**Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup**

**Monitoring Committee**

**12/10/2015**

**9:00-10:00 AM**

**Lake County Central Permit Facility**

**500 W Winchester Road, Suite 200, Libertyville, 60048**

**Meeting Minutes**

1. Call the meeting to order: Joe Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:08 am.
2. Approval of 10/8/15 meeting minutes: Mike Adam motioned to approve the minutes, Jim Bland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment: Andrea Cline gave a summary of the discussion surrounding the chloride variance. Brian Dorn said that he talked to Fred Andes, a lawyer at Barnes and Thornburg, who is working with North Shore Water reclamation District and is representing the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago in the variance process. Mike Novotny discussed the idea of Lake County through the Municipal Advisory Council leading the variance proceedings. There was a discussion about how the group would undertake monitoring – whether it would be grab samples or continuous, where would we monitor, and other factors. Jim Bland asked about the implications of lake monitoring for chloride. Also discussed was the effect of water softener on chloride levels. There will be a meeting after the February general membership meeting to discuss supplementing the grab sample collection with in situ conductivity monitoring.

Mike Warner suggested having a regularly scheduled Monitoring Committee meeting. It was decided to have it on the first Thursday of the month at 10 am, except for February, where the committee will meet after the general membership meeting.

1. Water Column Chemistry Monitoring Update: Joe Robinson reported that Suburban Labs started with the third sampling last week, on November 30th because of Thanksgiving and staffing. The water level in the river is very high. Suburban Labs will have sampled in September, October and late November early December. Joe talked about how we are going to provide the data to Illinois EPA for the 319 grant, it needs to be in the STORET format. Mike Warner recommended approaching Suburban Labs to put the data into the STORET format immediately. The other alternative is that SMC is hiring eight interns this summer to complete stream and detention basin inventories and there will be some down time in which they could do data processing. Libertyville’s and Lake County’s POTW annual reports are due March 31st and requires that the data from the upstream and downstream monitoring be submitted. Andrea will check with Al Keller at Illinois EPA about what format the data need to be submitted in. Lake County and Libertyville is March. Andrea Cline will contact Al Keller and ask about data format and talk to Suburban Labs about putting the data into Access. Would this require a contract amendment?
2. Bioassessment Proposal Evaluation: Joe Robinson reported that we had three firms submit in response to the RFP: Deuchler, Burns & McDonnell, and MBI. Mike Warner collected the scores and averaged them. The averages for five reviewers was 766 Deuchler, 819 Burns & McDonnell, 892 MBI. Joe commented that everyone who submitted was qualified, overall the group was impressed with the proposals. Mike Adam sent around a correction in the MBI cost that reflected a mathematical error and would result in an increase in $12,000. Jim Bland was impressed with the flow monitoring proposal from Burns & McDonnell. Joe recommended that we award a separate contract for flow monitoring. Mike Adam commented that we have to make sure that Burns & McDonnell could do that work separately. Mike Warner said that the Davis-Bacon Act only applies to construction. Brian Dorn asked if the contractor will be required to carry insurance. ***The contract will be with DRWW and insurance coverage would be required.*** Patty answered that they will be. Patty said that the draft monitoring strategy needs to be submitted to Illinois EPA January 31st. Patty also said the QAPP needs to be submitted earlier than in the MBI proposal which said April. Jim made a motion to recommend the MBI proposal for approval to the Executive Board without optional task 8 of flow monitoring and given that they can start immediately to revise the QAPP. Austin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jim made a motion to recommend to the Executive Board to contract with Burns & McDonnell for optional task 8 for flow monitoring. Mike Adam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mike Adam asked about the purchasing of equipment. Would it be a better alternative for the DRWW to purchase the equipment? Mike W said that SMC could purchase and store the equipment. Patty mentioned that the equipment should not be purchased with 319 money.
3. Next meeting: January 7th, 10 am at Lake County Stormwater Management Commission offices. February third Thursday.
4. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Adam, seconded by Austin McFarlane. Passed unanimously.

**Committee Members Present:**

Mike Adam, Lake County Health Department

Jim Bland, Sierra Club

Austin McFarlane, Lake County Public Works

Joe Robinson, North Shore Water Reclamation District

Steve Vella, Village of Libertyville

**Other Attendees:**

Andrea Cline, Geosyntec

Leonard Dane, Deuchler Environmental

Brian Dorn, North Shore Water Reclamation District

Mike Novotny, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

Mike Warner, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

Patty Werner, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission