



## **Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup**

**Monitoring Committee 1/12/2017**

**1:00PM – 3:30PM**

**Lake County Central Permit Facility**

**500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville IL 60048**

### **Meeting Minutes**

1. Call the meeting to order: Joe Robinson called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call (see end of these notes for individuals present)
3. Public Comment: None.
4. Conference Call with Chris Yoder of MBI to discuss breaking the watershed into 3 subwatershed-based sampling areas to be sampled over the next 3 years. MBI provided a handout "DRWW 2017-19 Bioassessment Sites" and a watershed map showing all baseline sampling locations. Chris Yoder started by going over the handout he had provided. He recommends that in 2017 the Main Stem be sampled; 2018 - Mill Creek/Bull Creek and direct tributaries; 2019 – Indian Creek, Aptaksic Creek and Buffalo Creek and direct tributaries. Bioassessment sampling and water chemistry would be done at each location selected. Joe R asked how often sediment sampling should be done? Chris said once in the fall would be adequate. Joe R asked if we really need that much sediment, could we cut back on it? Chris replied: not yet. Joe R asked for clarification – are there 69 sites or 70? Everyone agreed there are 70. Beth A. asked Chris if he would identify exactly which locations within each of the identified subwatershed groups he would like to sample. Chris agreed to do this, as soon as DRWW has a master spreadsheet of all baseline locations finalized. Chris said he would give DRWW his most recent spreadsheet to review and update. The budget for each annual monitoring event and agreed that \$65,000/yr is the budget for the next 3 years of sampling. Chris asked if we would like him to break his costs down or use "not to exceed" language? Joe R. indicated the breakdown would be helpful and Chris said he would have to break it down anyway for his planning purposes. Chris asked if the QAPP needed any modifications? Andrea replied no, but the monitoring strategy would need to be revised. Joe R said that the DRWW needs to look at sampling locations 13-5 and 16-3 as the tier designations may have changed, and then we will let Chris know. Chris asked for an explanation of the Tiers. Joe R explained: Tier 1 – All Parameters (biological (fish, macros, habitat), water, sediment, metals, organics, chlorides, nutrients); Tier 2 – Less metals, no organics nor sediment; Tier 3 – chlorides, demand and nutrients only ; Tier 4 – macros but no chemistry except the in-stream parameters MBI was collecting in the field. Kathy P asked about the status of the flow monitoring? Joe replied that there is a contract extension that is being negotiated with Burns and McDonnell. Joe asked Chris if all his questions had been answered? Chris said he had requested that Tier 4 sites include water chemistry for demand and nutrients if we could afford to add those parameters. Joe R responded that once the DRWW reviews the

data we would like to eliminate some parameters and use that money to do additional work like you are suggesting. We think we need more chloride data too. Chris offered that MBI could share the data with DRWW as soon as they get the preliminary results. Joe R asked if DRWW could get a final report by Oct. 15, 2017? Chris said that would not be a problem. Mike W asked if we could help MBI's sampling crews with boats or vehicles? Chris said he would check with his crew and thank you. Cheaper lodging would be helpful. Chris Yoder hung up.

5. Suburban Labs (SL) Contract – Joe R stated that the number of sites for SL to sample went from 41 to 53, but these sites were not sampled in 2016. Joe said he wants to add these sites to the master sampling spreadsheet, check to make sure their tier numbers are correct and maybe add some extra work to the Tier 4 sites. He noted that the GIS map will need to be updated too and then posted on the DRWW website. Andrea said she would update the map book and re-send it to Beth to be posted on the DRWW website.
6. Burns and McDonnell (B&M) Contract Extension – Brian O'Neill, project manager for B&M attended the meeting to discuss the scope of the flow monitoring extension. Brian discussed a proposal to visit the 15 flow monitors 4 additional times (plus 2 visits from the original contract that were not completed) and compile 6 USGS gage station data and a final report (a final report was part of the original K, that deliverable will be moved to the K extension) for \$34,500. Clint Bailey of USGS suggested two protocol changes from the approved QAPP: 1) Obtaining barometric pressure data from weather stations every 5 miles, as opposed to the current every 20 miles and; 2) installing a metal pipe at each of the 15 flow meter locations so water level is measured from the pipe (above the surface of the water) to the surface of the water, instead of from the bottom of the stream bed to the top of the water surface. This is a standard measurement protocol but was not in the QAPP. Clint said these 2 protocol changes would allow B&M to obtain their accuracy goal of 0.1 which is in the QAPP. Brian agreed these were good suggestions. Patty Werner stated that the Watershed Plan Group needs all data by Oct. 15, 2017 so it can be used in the Watershed Plan. Brian said he would get the DRWW a proposal by 1/5/17.
7. Suburban Labs (SL) Contract – 7 additional Tier 3 sites. Approval of a K change to add 7 additional sites was approved in June 2016, but the sites were not sampled by SL. Mike Adam suggested we direct SL to add these sites starting in March 2017. Mike Warner suggested that 1 DRWW monitoring committee member be assigned to co-manage each contractor with Beth Adler. He suggested Jim Bland co-manage B&M, Mike Adam co-manage SL, and Joe Robinson co-manage MBI. This was agreed upon by Jim, Mike and Joe.
8. Staffing for Data Management for Reporting to IEPA – Intern? In-house? Dan, the intern who did a good job with DRWW's data management last year was contacted and he is interested in helping us again in early 2017. Everyone agreed it would be good to hire an intern. A recommendation would be made at the Executive Board meeting to approve funding not to exceed \$2,000 to hire an intern.
9. Old Business: None
10. New Business: None
11. Next Monitoring Committee Meeting will be January 19, 2017.

12. Adjourn: Mike Adam made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jim Bland. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Members Present:**

Joe Robinson, North Shore Water Reclamation District

Mike Adam, Lake County Health Department

Jim Bland, Sierra Club

Leslie Berns, LCFPD

**Others Attendees:**

Beth Adler, DRWW Technical Coordinator

Chris Yoder, MBI (via conference call)

Kathy Paap, Wetlands Research Initiative (via conference call)

Mike Warner, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

Andrea Cline, Geosyntec

Leonard Dane, Deuchler Environmental, Inc.

Rob Flood, North Shore WRD