the Fox River because the farmland represents uplands and recharging areas for the ground water that

feeds the Fox River. Barb pointed out that the Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan as being written up by SEWRPC calls for conservation easements on farmland and free space for this same reason. Barb asked that the Farmland Preservation Plans for both Waukesha and Racine counties be added to our agenda so that the commission is made aware of this important contributor to the Fox River. Chad Sampson said that Racine County was in its very preliminary stages on its plan. Randy Craig said that the reason that only five square miles in the far western portion of Waukesha County was being considered was that this plan should have been initiated twenty or thirty years ago before there was so much expansion into what was farmland. At the end it was decided to bring this topic up at our next commission meeting to have a vote on whether to add Farmland Preservation Plans as an agenda item under Reports and Updates.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Randy Craig and seconded by Shelley Tessmer, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:43 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, August 20, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel



**Commission members present:**

Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago)  
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Steven Crandell (City of Waukesha)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut of the WWMD

At 1:10 PM, 8/20/10, Vice-Chairman Howard Garvens called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Howard Garvens introduced the new commissioner Dean Falkner representing the Village of Mukwonago. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the July 16, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Chad Sampson and seconded by Alan Barrows that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for July 2010 was reviewed. Jim Pindel then passed around a two page addition to the Treasurers Report. The first page simply showed all the payouts planned against ENUM-16 added to the non-grant income and expenses as budgeted in the 2010 budget. The second sheet showed the following deviations from the budget, \$514.82 in grant income from the owners of Schmidt and Canton Island, a shortfall of \$223.55 in fourth quarter of 2009 interest, a \$638.92 shortfall in expected 2010 interest and a \$12.95 increase in the 2010 website hosting cost. The net effect is that instead of the \$12,820.42 we thought we had available for additional grant project and some non-grant funds, we now only have \$12,460.29 in total available funds. Jim Pindel pointed out that a decision will have to be made when we get to the end of the year and we do not have non-grant funds available to pay for the publication of our 2011 budget and announcement of the annual public hearing. We will have to decide whether to not publish the budget and public hearing notice or to use grant funds in order to meet our statutory commitments or find some other source of funding. Shelley

Tessmer motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Al Sikora seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

### **Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project (active)  
Shelley Tessmer reported that a tree fell on the main path of the island and that she had to form a new path. Also she reported more beaver damage on the island. Shelley also said that she informed the owners of the amount of cost share they are responsible for and that she expects to obtain this payment for us in the near future. Shelley advised that she will be going back to work next month and will be working from 10:00AM to 2:00 PM and so will not be able to attend our 1:00PM meetings.
- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Jim Pindel reported that he had talked to Brian Glenzinski about whether any of the \$20,000 we budgeted for the Vernon Marsh project might not be needed in light of the large Federal Grant he anticipated receiving. Brian said that he needs all of it because it was listed as an additional payment from a concerned local conservation group and he could not change his grant application at this late date. Brian also said he needs our \$20,000 plus some other funds that he has commitments for to do initial work before the federal grant money becomes available in July of 2011. Jim Pindel also reported that he had checked with Jim D'Antuono to see if any of the \$6075 we had committed to the Kossik Streambank restoration project might be available and Jim D'Antuono that that it seemed that the project in some form was likely to go forward requiring all of the money we budgeted for it.
- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut stated that the project has gone out for bids and that the bids will close on August 30, 2010 at which time the work will be awarded to the appropriate bidder.
- d) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz stated that the project has moved along very well and that they have gotten everything planted. She reported that a botanist from SEWRPC came to site to help determine what was good and what plants had to go in the area that was not affected by the project. He was generally pleased with what he observed at the project site. Barb said that she has pictures that she will share with us at our next meeting. Barb said that the volunteer planting comprised of many concerned groups went well, planting over 1000 plants in a four hour time period. She has only noticed two plants that have not survived and some casualties should be expected. Barb said that she had sent photos to Al Sikora for our website and Al said that they will be up online this week.
- e) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Jim Pindel said that he had emailed Steve Brunner of Ruckert- Mielke concerning this project asking when we would see the required documentation for reimbursement. Steve said that he would be working with the Village of Mukwonago over the next couple weeks to

- have the paperwork completed.
- f) Vernon Wildlife Area Stream bank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim D’Antuono said that they have held a pre-bid meeting with potential contractors. They have received bids from several contractors so far and the contract has not been awarded yet. It is still expected that the project will be completed this fall.
  - g) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Jim D’Antuono reported that just like at last month’s meeting Brian Glenzinski said that he has had a very positive indication that the federal grant he has applied for will come through. Jim D’Antuono also stated that Brian Glenzinski expects to use our funding as well as some other funds to start work on the project before the federal grant money becomes available.
  - h) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim D’Antuono said that he met with Mary Kossik and her consultant and that they had told them what their concerns were with the proposed plan. Mary and her consultants are going to rework their plan to narrow the channel and move it further away from the environmental corridor. Jim expects that Mary will provide a revised set of plans in the next few weeks.
  - i) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows reported that he was at the site last Wednesday and noted a deep gully about waist deep which had washed out. Alan said he would talk to the county’s public works department and get them to possibly fill the gully with rock riprap.

### **New Business**

- a) Disposition of the SEWFRC Digital Camera. (for the very last time). Jim Pindel reported that he has not been able to hook up with Jamie Soneberg to get him to evaluate and possibly buy the camera. This pursuit is ongoing.
- b) Should Farmland Preservation Plans be added to “Reports & Updates” section of our agenda? Barb Holtz said that we should be aware of what is going on with the Farmland Preservation Plan especially in Waukesha county as well as in Racine county. She stated that Waukesha county has a very weak plan that requires five contiguous square miles of farmland in order to be considered for many of the protection programs that will keep them in open farmland condition. There are only three small sections of Waukesha county that meet these criteria. One in Eagle Township, one in Ottawa Township and a third in Oconomowoc. Most of Waukesha County’s farmland is in small parcels separated by municipalities, subdivisions and private homesteads. The point being that rain water falling on and filtered through the farmland becomes the ground water that eventually flows into or springs into the Fox River and the rest of our watershed. Barb pointed out that the Mukwonago River protection plan calls for protection of uplands as much as adjacent property for the good of the river. Referring to

