



## Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

### Executive Board

04/29/2020 8:00 am

### Special Call Virtual Meeting

### Agenda

#### Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

**1. Call the Meeting to Order**

Al Giertych called the meeting to order.

**2. Roll Call**

Jacob Jozefowski performed the roll call. Al Giertych, Michael Talbett, Jim Anderson, Joe Robinson and Alana Bartolai were present. A quorum was present.

**3. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**4. New Business: Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) deadline extension or cost reduction request to the Illinois EPA.**

This special meeting was called to discuss a potential request to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) for a deadline extension or cost reduction for the Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup (DRWW) NARP. Local governments are currently in uncertain financial positions due to realized and anticipated impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, there is a concern that the DRWW should extend the implementation timeline of the NARP to allow members and the organization time to accommodate the NARP financially.

The draft letter in the meeting packet is similar to a letter being created for Lake County, which is examining every sector of government to identify all opportunities to reduce county expenses. This is being done to accommodate the numerous revenue loss concerns across multiple management sectors within Lake County. Municipalities within the watershed are also experiencing revenue losses. For example, the Village of Kildeer had to forgo its road program in the most recent budget in response to revenue losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the DRWW is currently not able to fully

implement the NARP as planned without seeking additional funds. It would be extremely difficult to justify additional membership dues for the NARP in addition to the DRWW dues when municipal budgets are forgoing critical services such as road repairs. This NARP deadline extension request to the Illinois EPA is in response to these revenue loss and budget concerns.

There was a discussion on the best way to execute the extension request. The conclusion of the discussion was to send the NARP deadline extension request to the Illinois EPA along with the NARP implementation workplan document and to continue with the request for proposal to fulfill the NARP monitoring requirements for 2020. Additionally, the extension request will be sent to the Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies to encourage a state-wide resolution to COVID-19 related impacts to NARP implementation. This strategy was chosen because it is the best way to address the financial realities of NARP implementation during the COVID-19 pandemic, while communicating that the DRWW is fully committed to NARP implementation.

Jim Anderson motioned to request a NARP deadline extension as described above. The motion was seconded by Michael Talbett and passed by unanimous consensus.

**5. Next Executive Board Meeting May 14, 2020 at 2:00 pm, Virtual Meeting**

[Zoom Meeting Link](#). Meeting ID: 844 2458 5668 Meeting Password: 019489

**6. Adjourn**

Jim Anderson motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Michael Talbett and passed by unanimous consensus.