

Minutes of the  
Michigan State Waterways Commission  
October 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the Michigan State Waterways Commission (MSWC) was called to order by Commissioner and Chair, Gary Marowske on Friday, October 23, 2015 at the Rogers City Hall Council Chambers, 193 E. Michigan Avenue, Rogers City MI 49799.

**Waterway Commissioners present:**

Commissioner/Vice-Chair, Alex Declercq  
Commissioner/Chair, Gary Marowske  
Commissioner Dennis Nickels  
Commissioner James Hansen  
Commissioner Ward Walstrom  
Commissioner Nicki Polan  
Commissioner Dennis Grinold  
Special Consultant R.J. Petersen

**The following staff from the Department of Natural Resources was present:**

Jason Fleming  
Bill Boik  
Paul Petersen  
Jackie Blodgett  
Darlene Moore

Chair Gary Marowske opened the Michigan State Waterways Commission meeting at 9:15 a.m., October 23, 2015.

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. PUBLIC APPEARANCE**

A. Written Correspondence  
There was no written correspondence.

B. Appearances (Non-agenda items)

There was public comment from Mr. Wayne Vermilaa, President of Northern Michigan Marine Management Services, Onaway, Michigan, and Mr. Dale Kuehn, Campground Host at Lime Island State Park, Posen, Michigan.

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of the August 21, 2015 Minutes.

**MOTION:** Chair Gary Marowske asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2015, Michigan State Waterways Commission meeting. The motion was put into place by Commissioner Al Declercq and was seconded by Commissioner Jim Hansen. It carried unanimously, 7-0.

- B. Resolution 10-2015-02 was presented for approval. This resolution was for support of the Marina Assessment/Fee Collection Change that was discussed at the August Commission meeting. Gary Marowske asked for a vote of support for Resolution 10-2015-02. Commissioner Ward Walstrom approved the motion and Commissioner Dennis Grinold seconded. The vote was carried unanimously 7-0.
- C. A presentation was done by Mr. Todd Parker of Delta Institute, Lansing, Michigan called, "Creating a Sustainable Funding Model for Harbor Maintenance and Upstream Sediment Reduction. Their key concept is to link harbor maintenance funds with upstream conservation and urban best management practices. This offers a solution to the sediment-producing activities and maintenance issues by creating a mechanism that would allocate a small portion of funds to reduce sedimentation at its source, whenever dredging occurs. Documents outlining Delta Institute's initiative were included in the agenda packet for review.
- D. A presentation was done by Mr. Jim Olson, President of FLOW (For the Love of Water). Mr. Olson presented detailed information and findings on Enron's Line 5 (Petroleum Pipeline) which has been the center of controversy because of its location (two pipelines) under the Straits of Mackinac (Straits Pipeline). He provided significant documentation to the Commission that was included in the agenda packets in support of his discussion to them.
- E. Mr. David Rowe representing the Boy Scout Vessel, Retriever came before the Commissioners to seek use of seasonal slips to dock the Retriever at no cost. These seasonal slips would be located in harbors/marinas owned and operated by the State of Michigan, Department of Natural Resources. The Retriever has had this privilege in previous summer seasons by agreement and support of the DNR and the Waterways Commission. Mr. Rowe did indicate that for 2015, Mackinac Island was removed from the list of approved Marina/Harbors and asked the Commission to consider implementing that location for 2016. Commissioner Al Declercq spoke up and said that Mackinac Island should be included in the list of approved locations at no cost for the Retriever. Commissioner Al Declercq asked for a motion to support the agreement for the Retriever to dock at approved locations including Mackinac Island for 2016 at no cost. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jim Hansen. It was approved unanimously, 7-0.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

There were updates provided for General, Operations, Projects and Financial topics. Documents to support the updates were included in the agenda packet.

Meeting adjourned.

The next Waterway Commission Meeting: December 16, 2015 in Lansing, Michigan at the Michigan Historical Museum, David & Betty Morris Learning Center, 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Museum Archives Wing, 702 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing MI 48933.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for this event should contact Darlene Moore at 517-284-6138 a minimum of five (5) business days before this meeting. Requests **MADE LESS THAN FIVE BUSINESS DAYS BEFORE THIS EVENT** may not be accommodated. Look for this agenda and other Waterways Commission items on the DNR web page at: <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are open to the public.