Racine County Chad Sampson said that he attended a meeting with the Town of Waterford because they want to maintain the A1 agricultural zoning for part of their township. Chad said that the Town of Waterford and the Town of Burlington are the only townships in Racine County that have areas qualified for A1 zoning which amounts to about 9000 acres in total. This is a key part of Racine County's Farmland Preservation Program under development. The choice of participating in the A1 zoning status is up to the local municipalities and the County goes along with their desires. The recent downturn in the economy has lessened the demand for development which has slowed down the conversion of farmland into subdivisions. Chad Sampson said there are 4000 vacant lots in Racine County at the moment. There is about 125,000 acres of farmland in Racine County. Chad pointed out that farmland that is zone A1 can only be developed at a rate of one acre per twenty acres, the rest remaining in open farmland. Understanding that Barb Holtz has volunteered to watch the progress of the Waukesha County Farmland Preservation Plan and is willing to advise the commission of the progress, especially as it affects the Fox River watershed, Shelley Tessmer motioned and Al Sikora seconded the motion that we add this topic to our "Reports & Updates" section of the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Jeff Thornton stated that he and Alan Barrows and some of their colleagues performed a survey of the Fox River from the Barstow impoundment down to the Iron Bridge at the north end of the Waterford impoundment. Jeff said they have photos that they will share with us at the next meeting and made the following observations. Major issues they came across included tree falls and obstructions to navigation in the river, one of which completely blocked off the river requiring them to portage around it. There were a number of places showing significant bank erosion, particularly on outside edges in meanders in the river. There were other places where there were home sites or development at the top of the bank where we may want to consider some future project to eliminate the erosion. They noticed a number of invasive plant species especially large areas of phragmites. This is a very invasive species with very little habitat value. Jeff thought that phragmites was pretty much restricted to the Green Bay area but it seems to be working its way down the Fox River. Phragmites is a reed type of plant that can grow to six to twelve feet high and has sort of a feathery appearance. There were still some areas of purple loosestrife primarily just above the iron bridge north of the Waterford impoundment which need to be addressed. They observed some cattle in the river at one point near the Waukesha Racine County boarder. Jeff said that at our next meeting they will be prepared to show a slide show of the observation as well as a map of the location of the observations. They also attempted to get GPS locations for some of the projects the SEWFRC completed in the past. Jeff went on to say that SEWRPC has spent some time in house investigating extending the boundary of the commission north to the source of the Fox River and south to the Illinois border.

- The extension of our boundaries would require legislative action. It is expected to have a draft copy of the new implementation plan ready for our October or November meeting and get it finalized by the end of the year. Jeff said that SEWRPC will be contacting the WWMD to see if they could facilitate taking them around the Waterford impoundment, so that they can complete this last portion of the survey.
- b) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said that there was nothing new to report and that the draw down was still slated for sometime next summer.
  - c) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Jeff Thornton said that the plan is complete and is available on their website SEWRPC.org.( under the tab for environment, then under the tab for lakes & streams) There are a few minor modifications that need to be made to it due to comments received after people reviewed it. In the next month or two, Jeff will be able to provide a more complete report on the plan. One of the things that is an integral part of the plan is a recommendation that the municipalities that form the corridor in which the Mukwonago River flows consider forming an overlay district to help protect some of that flood plane. This could result in larger set backs than are required by state statutes.
  - d) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim D’Antuono said there was nothing new to report.
  - e) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton reported that the Agency has been busy applying and removing as appropriate slow/no wake restrictions due to the high water levels they are experiencing. Regarding the high water levels, Jeff stated that the aquifer water level measuring station in Vernon Marsh is at nearly surface levels compared to being ten feet below ground back on 2008 before all the floods and rain occurred.
  - f) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora said that he had recently received the photography from Barb Holtz on the Phantom Wood Drive project and he will be posting these to the website shortly. He will also investigate the link to the Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan.

**Correspondence** –

- a) 7/24/10 The 8700-001 & -002 forms for the Schmidt & Canton Island Project and the WWMD Idlewood Projects emailed to Jim Ritchie to close out projects
- b) 7/31/10 Email from Jim Pindel to Jim D’Antuono documenting Jim Pindel telephone conversation with Brian Glenzinski concerning Vernon Marsh dyke restoration and asking results of meeting with Mary Kossik
- c) 8/2/10 Email response from Jim D’Antuono to Jim Pindel stating that the Kossik Streambank restoration project will still possibly go forward and require the funds we have budgeted.

**Miscellaneous Issues –**

Jeff Thornton asked if Jim Ritchie or one of the DNR's environmental grant specialists could investigate if the SEWFRC would be eligible for cost share grants under any of the following programs: NR 7, MR191, NR195, or NR 198. Even though these are generally 50% cost share grants, it would at least be some source of funding money for the commission.

Chad Sampson said that there will be a conservation bus tour on September 15, 2010 conducted in Racine and Kenosha counties to visit site demonstrating erosion control practices that have been implemented in the last few years. There will be fifteen stops and the plan is to disembark at about five of these stops. Chad said he will email everyone copies of the brochure, detailing the event. The cost is \$10.00 per individual which includes a lunch.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Barb Holtz and seconded by Chad Sampson, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:25 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, September 17, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel

**Commission members present:**

Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago)  
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Greg Kessler (Town of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut and Bernd Kampe of the WWMD

At 1:01 PM, 9/17/10, Vice-Chairman Howard Garvens called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Howard Garvens introduced the new commissioner Doug Koehler representing the City of Waukesha. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the August 20, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Don Scott and seconded by Howard Garvens that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for August 2010 was reviewed. Jim Pindel then addressed the SEWFRC 2010 Budget Tracking document he provided to the commissioners. The Budget Tracking document showed the following deviations from the budget, \$514.82 in grant income from the owners of Schmidt and Canton Island, the fact that the Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project Engineering came in \$2,939 under budget, a shortfall of \$223.55 in fourth quarter of 2009 interest, a \$638.92 shortfall in expected 2010 interest and a \$12.95 increase in the 2010 website hosting cost. The net effect is that instead of the \$12,820.42 we thought we had available at budget time for additional grant project including some non-grant funds; we now have \$15,399.75 in total available funds. Jim Pindel pointed out that in July Jamie Soneberg said that the Big Bend boat/canoe launch project was over budget and had requested that the commission pay 90% of the overage amount, which comes to \$13,270.90. Since that time we did not think we could afford paying for the overage, but now with the Mukwonago project has come in under budget, we can afford to pay 90% of the overage. Al Sikora motioned to

accept the Treasurers Report and Ron Peterson seconded the motion. The treasurer's reports were approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project (active) Shelley Tessmer was not present and had not reported anything to any of the commissioners, so no report was made.
- b) Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active) – Ron Peterson said that the project was in process, everything was going as planned and the project should be completed by November 1, 2010. There was a short discussion concerning whether to fund 90% (\$13,270.90) of the project overrun as requested in the July meeting by Jamie Soneberg. It was pointed out that this project was very much inline with the intent of the Recreational Boating Authority which has provided our ENUM-16 funding and that at previous meetings Chairman Greg Kessler and Jim Ritchie of the DNR expressed a desire to fund this overrun if possible. Al Sikora motioned that we cover 90% of the cost overrun and Alan Barrows seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that Chils had been selected to do the project. Work should begin in about two weeks and should be completed in another two weeks.
- d) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz stated that if anyone wanted to see photos of the project they could go to our website where they have been posted. She also pointed out that this project is now listed among the completed projects. The project is completed and there will be continuous maintenance such as weeding from now on. Barb said that she will be working with the town of Mukwonago to provide the required documentation to close out the project. Jim Pindel said he will email Barb with all the documentation requirements.
- e) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Jim Pindel said that he had received all the required project documentation from Steve Brunner of Ruekert-Mielke. Jim signed the documentation and mailed it to Jim Ritchie of the DNR, who had confirmed receipt of the documentation. Now we are in the mode of waiting for Jim Ritchie to review this documentation and advise us when it is approved then we can make our payment to the Village of Mukwonago.
- f) Vernon Wildlife Area Streambank Stabilization Project (pending) – Jim D'Antuono said that a contractor has been selected for the project. He was unable to talk to Brian Glenzinski because Brian was in the field all week. They need to touch base with Waukesha County. The work should start shortly and will not take very long, so the project should be completed in the next few weeks.



- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (tabled until August) – Jim D’Antuono reported that he had not heard anything new about this project and that Brian Glenzinski was still very optimistic about getting the federal grant for this project.
- h) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim D’Antuono stated that Mary Kossik’s dam has failed and she is in emergency removal mode. In all likelihood she will have the dam removed in the next week and that she has abandoned her project to reroute the stream and will have to let the stream flow through the area which was her pond. The resultant streambank will require some stabilization and plantings. Mary has a grant from the DNR for the dam removal. It was somewhat unexpected that this would happen but it looks like nature made the decision for her. Jim said that there are Northern Pike just below her dam that are trying to swim upstream to fertile spawning grounds beyond her property. Jim believes that Mary will wait until next spring to see the condition of the streambank and area where the pond was located, and then approach us for help with habitat work, plantings and stabilization. Jim also said that the dam grant will pay for the stone lining that will be required for stabilization, which we had expected to pay for in our 2010 budget. It was left that the \$6075 we have budgeted for this project be left in reserve for whatever has to be done next year.
- i) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows reported that there were no changes from a project standpoint. The launch is still being used in spite of a waist deep gully.

### **New Business**

- a) Disposition of the SEWFRC Digital Camera. (for the very last time). Jim Pindel reported that his wife Mary called Mike Crivello’s regarding selling the camera back to them. She was told that the camera had no value since Minolta had gone out of the camera business. There is no service provider for Minolta cameras. They suggested that we try to sell it on Craig’s list, but it would not fetch much money. We will probably have to give it away to anyone who needs a reasonably good camera for a charity or municipality.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Jeff Thornton provided a Power Point presentation which covered the status of the plan update, and overview of the survey by SEWRPC and Waukesha County, a review of the commission’s jurisdiction and possible extensions of that jurisdiction and possible funding opportunities. The presentation started with a review of the commissions Mission which includes the following:
  - Develop and implement plans to:
    - Protect and rehabilitate water quality
    - Protect and enhance recreational use
    - Increase water and boating safety

- Develop and propose to the county boards programs and projects to:
  - Construct and maintain public boating facilities
  - Maintain park and natural areas
  - Implement shoreland management measures
  - Maintain and improve locks and dredge waterways
- Create advisory committees as necessary
- Adopt rules as necessary

Then Jeff reviewed the Commissions Mandate which includes:

Plans to address

- Selective dredging of the Waterford Impoundment
- Clearance of debris jams
- Water use
- Waterford dam operations including winter drawdown
- Streambank erosion protection
- Automating Waterford dam operations
- Maintenance, protection and improvements of shorelines
- Recreational access and facilities
- Water safety and regulations.

Jeff then outlined the Commissioner's duties as follows:

- Initiate and coordinate data gathering
- Maintain liaison with federal, state and local governments and other organizations involved in water resource projects and programs
- Develop an information and education program

The overview of the Waukesha County survey included the following major issues of concern. There were three slides showing debris jams, two slides depicting tree falls, four slides showing flood debris, three slides showing streambank erosion, one slide showing invasive and non-native plant species growing along the river bank. The invasive and non-native species identified were Phragmites, purple loosestrife, Eurasian water milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed.

Jeff's presentation went on to show some of the human activities affecting the Fox River which included a slide showing a large backhoe working just behind the river bank, a slide showing a rocked water spillway into the river, a herd of cows in the river, the ditch caused by erosion at the Highway ES unofficial boat launch, a home with some river bank stabilization to either protect the house's foundations or maintain the yard near the river, a clearing with a park bench at the river's edge, and corn growing right up to the river bank not providing a buffer to prevent chemicals from entering into the river. Jeff mentioned that Alan Barrows recorded the GPS locations of the points that were photographed during this survey.

In spite of the human encroachments, Jeff said that large portions of the river retain a natural character and support numerous fish and wildlife. At this point Jeff passed out handouts of the presentation and a copy of "Managing the Water's Edge" brochure. Regarding jurisdictional issues, Jeff showed slides depicting the existing SEWFRC boundary, and extension of the boundary to include the mainstem of the Fox River, a slide depicting the addition of the upper Fox River subbasin, a slide depicting the

addition of the lower Fox River subbasin, a slide showing the addition of the Mukwonago River subbasin, a slide depicting the addition of the Muskego/Wind Lake subbasin and a slide illustrating the addition of the honey/Sugar Creek subbasin. Jeff pointed out that all of these realignments would require legislative action to amend chapter 33 provisions and that consideration would have to be given to altering the number of commissioners.

Regarding funding issues, Jeff pointed out that the commission has been historically funded through direct appropriations administered by the WDNR. He also pointed out that the legislature originally envisioned funding to come from the counties and/or local municipalities. Jeff suggested that if we were to go this route, we would need to change our fiscal year from the calendar year to one that would align itself with the county budget or grant cycle processes. Jeff enumerated seven Grants-in-aid programs we might be able to enlist as alternate funding mechanisms at lower cost share percentages than the 90-10 percentages we now offer. Jeff then went on to enumerate local government and non-government partners we could and should affiliate ourselves with.

Jeff concluded by saying that if the commission runs out of ENUM grant funds we could focus our efforts on facilitating funds from other Grant-in-aid programs and emphasizing our duty to “develop an information and education (I&E) program”. He also said that SEWRPC would continue to develop the implementation plan through the autumn of this year and further reviews will be necessary.

Randy Craig brought up the problem of farmland flooding that has occurred in the last three years. Jeff said that the ground water levels in the last three years have been saturated and that the floods were not 50 year floods but more like 250 year flood levels. So the problem is that there is no where for the rain water to go, so it results in local flooding. Jeff also pointed out that if the downstream water levels are full then there is nowhere for the water to flow down to. Developments along the river have also contributed by making impervious surfaces where the water can not sink in.

Jim Pindel said that this dissertation should make us aware of the fact that we need to identify new and/or potential projects that we can use to convince either the county, local or state governments that we require and deserve funding. Also he pointed out that the maintenance issues listed in our mandates would require an operating budget as well as a capital budget. Presently we only have a capital budget which we allocate to pay for projects. Chad Sampson pointed out that the County Executive has shown interest in spending some money on water related projects in the next year and that even though it is probably too late for the 2011 budget year we should get some projects in for the 2012 budget year. Chad also suggested that the commission approach the county board members so that we are a known commodity when our issues and requests come up. We need to become a line item on the county budget so that we or our projects are visible.

Don Scott expressed some concern with expanding the size of the commission; it seems that when a group gets too large the discussion turns to lectures to a group instead of participatory discussion. Barb Holtz suggested that instead of have one large commission for the expanded jurisdiction, we might have more regional commissions that meet monthly and then a overseeing governing commission which meets only a couple times a year to determine priorities and allocate funds accordingly.

