

Vaughn Public Library, Ashland, Wisconsin
Meeting Minutes Recorded: Bobbi Winebar

Presenter/ Time	Agenda Item	Key Points	Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments
9:00 AM	1. Call to Order	<p>Members Present: Chair, Jim Rooney, Roger Walsh, Ralph Brzezinski, Maureen Kinney and Lee Van Zeeland</p> <p>Others Present: Bobbi Winebar, Annie Loechler, Sara deBruijn, Ed Slaminski, Cheryl Housley, Mary Rothenmaier and members of the public.</p>	Meeting called at 9:08 AM by the Chair. Members of the Commission introduced themselves.
	2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting	Minutes of August 14, 2018	Motion by Roger Walsh, seconded by Lee Van Zeeland to approve the minutes of August 14, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.
	3. Policy Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Launch Fee – 2% Reduction 2. Funding Lakes that are Limiting Access 3. Marina Parking Lot Improvements 4. Small No-wake/No Gasoline Motor Type Lakes 5. Weed Harvester Funding Percentage 6. Boat Account Summary FY15-17 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Launch Fee – Lee Van Zeeland feels that we shouldn't be penalizing communities 2% for not having a launch fee. Communities may get more tourism by not charging a launch fee. Maureen Kinney stated that the commission should recommend having a fee but not require it. Ed Slaminski stated that he is frustrated that we require a launch fee for small communities because tax payers are already paying for the launches. Shell lake in Spooner has a launch fee and he doesn't use it because of the launch fee. Bigger lakes with extensive launches could charge a fee. Communities are already putting in their 50% and we don't care where that comes from. Roger Walsh stated that when they initiated this we had a lot more money to work with in the program and that this was to prompt the communities to create a pot for maintenance because funding should be

			<p>used for development or rehabilitation of boat launches, etc. and not toward maintenance (NOTE: Maintenance is not listed as an eligible item in statute or code). He also stated that larger launches have so much activity on the weekends that there is a lot of wear and tear on the launches. Some communities collect \$30-40 thousand a year. Lee Van Zeeland said that we shouldn't tell a community that they are required to charge a launch fee. Roger Walsh stated that this reduction has prompted some communities to initiate charging a launch fee. Ralph Brzezinski stated that at the marinas they charge for use of the marina and that money went into a general fund which got spent in other places. Sara deBruijn stated that according to s. NR 1.91(11), Wis. Adm. Code, this money needs to be put into a separate account for operation and maintenance. (NOTE: s. NR 1.91(11), Wis. Adm. Code, does not specifically state that this money needs to be put into a separate account for operation and maintenance, but if a fee is charged, it is collected for the purpose of operating and maintaining a boat access site.) Ralph Brzezinski asked if a lot of communities after development come back for rehab work in the future. Some stated that they don't have communities that come back and other stated that they have some come back with rehab projects. Ralph Brzezinski stated that we shouldn't dictate how communities run their launch. He didn't feel that the 2% would dictate this. Annie Loechler stated that she was happy that they went to the 2% instead</p>
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			<p>of the \$5,000 deduction as it was in the past. She said to remove the 2% but still ask if they have a launch fee and a segregated account for the maintenance. Still encourage a launch fee but not enforce a penalty. Jim Rooney stated that there is a big difference between the urban areas and the rural areas. Urban areas expect to pay for the use. Maureen Kinney stated that we shouldn't encourage communities that already charge a fee to stop charging a fee. Ralph Brzezinski made a motion to discontinue the 2% launch fee reduction but continue to encourage that they charge a fee for maintenance. Lee Van Zeeland seconded. Roger Walsh asked if this will make communities that already charge a launch to stop charging. Most felt that this wouldn't happen. Motion passed with Roger Walsh voting no.</p> <p>2. Funding Lakes that are Limiting Access – Lee Van Zeeland asked Roger Walsh if his is the lake that in article about Big Cedar Lake closing 3 launches when the parking lot is full. Roger Walsh stated that he is the chairperson of the Big Cedar Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District. Lee Van Zeeland asked if we should be funding projects that have this policy in place. Sara deBruijn stated that a number of southern WI lakes have this policy whether it is legal or not. The number of parking spaces is set as a maximum/ minimum in ss. NR 1.91(4) & (5), Wis. Adm. Code, according to acreage of the lake. Roger Walsh stated what was in s. NR 1.91, Wis. Adm. Code, on this issue. He stated on Big</p>
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			<p>Cedar Lake that when their lot is full they temporarily closed the launch and most waited around until they were able to launch which was about 45 mins. Lee Van Zeeland asked about who accepts this policy because as a lake user he wouldn't accept this policy. Roger Walsh stated that some of the lake home owners who are not riparian owners are upset because they would normally take their trailer back home instead of parking at the launch, but they could not launch their boats under the new policy. Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District is the one who established this policy. There are 7 commissioners of the District, 5 of which are elected, 2 are appointed. He also stated that he has an e-mail from Kathy Kramarz, Water Regs and Zoning Specialist for the DNR, stating that she thought the launch could be closed when there isn't enough parking. Roger Walsh stated that when the parking stalls are full the launch is closed even if someone parks off-site. They have an officer that is paid by the lake District Brzezinski stated that he had never heard of this ability for lake associations to do this. He also stated that we shouldn't be funding any projects that have this policy. Maureen Kinney asked where people would park that aren't local because there isn't parking on the roads also. It would only be the locals that could drop a boat off and park elsewhere but they couldn't even do that with this policy. She asked what the alternative would be for these people. Roger Walsh stated that there are 2 launches that don't close when their</p>
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			<p>parking lots are full. These are owned by the Town. So what happens if the Town comes in for funding of their launch? Maureen Kinney stated that then they should put in more parking spaces. Roger Walsh stated that s. NR1.91(5)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, states: "The department has determined that granting permits for boating access on bodies of water where the maximum access standards are exceeded will materially impair navigation and is detrimental to the public interest." Maureen Kinney stated that if there isn't any parking available what do people do? She also asked how many launch lanes are there on this lake? Roger Walsh stated that there are 2 launch lanes. Maureen Kinney stated that they could change their policy to allow people who aren't going to park in the lot to still use the launch lanes. Ralph Brzezinski stated that when he was a lake home owner and paying to live on that lake and just because there aren't any parking spaces he can't launch – just doesn't think this is right. Cheryl Housley stated that maybe the DNR should conduct a study to see how many lakes do this and how many more lake homeowners there are now compared to when these minimum/ maximums were established. Annie Loechler stated that she has been on lakes that had way too many boats on the lake that she felt it wasn't a safe condition. Lee Van Zeeland made a motion to not fund projects on lakes that have this policy. Roger Walsh stated that he doesn't feel that the commission can make this decision. The</p>
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			<p>nothing that relates to size of lake. Annie Loechler stated that the commission could make a policy that they could reject applications for projects on lakes under a certain size. Sara deBruijn stated that there is a 30-acre minimum of harvestable aquatic weeds for weed harvester acquisitions in s. 30.92 Wis. Stats. Maureen Kinney made a motion that projects on lakes 50 acres or less, the commission would recommend that these projects would be considered on a case by case basis and only be considered at the final funding meeting if there is funding available. Ralph Brzezinski seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>5. Harvester – Roger Walsh made a motion to delete this item from discussion. No second. Motion failed. Roger Walsh stated what was in the minutes in Oct. 2016. Since the 20% policy was implemented, no projects were funded at this rate but at the higher rate. There was never a motion to raise the policy funding percentage, so Roger Walsh stated that we should make a motion to establish this rate at 35%. Ralph Brzezinski made a motion that harvesters should be funded at 35% with the flexibility that if there is bonded funding available at the last funding meeting that the commission can go back and amend the cost share up to 50%. Maureen Kinney seconded. Lee Van Zeeland stated that most of the harvesting is done along the private shorelines so that is what frustrates him. Motion carried with Lee Van Zeeland voting no.</p>
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	4. Public Comments		None
	5. Next Meetings/Locations		January 8, 2019 – Conference Call April 9, 2019 - Location TBD
	6. Adjournment		Motion by Ralph Brzezinski to adjourn, seconded by Roger Walsh. Motion passed unanimously.