

**Harbor Committee Minutes**  
**March 9, 2015**

Members present: Arnie Nelson, Chair; Tim Eldred, Glenn Carlson, and Gary Krubsack.

Members absent: Tab Butler, Charlie Meech, Gary Russell and Jon Berg, alternate and Bob Kron, alternate.

Town Staff present: Pete Clark, Town Administrator.

Public present:

**1. Call to order.**

Meeting of the Harbor Committee called to order by Arnie Nelson, Chair at 10:33 am on Monday, March 9, 2015. A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in members listed above.

**2. 3-year Harbor Plan**

The Three Year Harbor Plan needs to be updated and sent to the State.

Motion by G. Carlson to adopt the Three Year Harbor plan as presented by Pete Clark, second, Tim Eldred. Discussion.

Year 2015: Replace rub rails on outer breakwater and northwest side of Town Dock.

Funding Sources: Dept of Transportation \$10,000.00; \$2500.00 from the Town of La Pointe for a total of \$12,500. This work would be contracted out.

2016: If the Harbor Limits are expanded the expanded areas would be dredged. Funding Sources: \$150,000 Army Corps; no expense to the Town.

2017: Widen Town dock, add saw tooth, upgrade lighting, replace poles, upgrade navigation lights on outer breakwall.

Funding Sources as shown by JJR, Project Designers: WI Dept of Transportation: \$1,788,800; Town of La Pointe: \$447,200 for total of \$2,236,000.

Pete Clark said there is money in the Harbor Committee budget for JJR to proceed with the permitting process.

All in favor to the motion on the floor. All aye, motion carried.

**3. Joni's Beach dock extension**

There is talk about upgrading the bathrooms, picnic shelter and the general area at Joni's Beach. Arnie said if the Town Board is interested in pursuing the dock extension, the Town could pay the DNR permit fee application of \$600.00 and his office would do the permit work. Arnie has a rough sketch of the dock extension for the Committee and Town Board to discuss.

Tim suggested that the pass through be improved as the sand shoals up pretty hard under the dock. He would like to see the sand move through better. Arnie said the crib holds the beach in place. If you improve the pass through or take out the 24 ft crib the sand would move to the Marina area and make the beach a lot smaller.

T. Eldred asked if the committee has given up having a launch ramp on the dock. Arnie said people really want the sand to stay around so that was given up.

Tim said people and kids want the swimming area, so what is the point to have more dockage? Arnie said more dockage is needed for transient and daily use. Tim said the dock is a very inviting platform to dive off of but when the boats come in it is hard to dive off the dock.

Motion by Glenn to recommend to the Town Board the extension of the Joni's Beach dock as outlined in the drawing submitted by Arnie Nelson and to also recommend that the Town Board go forward with the permit application with the Town paying the fee. Second, Gary Krubsack. Discussion.

Tim asked how much the dock extension would cost and how long the permit is good for. Arnie said the permit is good for three years and you can renew the permit at least once for a two or three year extension. He can do one crib or two cribs at a time depending on budgeted money. Tim asked what the depth is at the end of the dock. Arnie said about 5 or 6 feet.

All in favor to the motion on the floor, all aye, motion carried.

#### **4. Harbor Dredge Limit Expansion**

Pete Clark said Dave Gerczak, Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit Office called to say the Town of La Pointe is not eligible for a Harbor Dredge Limit Expansion as the Town's harbor is considered a recreational and not a commercial harbor. The Design Deficiency Program allows for Harbor Dredge Limit Expansion with dredging done for no cost. Dave Gerczak said expansion of the dredge limits for the Town's harbor would require congressional legislation. Arnie said the harbor was just dredged at the old limits and will not be dredged for another 5/7 years. Suggest we work to get the limits expanded so when the Corps returns the new limits will be in place.

Tim asked if surveying costs would be paid for to survey an extended harbor. Arnie said the Corps surveys the harbor twice a year and if the limits were expanded the area would be surveyed and the new limits put on the chart. The chart comes from the survey crew.

Discussion of the process to work with the congressional delegation. Pete Clark said you would use the map, select committee members who would contact Senators Johnson and Baldwin and Congressman Duffy to get a rider on a bill for expanded dredge limits for the Town of La Pointe harbor. Question if the designation could be changed while we are requesting an expansion of the dredge limits. Arnie said we do not have enough tonnage to qualify as a commercial harbor and the amount of tonnage is a requirement.

Motion by Tim that the Harbor Committee recommends that the Town Board undertake the expansion of the harbor dredge limits through congressional action. Second Gary Krubsack. Discussion.

Tim said the Corps has the most to say about changing a designation but Congress can overrule. Suggestion to add the change of designation of the Town's harbor to the request to expand the dredge limits. If the dredge limits were changed first, the committee could then say that since the dredge limits were expanded, the harbor must be busier than it was.

The advantage of being designated a commercial harbor is there is more money and more programs for the harbor.

Glenn said if the harbor dredge limits were expanded there could be an increase in tonnage, also. The limits have not changed since the 1960's.

All in favor to the motion on the floor, all aye, and motion carried.

#### **5. Adjourn**

Motion by Glenn to adjourn, second, Tim. All in favor, all aye, motion carried.

Meeting ended at approximately 10:50am.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant. Minutes approved as presented March 7, 2015