- b) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said that there was nothing new to report and that the draw down was still slated for sometime next summer.
- c) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC Jeff Thornton said that the plan is complete and is available on their website SEWRPC.org. (under the tab for data and publications, then type in Mukwonago River). This will provide an electronic copy of the plan.
- d) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim D’Antuono said there was nothing new to report.
- e) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton said that there was nothing new to report at this time.
- f) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora said there was nothing new or exciting to report.
- g) Waukesha County Farmland Preservation Plan – Barb Holtz said that they had not met again, so she had nothing to report. Randy Craig reported that the Farmland Preservation Program was started by the Secretary of Agriculture in 2005 to protect farmland. There are about 30,000 acres of farmland lost to development each year. Farmland is unfortunately the easiest land to develop. There were provisions for the Farmland Preservation Program in the last state budget and \$12,000,000 was carried over from the old program into the new program. The old program was good when it started but became obsolete. There are several preservation vehicles in the new program; one of them is the Agricultural Enterprise Areas where you could get credit for designating a portion of your farm to a ten to fifteen year period. The PACE program which Randy is involved in can purchase the development rights on a piece of property. There are also some other grant programs available. Randy said that his PACE committee just finished selecting 16 out of 36 applications to purchase their development rights at a cost of \$6,000,000. There is also cost sharing that they receive from the Farmland and Ranch Protection Program. The number one applicant they had was from a farm in Jefferson County, south of Cambridge and north of Fort Atkinson. Randy with some of his committee made a site visit to this location and they considered water and conservation issues among their criteria in choosing successful candidates. Ecological services, public benefit, agricultural capacity, quality of the land and proximity to other protected lands are also considered in the selection criteria. After some review it did not appear that any farms in Waukesha or Racine Counties were included in the program. Barb Holtz stated that the counties must develop their Farmland Preservation Plans by the end of this year and that one of the biggest stumbling blocks in Waukesha County is the requirement that to be considered for a preservation program the farm must exist in an area of at least five square miles of contiguous farmland. Tracts of farmland that large are not common in Waukesha County due to the extensive development that has occurred. A discussion ensued about

the fact that this area requirement may be reduced and Barb said she hoped that the governing body would consider that localities such a Waukesha County might be considered a mixture of farmland and developed land in which the farmland was still eligible for preservation programs. Chad Sampson said that Racine County is putting together a committee consisting of two members from the town of Waterford and two members from Burlington, one member from each town will be a board member and the other a local farmer. This committee will be responsible for forming the Farmland Preservation Plan for Racine County. Their first meeting will be in November or possibly later.

h) Waukesha West By-pass Plan – Howard Garvens One week ago Howard attended a meeting which amounted to a presentation to the Waukesha town board. The plan is still up in the air. There are three different routes they are considering. The two more westerly routes involve a lot of water issues and the easterly route along Grandview Boulevard involves displacing many residences. The planning group had another meeting at Waukesha West High School, which Howard didn't attend since he had just attended the last meeting. The planning committee is planning another meeting within the next week and must make up their mind by October 15, 2010.

#### **Correspondence –**

- a. 8/24/10 Email Broadcast of next SEWFRC meeting date & time.
- b. 8/25/10 Email Broadcast of "Conservation Tour Brochure" provided by Chad Sampson to all commissioners and concerned parties.
- c. 9/3/10 Received completed Enumeration payment paperwork from Steve Brunner of Ruckert-Mielke for Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Engineering Project
- d. Howard Garvens said that one additional piece of correspondence came in this morning to Jim Pindel from Greg Kessler. Our present chairman Greg Kessler advised that he is resigning his place on the commission as soon as possible. Greg is leaving the commission due to extended work responsibilities. Howard said that we need to think about who might be the new chairman and also said that he as vice-chairman is considering retiring from the town of Waukesha and the commission next April. Howard will have served with the town of Waukesha for 35 years. Howard said he is willing to continue in the vice-chairman position until we elect a new chairman. The commissioners were asked to either volunteer themselves or nominate some other commissioner who is qualified. The election of an interim chairperson will be on next months agenda and the election of the full complement of officers will be on the December agenda.

#### **Miscellaneous Issues –**

Jim Pindel said that he and his wife Mary attended the Racine / Kenosha County Conservation Tour on 9/15/2010 that was organized by Chad Sampson. The tour Documentation consisting of a summary of:

- The work done

- Before and after photo's
- Programs used for funding
- Start and finish dates
- Cost breakdown
- Life expectancy
- Maintenance

There were a total of 17 sites on the tour and we did an onsite walking inspection of 4 sites. There was always an explanation of the work done while physically viewing the present condition of the project. Some projects were completed, some in process and some just in the planning stages.

The tour ended with a presentation by Jeff Gaska a Dodge County farmer showing the financial justification for putting farmland into one of the programs. In this case some acreage into the CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program)

Jim said that this tour is highly recommended for any commissioners interested.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Peterson and seconded by Dean Falkner, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:35 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, October 22, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)

Respectfully submitted by Jim & Mary Pindel

**Commission members present:**

Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Al Sikora (Village of Waterford)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)  
Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut of the WWMD, Jim Ritchie and Brian Glenzinski of the WDNR.

At 1:02 PM, 9/17/10, Vice-Chairman Howard Garvens called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the September 17, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Ron Peterson and seconded by Don Scott that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for September 2010 was reviewed. The only change noted in the report was the interest income of \$22.85 for the month. Al Sikora motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Chad Sampson seconded the motion. The treasurer's reports were approved.

**Old Business**

- a) Schmidt & Canton's Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (active)  
Shelley Tessmer was not present. Jim Pindel reported that he had emailed Shelley asking that she collect the cost share from the Island's owner and that Shelley said she had contacted them and just was missing them when they came to the island. Before the next meeting Jim or Mary Pindel will contact Shelley to see if we can mail a request for payment to the property owners.
- b) **Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (active)** – Ron Peterson said that the project was finished and that it had turned out very well. Ron said that the Board of the

Village of Big Bend wanted to thank the Fox River Commission for its support in the project. Ron also said that the Board was contemplating installation of a donation box at the site asking people to voluntarily donate money for the maintenance of the site. Jim Ritchie of the DNR made the clarification that if a fee of greater than \$7.00 per launch would be charged, then a permit is required by the DNR. However if the village is simply asking for donations to help cover the expense of maintaining the site, they can do whatever they like. Francis Stadler asked if the DNR had any literature or documentation regarding this topic and Jim Ritchie said he would forward it to them. Francis said that he would get a picture of the completed project and Alan Barrows said that he took a picture of the project while it was in constructions. Both of these pictures are to be forwarded to Al Sikora for inclusion in our website.

- c) Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (active) – WWMD Dick Kosut said that the project was complete and that Chils, the contractor, did a beautiful job there. Dick also said that he will have all the billing information to the WWMD treasurer in the next couple weeks.
- d) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (active) – Barb Holtz Barb Holtz asked if everyone had seen the pictures of the project that had been posted on our website. She also said that she had brought the final documentation for the project with her to the meeting and that the documents had been handed over to Jim Ritchie for review. Jim Ritchie will advise Barb Holtz and Jim Pindel of any addition or missing documentation that might be needed.
- e) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (active) Jim Pindel said that he had received all the required project documentation from Steve Brunner of Ruekert-Mielke and had forwarded this documentation to Jim Ritchie. He also reported that he had discussed this project with Jim Ritchie just prior to the meeting and Jim Ritchie said it was complete and acceptable. So the next step is for us to issue a check to the Village of Mukwonago for the remaining portion of our project cost share.
- f) Vernon Wildlife Area Streambank Stabilization Project (pending) –Brian Glenzinski reported that the project was complete. Brian passed around pictures of the project for the commission to review. He further said that they were not able to find a contractor to do the work for a price that they thought was fair for the amount of work to be done. So the project was completed by NDR personnel using DNR equipment. The plan was to submit the contractor's bill to the Friends of Vernon Marsh, have them pay the bill and request payment from us for our portion of the cost share. Right now Brian and Jim D'Antuono are in the process of collecting times and actual costs incurred by the DNR for the project. Once these costs are documented, Brian will submit a request for payment to the commission for the appropriate amount. He expected to have the accounting done before our next commission meeting and then we should be able to close this project out. Jim Pindel verified with Brian that our cost share would be equal to or



less than the amount we budgeted for the project. Brian mentioned that the project was expected to cost \$6,500 and review of our budget after the meeting shows that we budgeted \$5,800 which is approximately 90% of the expected total project cost. Al Sikora asked for electronic copies of the pictures and some narrative so he could update our website.

- g) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (active) – Brian Glenzinski said the good news was that he had received the North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant for \$1,000,000. Most of that money will be used to purchase land in and around the Mukwonago River and adjacent areas. Brian passed around a copy of the grant application and said he would forward a copy electronically to Jim Pindel for our records. The funds from this grant that will be used in the Vernon Marsh should be available to Brian's team by January first. Brian said that he was aware of the fact that he needs to use the \$20,000 we committed to this project by 6/30/2011 and that his Plan A is to start some construction in June 2011 in which he will use up our funds. However he said we should consider a Plan B in case there is a hold up due to permits or contractors. Jim Ritchie said that Brian should touch basis with him in spring time to see where we are at and how to proceed to legally use our funds. Brian also said that Ducks Unlimited is doing the engineering for the plan and when that is finished he will share the project plan with the commission.
- h) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim D'Antuono provided a little refresher on the history of the project. He said that a little over three years ago Mary Kossik contacted the DNR. She is a local landowner located somewhere near the Town of Vernon town hall. She had a small pond with a small dam that had never been permitted and she wanted to fix it. Mary spent the last two and a half years working with the DNR to remedy the situation. Jim said that the DNR advised her that Artesian Brook which flows through her pond is a cold water system and that the DNR would work with her to potentially find an alternative to repairing the dam. The DNR went so far as to tell her that they would not permit dam repair or replacement because Artesian Brook was a cold water system and the dam and pond was prohibiting migration of fish up the Brook and warming up the trout stream. So Mary using her own money went ahead and tried to come up with an alternative means or rerouting the trout stream around the pond. During the floods of 2008 her dam partially failed and this summer during the June storms it completely failed. Jim then passed out pictures of the pond, dam and stream before during and after the recent construction to eliminate the dam. The DNR advised Mary that the dam had to be completely removed because it was a public health and safety issue. Mary worked with the DNR and with Waukesha County to come up with a plan to remove the dam. About a month ago construction began on removal of the dam and grading of the stream bed. It was decided that field stone had to be used instead of white limestone because this was a pristine conservation area. The pond was drained down very gradually to minimize any adverse effects downstream. Work was done down stream of the project at an existing culvert to allow fish to migrate up through the system. Jim

stated that Mary does not have a pond anymore but does have a different very diverse habitat. The DNR will work with Mary next year to help develop the new habitat. Mary did get a grant from the DNR to remove the dam and the total project costs are still not determined. Once the final costs are known how much if any of the money we allocated to this project will be determined. Al Sikora asked for pictures and narratives to cover the project on our website.

- i) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows reported that the highway is scheduled for redecking in 2012 and that the county had received a dedication of land on the south side of the highway and there were long term plans for a bike path. Alan will check with the Public Works department and the Parks department regarding plans for the boat/canoe launch before our next meeting.

### **New Business**

- a) Election of an Interim Commission Chairperson. Howard Garvens asked for volunteers that is anyone who would nominate themselves. Jeff Thornton said that he and Jim D'Antuono as exofficio members of the commission will recuse themselves from consideration. After no other response Howard asked for nominations from the floor. Jim Pindel outlined the tasks the chairperson must perform. They amount to running the commission meetings, an occasional letter from the chairperson representing the commission and an occasional attendance at a meeting with the DNR or someone in government. After considerable discussion Al Sikora said that he would consider the interim position but not necessarily the full term for next year. At that point Jim Pindel nominated Al Sikora for interim chairman and Barb Holtz seconded the nomination. Howard Garvens called for a vote and Al was elected unanimously.
- b) List of New and/or Potential Projects: Jim Pindel stated that at the last commission meeting he asked those present to come up with projects that we could list in the upcoming budget to show that there is still work to be done. The idea being that even though we presently have almost no money available to fund projects, if we can show that there are project worthy of funding and we get this message to the right people, we might get some funding. Once we are funded we can go ahead and get the work done as we have demonstrated we can do. Dick Kosut of the WWMD listed the following projects for the commission:
  - 1) Birch-Cedar Lane Ravine Ditch drainage from the State Highway 164 and local roadways feed rainwater into the steep ravine that then flows directly into the north end of Tichigan Lake. Filtration trenches and/or ravine check dams are needed to control the effluent. Estimated cost \$75,000
  - 2) Jefferson Street /Riverside Drive the high land areas west of these roadways drain their rainwater in and around the residential development along the east or riverside of the roads. Culvert check dams, retention trenches and rain gardens are needed to stem the flow. Approximately 10 locations. Estimated cost: \$85,000

- 3) Tichigan Drive / Channel Road Circle The high point in the area is the center of this peninsula. Rain water drains unabated into the Fox River, Conservancy Bay and Tichigan Lake. Open land to control the run off is limited, however, some available parcels can be used for improvements. One potential location is the area where the Lions Club Parade staging takes place. A retention trench, rip rapping and appropriate erosion control measures can be effective. Estimated cost: \$50,000
- 4) Addition to Tichigan Drive / Channel Road Circle Rain gardens and other water checks may be possible between residences in this area involving approximately 20 locations. Estimated cost: \$30,000
- 5) Indian Lane Drain Culvert Draining the elevated agri-land to the east, these 24" concrete pipes delivers drainage into the Fox River and this drainage should be investigated. No cost estimate available.
- 6) Elm Island Bay Long a recipient of unwanted flowage control of rainwater should be re-examined. No cost estimate available.
- 7) West of Loomis Road Down grade from the Town Hall properties some control of drainage may be possible. No cost estimate available.
- 8) Waterford Lake Beach View Lane, Glacier Circle, Waterford Drive ditches and culvers deliver effluent into this small lake. No cost estimate available.
- 9) Grand Drive / Buena Lake Steep hill drainage to the west follows Grand Drive pavement into Buena Lake. Although the marsh land to the east is protected, this run off continues to pollute Buena Lake. No cost estimate available.

