

Fishery & Water Quality Committee Meeting Minutes

(Minutes are italicized and in blue)

Saturday, December 26, 2020, 9 am - 10:15

Attendees: Mike Heim, Roy Conrad, Jim Wienser, Mary Heilmann, Jake Wincapaw, Robert Pfeiffer, Ed Mullaney, David Schlitz, Matt Steeno, Jim Zach—chair.

Unable to attend but provided prior input: Tim Sprink, Steve VanGrinsven

This will be a virtual committee meeting via Microsoft Teams, arrangements will be made by Jim Wienser.

1) Review/discussion/approval of December 12, 2020 draft meeting minutes.

Approved

2) Report of LLAA Board of Directors meeting, December 19

A. Following discussion of the F&WQ Committee minutes and revised budget request, a motion to approve funding the project for up to \$15,000 failed on a tie vote. (Yes — Rick Hermus, Joe Heilmann, Jim Wienser, and Jim Zach, No — Jack Kloss, Sally Hickman, LexAnn Hitchcock, and Patty Voigt). A second motion to approve up to \$10,000 passed unanimously. Both motions also required the funds for a skid steer operator to be a local contractor unless no local operator is available for less than Rick Gruel option.

B. Consequences of LLAA Board vote

Funds expended:

\$300 — Permit application,

\$2300 — Cables and Anchors. Funds remaining: \$7400

Two largest expenditures in this project may be:

1) Skid steer/grapple operator (Can be determined)

2) Ice road creation/snow plowing of ice road and fish stick assembly sites (May not be known until we get further into the project)

Discussion, agreement.

3) Reports of Committee members/volunteers

A. Skid steer/grapple contractor discussions.

Ryan Sigglekow, Roy Conrad, Jim Wienser, Jim Zach

Ryan S: Wrote up a request for proposal and circulated it to 5 area businesses who operate needed equipment. He received two responses, from Jessie Votis and Olson Dirtworks. Services discussed included skidding trees from staging areas near Anthony Island to fish stick sites and assembly of fish sticks.

Roy C contacted Todd Mihalko. His brother Ken is the skid steer operator. He and chair discussed the services above plus possibly snow plowing ice roads and assembly areas.

Jim W talked with Joe Hardy, a logger from Green Bay Area regarding fish stick assembly.

Following discussion of the merits of each option, committee authorized chair to have further discussion with Olson Dirtworks and Ken Mihalko regarding a variety of options including snow plowing, skidding/assembly, our budget limitations, possibly working jointly with each other and with volunteers, size of skidder/grapple needed, and possibility of assurance to complete the project. Both of these businesses are interested in the ecological benefits of this project and gaining experience since it appears no other contractors are currently doing this work in NE WI area. Chair will report back to committee. Based upon responses, we will likely be able to do up to 50 fish sticks within our budget.

Roy C is offering to use his tractor and fork for skidding trees and assembly of fish sticks. His tractor has high clearance and ability to drag/lift heavy loads. May be particularly useful in the bays if heavier snow conditions.

B. Possible sources of additional funding discussions.

Jim Wienser, Jim Zach

Jim Z discussed with Scott Toshner DNR and Steve Kircher, Forest Cty Land/Water Conservation. No public or private additional funding found on this short timeline. Steve offered to assist with DNR Surface Water Grant program if project is not completed this year due to weather. These grants are due in fall of a calendar year for projects to be done in the next calendar year.

We will not pursue any further inquiries at this time since it appears we will be financially ok based upon request for proposals responses.

4) Snow plowing if needed

A. Ice Road — South end

a) Sprink's to Anthony Island and Novak's tree staging areas

Tim S reported he's unsure if will be able to personally get insurance to cover his tractor. Plan is for Novaks to either create the road from Sprink's to Anthony Island or provide equipment for his use.

b) Anthony Island to DNR islands and Mitchell's/Chmielewski's

Discussion regarding equipment needed — 4WD pickup with a plow compared to UTV/ATV with a blade. Preference for a single wider road from Anthony tree staging areas to DNR islands and east to Mitchell's and Chmielewski's. Will need to determine if we can get around to south side of DNR islands depending upon snow/ice conditions. Jim W is willing to use his snow plow truck as needed for this task if not done by contractor. Suggested a LLAA website/Facebook posting to see if any volunteers with a truck/plow.

B. Fish stick assembly/tree staging areas

a) Anthony Island (NW, SW, SE shoreline)

Chair will ask Tim S to discuss with Novak's logger if they will skid trees to assembly areas off Anthony in a dispersed pattern so as to not concentrate too much weight in an area. Ideally, our contractor would be able to work when Novak loggers are cutting so trees are skidded to assembly area soon after they are cut. This would also prevent trees from getting "iced in" out on the lake.

b) North side of DNR islands

c) Mitchell's/Chmielewski's

Jim W feels he could do these areas with his truck once ice conditions safe. Longer runs would be relatively easy compared to driveways.

C. Compensation?

Discussed prior meeting.

5) Tree skidding from Anthony Island staging areas to fish stick sites if not done by skid steer contractor

A. Roy Conrad, Jeff Turriff, Tim Turriff, ?Randy Huben, ?Kirk Kennedy

Roy C was present and volunteered his tractor, the above others did not join in this meeting but Jeff and Tim T have previously told chair they would help with their pickups. Randy and Kirk are friends of Turriffs

B. Cable chokers (3/8" x 8' recommended)

Discussed. Jim W and Joe H have equipment to make these but at this point we may not need them.

6) Novak family plans update

Discussion with Tim Sprink 12/21, (he is unable to attend meeting): As of 12/18, 6" of ice offshore of Tim's. Novak family has hired a logger who plans to use a wheeled skidder with chains of similar weight to the skid steer/grapple equipment we hope to find. At 12-15" of ice, they plan to start their cutting operations. They plan to skid some trees to area off Sprink's for their use and for what we can utilize to staging areas off south shore of Anthony. Tim will discuss with Novaks/logger if they will skid trees for the up to 14 fish sticks that can be located off the NW, SW, and SE shoreline of Anthony. These are also areas of the island where trees are being harvested from.

Discussion. At this point, this project is weather dependent and on Novaks' timeline.

7) Following above agenda items discussion, where do we stand financially and how to proceed?

See 3A above.

8) Additional items for discussion?

Jim W will talk with Joe H regarding cable and anchor progress.

Jim W has portable cable cutting and crimping tools. Discussed we will need lengths of 3/8" aircraft cable to secure fish stick assembly to an onshore tree. Unsure of length needed at this point as will likely vary upon the site, suspect may need around 25'. Jim Z has been finding sections of garden hoses to protect trees, asked others to save any they may have.

Jim Z to contact Archibald Lake Association regarding a possible fish stick project they are doing that Roy C has heard of.

9) Next meeting date?

No date set —TBD. Chair will write up and circulate minutes for comment. Communicate by email as needed.

Tim S will be monitoring ice depth off his property and when/if Novaks begin their operation.

*Minutes prepared by chair Jim Zach, December 27, 2020.
Approved via email by attendees.*