

The Florence County Pine River Dam Task Force Committee met for a meeting on October 18, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 5pm by the Chair of the Committee. A quorum of committee members was present.

Supervisors present: Brunette, Kelley, Kellstrom, and Wolosyn.

Excused: Supervisor Steber

Absent: None.

Others present: Forester Pat Smith, Economic Development Director Eric Printz, Zoning Administrator Kelly Sleeter, Zoning Assistant Jessie Lindeman, and County Clerk Donna Trudell.

Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Kelley to approve the Agenda, as presented.

Motion Seconded by Supervisor Kellstrom.

Motion carries, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Wolosyn to approve the August 16, 2022 minutes, as presented.

Motion Seconded by Supervisor Kelly.

Motion carried, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Pine River Dam

Supervisor Wolosyn listed questions that the Supervisors agreed they would like put into a letter for a consultant:

- What are the benefits of the dam removal?
- What are the benefits to having a free flowing river?
- How will the clean energy be replaced if the dam is removed to meet the Wisconsin Carbon Neutral Initiative?
- What species of fish are in the flowage?
- Are there any species of fish that can go upstream of the Lasalle Falls?
- What is the total acreage of the dam project?
- Will We Energies sell the acreage if the dam is removed?
- How many homes in Florence County can the Pine River Hydro Electric Project provide electricity to, show on a GIS overlay?
- How many residential lots will be created following the sub-division and shore land ordinances?
- Will We Energies construct walkway and viewing areas along the river and Breakwater Falls?

Smith asked about keeping this meeting separate from other meetings and that he would stay involved with it. He said that Printz and he spoke before this meeting about the pine River Dam and put together a letter with some of the listed questions above and more.

Smith said he would try to contact some of his old contacts with the dam and thought that the Wilderness Shores Settlement Agreement may allow a County Board Supervisor to sit at the table. The County should push We Energies to have the County Board Chair or designee at the table.

Moved by Supervisor Wolosyn approval to go ahead with sending a letter out to consultants.

Motion Seconded by Supervisor Kelley.

Motion carries, with all voting "Aye" on a voice vote.

Next Meeting

Tuesday – December 20, 2022 @ 5:00pm in the Courthouse 2nd Floor Conference Room

Adjourn

There being no further business.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53p.m. by Chairman Brunette.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Trudell, County Clerk/
Administrative Coordinator