Jim Pindel submitted that we include the "Waterford Dam Operation Enhancement" listed in the SEWFRC 1998 Implementation Plan as a project. The plan for the Dam operation as outlined in 1998 included a first phase in which visual sight gauges measuring water level be installed at three locations and people manually would read the water level and report this information to the dam operator. The second phase of the project was to automate this process for automatic and optimized operation of the dam gates. Francis Stadler stated that when the commission attempted to implement phase one of the plan they could not secure volunteers to monitor and report the water levels at the site gauging stations. Dick Kosut of the WWMD assured the commission that if the gauges were installed they would provide the volunteers to monitor the gauges. Brian Glenzinski advised us that the Rainbow Springs Golf Course lease is up at the end of this year. A portion of the golf course is in Waukesha County and within our jurisdiction. It will take hundreds of thousands of dollars to restore the golf course and remove the culverts on the Mukwonago River. Brian felt that this work was within our mission and he was asked to identify specific titles for projects and provide a cost estimate to Jim Pindel for inclusion in the budget. Brian said that the DNR had just acquired 198 acres of land in the Vernon wildlife area, where the wetland restoration potential with water quality issue is directly upstream of the Fox River. Here again Brian was asked to identify projects and estimate costs.

Barb Holtz added that eradication of the invasive plant species Phragmites might be considered as a project for the commission.

Dick Kosut of the WWMD stated that they have a major project "Eco-System Restoration" (ESR) underway which is looking at dredging the entire Waterford impoundment. There are areas and or phases of this project in which they may be looking to us for financial support. Jim Ritchie pointed out that we can only assist in a dredging project for improving navigation purposes. So we will have to be careful as to what portions of the ESR project we fund.

c) Organize 2011 Budget Subcommittee & set Budget meeting Date: Jim Pindel handed out an outline of his thoughts concerning the upcoming budget. He stated that 11 of the 12 projects in the 2010 budget have completed at least their construction phase and should be closed out by the end of the year. The Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project is the only active project to carry over to 2011 and the possible Highway ES boat/canoe launch is the only pending project to carry over. So the only funded part of the 2011 budget will be simple and straight forward. Under these circumstances no budget subcommittee is needed, nor any special subcommittee meeting. It was proposed by Jim Pindel that we have a short November budget meeting, at which having quorum is especially important, to pass the proposed 2011 budget. At this meeting besides reviewing the project listing all of the Pending and Unfunded projects mention previously in this meeting and the one active project the "Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project" we could possibly decide to use whatever grant funds are available to fund some project. Jim Pindel motioned that we proceed as described above and the motion was seconded by Howard Garvens. The motion carried unanimously. The date for the November budget only meeting was set for Thursday 11/11/2010 at 1:00 PM at our usual meeting location. The Public Hearing and December commission meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 12/08/2010 at 1:00 PM at our usual meeting location.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Jeff Thornton passed out a print out of eight slides from his last PowerPoint presentation regarding the new implementation plan. Any changes to the commission's boundary would require legislative action to amend Chapter 33 which formed our commission. The slide depicted the present SEWFRC boundary and six possible alternate boundary maps. It was discussed that adding the area just north of our present boundaries might make sense since their water and runoff affects our area of jurisdiction. Jim D'Antuono stated that because of the regulatory restrictions and construction site erosion controls that have been put in place the water quality we get from north of our boundaries is as good as we could expect. Also adding in nine new municipalities into the commission might be overwhelming. At the end of the discussion it was agreed that expansion of the boundary to the south to the Illinois boarder made the most sense. With expansion to the state line it is hoped that we

- might be inline for Federal grant money for projects that we might do in cooperation with the Fox Waterways Agency of Illinois. Jeff stated that it looked like we would be including three new municipalities. Don Scott pointed out that the logistics of the new boundaries might present a problem seeing the physical mileage from the southernmost and northernmost is quite long. This would require significant travel time to meeting locations.
- b) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson stated that the county is in the process of some partial land acquisitions. There are some areas on private land that need work near the dam. The county is also working with the DNR. And the county is having some discussions concerning public notification of the draw down. It is expected that landowner notification will come sooner than required so that people can plan their own projects around the draw down.
  - c) Frame Park Creek Watershed – Jim D’Antuono said there was nothing new to report.
  - d) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton said that the last communication he had with them concerned water levels in the Fox River due to the dry conditions they have experienced recently. The winter draw down on their chain of lakes begins on November first.
  - e) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora said that we have identified four completed projects today and so wants the project managers to get pictures and narratives to him so that the website can be updated. Jeff Thornton made the suggestion that we update our letterhead to include our website name.
  - f) Waukesha County Farmland Preservation Plan – Barb Holtz said that there will be a meeting next Friday and so she has no report at this time.
  - g) Waukesha West By-pass Plan – Howard Garvens said that Waukesha has decided to go with the plan that was conceived about fifty years ago, going down Meadowbrook road and Merrill Hills road. There are no solid plans for the south portion of the bypass, which is basically through the town of Waukesha.

**Correspondence** –

- a. 9/20/10 Email from Jim Pindel to Shelley Tessmer asking for 10% cost share from owners of Schmidt & Canton Island.
- b. 9/20/10 Email from Jim Pindel to Barb Holtz outlining documentation required for Phantom Woods Road project
- c. 9/20/10 Email with attached letter of resignation from Greg Kessler.
- d. 9/20/10 Email from Jim Pindel to all commissioners advising next meeting date and reminding them to bring new projects to the October meeting.

- e. 9/27/10 Email from Shelley Tessmer saying she has talked to owners of Schmidt & Canton Island about cost share, but has not been able to meet up with them to collect the cost share check.
- f. 9/27/10 through 9/29/10 Emails between Mary Kossik, Jim D'Antuono, Jim Ritchie and Jim Pindel verifying that the new application of the funds for the streambank restoration project can be used for the dam removal project.
- g. Jim Pindel added that yesterday he received an email from Greg Kessler stating that he will box up and send all his SEWFRC documentation to him. Jim added that he replied thanking Greg for his time and good work for the commission.

**Miscellaneous Issues –**

There were no miscellaneous issues.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Don Scott and seconded by Ron Peterson, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:21 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, Thursday  
November 11, 2010 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-  
Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend,  
WI 53103.)

**Commission members present:**

Al Sikora (Village of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Jamie Soneberg (Village of Big Bend)  
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)  
Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut of the WWMD and Jim Ritchie of the WDNR.

At 1:02 PM, 11/11/10, Chairman Al Sikora called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Minutes** from the October 22, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Jamie Soneberg and seconded by Francis Stadler that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer's Report for October 2010 was reviewed. The only change noted in the report was the interest income of \$23.63 for the month. Howard Garvens motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Don Scott seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Old Business**

- a) There was no Old Business included in the agenda for this special meeting.

