

Wetland Task Force Meeting Agenda - 6.25.2025

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM @ RI City Hall

Wetland Task Force Members and Key Roles

Attended meeting

- Ashley Harris - RI Mayor
- Miles Brainard - RI Community Economic Development
- Thomas Flaherty - Assistant to RI City Manager & Economic Development Director
- Todd Thompson - RI City Manager
- Sarah Hayden - RI Community Engagement Manager
- Randy Hurt - RI Second Ward Council Member
- Tanner Osing - Planning & Zoning
- Missy Gasiorowski - General contractor with Hodge construction with the development
- Hannah Alexander - NTI Representative
- Mike Thoms - Resident
- Nina Struss - River Health & Resiliency Organizer with Prairie Rivers Network
- Tim Pressly - Land owner
- Jon Duyvejonck - Retired Wildlife Biologist (USFWS), Sierra Club
- Kathy Wine - Executive Director at River Action

Agenda

A. Debrief from City Council Study Session (6/23/2025)

a. Connect with Lorraine re: questions from council - Nina

- i. Annual inspections – what will these entail?
 1. Concerns from council re: environmental issues as it pertains to the 10-acre development site as well as the casino. Will the inspections cause issues to the development/casino? Will this process enhance the protection for the wetlands/wildlife as it pertains to the development (i.e. helping to establish guidelines or regulations as it pertains to stormwater/runoff/pollution/etc.
- ii. Additionally – is the process easy to add in a parcel of land with the L&WR designation? For example, if the 10-acre parcel is deemed no longer able to be developed, would it be easy to add in this property or does it make more sense to wait until after this is established to move forward with the L&WR designation?

b. Public feedback

- i. Concerns re: TIF funding for easement - do we need to make a statement on this now?
- ii. Support for easement, but caution as it pertains to outdoor recreation/development
- iii. Call for experts to be included on the Task Force - do we need to provide clarification that experts will be part of this process, but not until the easement process has been approved?

B. Next Steps

- a. Update council with Lorraine's response(s)
- b. Set City Council meeting date for easement vote
- c. Discuss financial contribution to the IDNR process (should this be included in the council's vote?).
 - i. Financial contribution from the city (for survey work, for example) would show commitment to the easement process and help expedite the process.

C. Other Agenda Items?

D. Next Meeting: July 9th, 2025