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KUNKEL ENGINEERING GROUP SELECTED TO UNDERTAKE FOX LAKE LIBRARY RENOVATION

Renovation for ADA compliance is first step toward construction of
new community library

FOX LAKE, WIS. – Kunkel Engineering Group has been selected to undertake the renovation of the Fox Lake library, company officials confirmed today. The planned renovations are intended to bring the library into compliance with ADA requirements and create a more patron-friendly environment until funds can be raised to build a new facility.

Working with the State Department of Education and the City of Fox Lake, Kunkel Engineering crafted ADA-compliance solutions for the existing facility that include the installation of a doorbell system at the main entrance, summoning library staff to open the doors for a patron who requires assistance, said Craig Kunkel, president of Kunkel Engineering Group.

New restroom doors that provide a 36-inch clearance will be installed as will grab bars in each of the restrooms. The library will furnish new tables for computer accessibility and a table meeting the 36-inch height requirement will be added to the check-out counter. Kunkel said. The ADA compliance renovations are scheduled for completion in September.

“We engineer for people first,” Kunkel said. “This library project is a fine example of why that approach works well. The renovations will provide access that serves the community’s library patrons well until the time that a new facility can be constructed.”

In advance of the new library’s fundraising initiative, Kunkel Engineering has also been retained to work with the city council and library board to design a people-focused floor plan and exterior elevations for the new facility, Kunkel said. Planned as an addition to the existing city administration/community center/ fire department building, which Kunkel Engineering designed and built in 1996, the intent is to provide a center point for community activities that also provides all areas of municipal support and services in one location. Adjacent to the community park and aquatic facility, the library addition will round out the offerings at this location, he said. Fundraising for the 7500-square-foot library addition is expected to begin in 2008 with construction completed by 2012.

Kunkel Engineering Group is a privately held, full-service engineering firm that specializes in engineering for municipalities and the people within them. Headquartered in Beaver Dam and serving communities throughout south-central Wisconsin, the firm employs 16.

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