**New Business**

**Review of Proposed 2011 SEWFRC Budget:** The "2011 Budget Rough Draft 102610" document provided by Jim Pindel was distributed and reviewed by the commissioners present. Taking the \$250,000 provided by RBF-ENUM – 16 and subtracting out all payments that have already been made, all payments expected to be made this year and two payments that are anticipated for next year (2011) the resulting balance available for grants under ENUM-16 is \$3,281.92. Adding up all of our non-grant (interest) income

including estimated fourth quarter 2010 money market interest and then subtracting off our 2010 expenses and estimated publication costs for the 2011 budget and public hearing publication, we will be \$32.80 overextended. For the time being this money will come from the grant money in our money market account. Jim Pindel showed copies of one column and two column publications of the 2009 SEWFRC budget, pointing out that the two column version is much more readable and clear, but that the single column version was less than half as expensive. The commission decided that for economies sake we should publish the single column version and add a statement that the proposed budget is also available on our website SEWFRC.org. The calculations and details of the line items listed on the actual Proposed Budget were reviewed resulting in a balanced budget of \$28,909.62 of Revenue and \$28,909.62 of Expenses. The question of whether to list the thirteen "Pending Non-funded Projects" was brought up and it was decided to leave this off of the published proposed budget to not add confusion, which showing - \$613,500.00 on our bottom line might do. Jamie Soneberg motioned that we accept the proposed budget without the non-funded projects and the motion was seconded by Howard Garvens. The motion carried unanimously. It was also decided to add a portfolio of our Pending non-funded projects to our website, so that we can expose some of our needs to potential fund providers.

Francis Stadler asked if our meeting minutes could be found on our website and he was told that we did not include them on our website at this time. Jim Pindel was asked to forward all 2010 meeting minutes to Francis. Then by consensus it was decided that the 2010 meeting minutes and all future minutes should be available on our website. Jim Pindel will forward electronic copies of these minutes to Al Sikora for inclusion on the website.

#### **Reports and Updates**

No Reports of updates were made at this special budget meeting.

#### **Correspondence** –

No correspondence was reviewed at this special budget meeting.

#### **Miscellaneous Issues** –

There were no miscellaneous issues, except to reconfirm that our next meeting with Public Hearing will be on Tuesday December 7, 2010 at 1:00 PM here at the fire station.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Howard Garvens and seconded by Randy Craig, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 1:39 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WITH PUBLIC HEARING  
WILL BE Tuesday December 7, 2010 at 1:00 PM. (Meeting  
Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475  
Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)**



**Commission members present:**

Al Sikora (Village of Waterford) (Chairman)  
Barb Holtz (Town of Mukwonago)  
Chad Sampson (Racine County)  
Alan Barrows (Waukesha County)  
Don Scott (Town of Vernon)  
Francis Stadler (Village of Big Bend)  
Ron Peterson (Village of Big Bend)  
Doug Koehler (City of Waukesha)  
Jim D'Antuono (Wisconsin DNR)  
Jeff Thornton (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission)  
Mary Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Co-Secretary/Treasurer)  
Jim Pindel (Town of Waterford) (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Commission members absent:**

Shelley Tessmer (Town of Waterford)  
Dean Falkner (Village of Mukwonago)  
Randy Craig (Town of Vernon)  
Howard Garvens (Town of Waukesha) (Vice-Chairman)

**Also present:** Dick Kosut of the WWMD, Jim Ritchie of the WDNR.

At 1:03 PM, 12/07/10, Interim Chairman Al Sikora called the Public Hearing to order.

The only order of business was the review of the Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission Proposed Budget for 2011. The proposed budget was read for the record. Al Sikora asked the non-commission attendees if they had any questions or comments concerning the proposed budget. Al Sikora then asked three times if there was anyone who wanted to speak in favor of the proposed budget and then asked three times if there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the proposed budget. Al Sikora then asked the commissioners present if they had any questions, concerns or need for clarification.

There were no comments from the Public concerning the budget.

The Public Hearing was closed at 1:10 PM.

At 1:10 PM, 12/07/10, Interim Chairman Al Sikora called the Commission Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Proposed Budget for 2011** - The first order of business was to approve the Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission Proposed Budget for 2011. It was motioned by Chad Sampson and seconded by Barb Holtz that the proposed budget be approved and the budget was approved unanimously.

**Minutes** from the November 11, 2010 meeting were reviewed. It was motioned by Don Scott and seconded by Doug Koehler that the minutes be approved as submitted. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer Reports** – The Treasurer’s Report for November 2010 was reviewed. Francis Stadler asked how we can handle the fact that we have gone negative in our non-grant income to pay for operating expenses such as public hearing and budget publications. It was stated that in the short term we will have to use grant funds to cover our bills and hope that we can gain future funding to get more non-grant income from interest on our money market account. Jeff Thornton pointed out that we still could take advantage of the county budget cycles as was intended by the legislature at our inception. We should use the portfolio of projects that are unfunded and the revised implementation plan to approach the two County Executives. Francis Stadler motioned to accept the Treasurers Report and Chad Sampson seconded the motion. The treasurer’s report was approved.

**Election of Officers for the 2011 Calendar Year**

Jim D’Antuono stated that Al Sikora has performed in the role of Chairman for a couple of months now, Howard Garvens has performed the duties of Vice-Chairman for some time now, even though he made mention of the possibility of retiring from the commission this coming April, and Jim Pindel has indicated a willingness to continue in the role of Secretary/Treasurer. Jim D’Antuono noted that for the last couple years, instead of going through a formal nomination and election procedure, we have made a motion to maintain the existing officers for the next year. Jim D’Antuono made the motion to retain the present officers for 2011. Jeff Thornton seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

- a) **Schmidt & Canton’s Island Demonstration Erosion Control Project. (completed)**  
Since this project is totally completed it was unanimously agreed by all commissioners present to remove this item from the old business portion of the agenda. An annual report from Racine County on the status of the different erosion control methods employed will still be appropriate whenever a survey of the island is held.
- b) **Boat/Canoe Launch in Big Bend (completed)** – Ron Peterson said that the project was complete and there would be nothing further to report, except that the Village has decided to charge a nominal launching fee of \$5.00 for non-residents and \$3.00 for residents. Jim Ritchie of the DNR said that as long as the fees were below \$7.00 the Village does not require state approval. Al Sikora said that Francis has provided photos of the project and that he is still waiting for text from Jamie Soneberg.
- c) **Grand Drive/ Buena Park Project (completed)** – **WWMD** Dick Kosut said that the project was complete and that the only thing remaining to be done is to provide photos and a write up to Al Sikora for our website. This project will also be

