

## **LA CROSSE JOINT BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS**

La Crosse County Administrative Center, Room 3220

Monday, March 19, 2012

4:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Marc Schultz-President, John Fisher-VP, Commissioner Donald Meyer, Commissioner Wayne Oliver, Commissioner Steve Earp, Commissioner James Bertram, Captain Michael Horstman, Commissioner Tom Thompson (4:37 p.m.)

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Commissioner Bob Seaquist

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF/GUESTS:** Karl Green, La Crosse County UW-Extension, Carrie Olson, WDNR

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dustin Frost, Dan Frost, Russ Larson, Glenn Paiton, Barb Paiton, Ed McCann (4:45 p.m.)

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.

### **1) Approval of the minutes of the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Port of La Crosse Joint Board of Harbor Commissioners.**

- A motion was made by John Fisher to approve the February 20<sup>th</sup> minutes, Donald Meyer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **2) Public Comment**

### **3) Commissioner Comments and Concern**

### **4) Bluff Slough No Wake Zone**

- Dan Frost – 100' Rule is not being enforced. Public safety is affected by wakes, high speeds in a shallow narrow slough.
- Glenn Paiton – Dock (Witts) is not legally placed >25% of waterway. Paiton stated that he has 18 people along Bluff Slough have signed a petition saying No-Wake unnecessary.
- Russ Larson – Concerned that property on north side of Slow-No-Wake will have damage to their property.
- Dan Frost – No respect from Bass fisherman as well as other people and are affecting these docks.
- John Fisher – Would be nice to have a copy of petitions.
- Steve Earp – Has lived in area for years, seen issues arising from ---
- Ed McCann – New WDNR Warden. Has had 2 complaints from Bluff Slough. 100' Rule is County Ordinance not State law, because 100' rule is for lakes. Most boats have been able to abide by 100' Rule. WDNR can't enforce law unless County is out there.
- Captain Horstman – Good part of Bluff Slough is in the City. City is responsible for patrolling if County isn't there. i.e., record registration number, then call City.
- Motion by Donald Meyer to move waterway marker application permit forward. Steve Earp seconded the motion. Meyer, Olson, Earp, Bertram, Horstman, to approve. Fisher and Thompson abstained.
- John Fisher motions to table the No-Wake Zone for 30 days. Thomas Thompson seconded, motion carries unanimously.
- Board wants a County Attorney and City Attorney to weigh in on the issue.

### **5) WDNR Agency Report – Carrie Olson**

- First barge came into Isle La Plume.

- Clinton Street Boat Landing has a new pier (W. Copeland) docks from Riverside.
- Dredging around Pettibone Beach is happening.
- UW-Madison doing a hydraulic analysis from 7<sup>th</sup> Street / Bluff Slough.
- Brennan Office Redevelopment, piling, starting and dirt moving next week.
- All statewide boat houses will be exempt from 50% Rule, but will need permit.
- Michael Horstman left @ 5:40 p.m.
- Piers and docks will be grandfathered in as soon as Governor signs it.
- Questions regarding supposed legality of Dan Frost docks.
- Act 118 Rules, 10 new general permits for wetland fills <10,000 sq.ft. but U.S. Corp. also can rule on this, so even if State allows, federal (Corp.) can deny.
- French Slough has a buoy and people think it is a slow-no-wake area. WDNR will pull the buoy.

#### **6) Harbor Commission Job Description**

- Karl Green will send an electronic copy to the Board.

#### **7) Annual Report Update**

- HC staff will send Annual Report to Chamber of Commerce, LADCO, County ED Committee, City Council.

#### **8) Coast Guard Auxiliary Buoy Inspection Letter**

- Letters – discussed that letters were mailed.

#### **9) 2012 and Monthly Calendar of Events Review**

- Reviewed Calendar of Events.

#### **10) Future Agenda Items**

- Bluff Slough No-Wake Zone
- Bruce Norton, U.S. Corp. of Engineers
- French Island Yacht Club – Dan King
- Have Bluff Slough Council here at next meeting

#### **11) Adjourn**

- A motion was made by John Fisher to adjourn. Seconded by Wayne Oliver. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next meeting.  
Karl Green, Recorder.