- removed from the agenda.
- d) Phantom Woods Road Channel Enhancement (completed) – Barb Holtz Jim Pindel stated that just prior to this meeting Barb Holtz provided an invoice from Wolf Paving, which was the only piece of documentation missing for the project. The grant payment application should be completed and sent to Jim Ritchie of the DNR, before our next meeting. At that time we should decide whether to remove this project from the agenda.
  - e) Mukwonago Shoreline Stabilization Project (completed) Jim Pindel said that this project has been accepted by Jim Ritchie and so there is no reason to keep it on the agenda.
  - f) Vernon Wildlife Area Streambank Stabilization Project (completed) – Jim Pindel stated that we have to wait for documentation from Brian Glenzinski. Jim Ritchie added that he knows that Brian has been tied up by the deer hunting season and that he has tried to get together with him to organize the documentation.
  - g) Vernon Wildlife Area Flowage Restoration Project (active) – Brian Glenzinski was not present and no report was made. This project has to be kept on the agenda since our \$20,000 contribution toward this very large project will be used by Brian during the first half of 2011.
  - h) Kossik Stream Restoration Project (active) – Jim D'Antuono said that Mary has finished the dam removal and stabilization of the area. And now she will have to wait for spring to access the condition of the area and decide what further steps if any need to be done.
  - i) Possible boat/canoe launch on Highway ES (pending) – Alan Barrows said that he had nothing to report at this time. He also said that a couple meetings ago he said he would meet with the Public Works department and the Parks department regarding plans for the boat/canoe launch and will do so in the future.

### New Business

- a) What to do with the Thirteen (13) pending non-funded projects. One thought that was considered was to post these projects on our website. The positive here would be to show people (especially people who might provide funding) that we have more work to do. On the negative side is the fact that other people who come to our website looking to see if we might provide some funding for a project that they might have would be discouraged by the fact that we already have too much to do that we can't get done. Jeff Thornton stated that he felt that the projects should be listed in the new implementation plan as potential projects. The fact that the new implementation plan will be circulated to all the involved units of government could provide a means of soliciting funding. It was then decided that the project spreadsheet should be expanded to include the

municipality in which the project exists. Also it was decided that if and when we list these unfunded projects on our website the cost of the projects should not be displayed. We also need to come up with a softer title for these projects that conveys the fact that they are preliminary or under consideration, but not approved by the commission as official projects. The discussion then turned to having a place on our website where people could apply for funding for a project or at least make us aware of a potential project. Al Sikora said that he might need some help in deciding exactly what information we need from people applying for help so that we get a proper submission. Alan Barrows asked if we listed the cost of our completed projects on our website and for the most part it is not there. After some discussion it was decided that the cost of the project by all the participants should be listed and Al Sikora asked Jim Pindel to look up these costs and provide them to him. Jeff Thornton said that these projects will appear in the implementation plan and that it seemed to be a logical sequence of events to wait for approval of the plan before we published this list on our website. Having these potential projects as sort of an initiative in our plan, it makes sense to display them on our website as something that needs to be done. Jim Pindel asked Jeff Thornton if the “Waterford Dam Operation Enhancement” element #5 in our current implementation plan would also be included in the upcoming plan. Jeff said it would again be included and after some discussion it was decided that we should investigate rewording this section of the plan. The new wording should (or might) consider flood abatement for the people north of the iron bridge where flooding has been a problem as of late.

### **Reports and Updates**

- a) Update of SEWFRC Implementation Plan – Jeff Thornton said that this was the next thing on his desk and agenda. The funds available to offset the cost of this project must be used up this year, so therefore a draft copy of the plan will be finished this month. The method of distributing the draft copy of the plan to all involved will have to be worked out. Whether the plan is emailed or posted on the SEWRPC’s website or by hard copy or by some other means will be worked out and we will be made aware of the means of viewing and commenting on the draft plan.
  
- b) Waterford Dam Restoration – Chad Sampson Chad Sampson said he didn’t have any hard facts to report and that he would check into the notes of the meeting held at the Town of Waterford on December 1<sup>st</sup>, to see what he might be able to report at our next meeting. Jim D’Antuono, who attended the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, said that the plans for the dam work are nearing completion. They are looking at a drawdown in order to remove some trees and do some scouring work in areas. Apparently the drawdown is now scheduled for August 2011 and Dick Kosut stated that the last drawdown in 1994 was done in September after Labor Day and after the official end of the boating season. Jim D’Antuono said that the drawdown can not be done in spring because of the fish issues, can not be done in summer because of boating issues and can not be done too late in fall because of

the hibernation issues of reptiles and amphibians.

- c) Mukwonago River Basin Protection Plan – SEWRPC – Jeff Thornton stated that plan has been removed from their environmental divisions tab and relocated to the data and publications page on their website. The plan is published and done and being implemented. This item is to be removed from future agenda's
- d) Report on activities of Fox Waterway Agency (FWA) of Illinois – Jeff Thornton said that there is nothing to report at this time.
- e) SEWFRC Website – Al Sikora reiterated that he needs photos and narratives for projects. He also said he has to revisit all completed projects to make sure he has costs attached. Al then asked Jim Pindel to provide these costs to him. It was decided that the cost share of all participants should be listed. Jim Pindel pointed out that the brochure or booklet provided by Chad Sampson for the environmental tour he ran for Racine and Kenosha counties did an excellent job of listing costs and expected lifetime of projects. Chad agreed to send an electronic version of whatever was available to Jim Pindel so it could be forwarded to all the commissioners and interested parties.
- f) Waukesha County Farmland Preservation Plan – Barb Holtz said there will be a public hearing on the plan in Genesee on Thursday December 9<sup>th</sup> and she will be able to make a report to the commission based on what happens at that meeting.
- g) Waukesha West By-pass Plan – Howard Garvens was not present. Jim D'Antuono there will be a briefing of the DNR staff tomorrow. Basically the plan has been narrowed down to three alternatives. There are three different routes being considered north of Sunset Boulevard each having its own environmental issues along that corridor. The plan is to pick a route and then issue the environmental documentation in the next year and then design portions of the by-pass and seek funding for implementation.

**Correspondence** –

- a. 11/10/10 Email from Mary Kossik including Dam Removal Grant Agreement, Grant Payment Worksheets, and required documentation.
- b. 11/12/10 Email to Barb Holtz regarding documentation for the Phantom Woods Road Project. Invoices from Wolf Paving are missing and there is a discrepancy regarding one Ruekert-Mielke invoice.
- c. 11/12/10 Email from Waukesha Freeman stating our Public Hearing Notice and Proposed budget will be published on Nov. 17, 2010
- d. 11/16/10 Email from Racine Journal Times stating our Public Hearing Notice and Proposed budget will be published on Nov. 19, 2010

**Miscellaneous Issues** – Next Meeting Date(s) Possibly set for additional future dates.

Jim D'Antuono noted that in past years we had taken some months off during the winter when project typically are not being worked on. After some discussion it was decided to have a meeting in January to discuss the draft copy of the new implementation plan and then take off a month or two after that meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Francis Stadler and seconded by Don Scott, the motion carried.

**Meeting Closed** at 2:02 PM

**NEXT OFFICIAL MEETING WILL BE Friday, January 28, 2011 at 1:00 PM.** (Meeting Location: Big Bend-Vernon Fire Station #3, W233 S7475 Woodland Lane, Big Bend, WI 53103.)