



Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

Monitoring/WQ Improvements Committee Meeting

03/19/2020 1:00 pm

Lake County Stormwater Management Commission Virtual Meeting

Meeting Summary

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Joe Robinson called the meeting to order at 01:03 PM.

2. Roll Call

Joe Robinson performed Roll Call of the Monitoring Committee Members. Rosemary Heilemann, Sierra Club; Brian Dorn, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); Al Giertych, Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT); Leslie Berns, Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD); and Alana Bartolai, Lake County Health Department (LCHD) were present. A quorum was present.

3. Approve Previous Meeting Summary (01/16/20)

The January 16, 2020 Monitoring Committee meeting summary were not attached to all meeting packets. The January 16, 2020 meeting summary will be approved at the next committee meeting.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. NARP Update

Brian Dorn sent final draft comments to Geosyntec Consultants for the Preliminary Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) Workplan for the Des Plaines River. The workplan will be sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) once final revisions are completed.

6. IPS Model Update

The latest version of the Integrated Prioritization System (IPS) model has been released. The *Biological and Water Quality Assessment of Upper Des Plaines River: Year 2 Rotation 2018* report utilized the IPS model.

7. Old Business

a. PAH Press Release

The Lake County Health Department sent the PAH press release to Lake County Communications for review. Review of the document may be delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. April would be the best time to distribute the PAH press release because this is when the application of pavement sealant begins.

b. Continuous Monitoring Strategy

The DRWW is planning to coordinate the purchase and installation of three multiparameter data sondes (Manta 35 from Eureka Water Probes [Austin, Texas]) to conduct continuous water quality monitoring in support of the Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP). The sondes would be installed in the Des Plaines River at Russel Rd., Highway 120 and Half Day Rd., near the United States Geologic Survey's flow monitoring stations. Initially the NSWRD, Lake County Public Works and the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) agreed to purchase one sonde each; however, further discussion and analysis is needed to determine if the COVID-19 pandemic will impact these organization's ability to purchase the sondes. A subgroup of the subcommittee will follow up on this action item and consider other options for conducting continuous monitoring. Alternate options discussed included:

- Hiring a consultant to perform the monitoring.
- NSWRD purchase and operate all three sondes.
- NSWRD purchase all three sondes and the LCHD operate the sondes.

8. New Business

a. MBI 2018 Report

The Midwest Biodiversity Institute (MBI) has distributed the *Biological and Water Quality Assessment of Upper Des Plaines River: Year 2 Rotation 2018* report and is waiting for comments from the DRWW.

b. 2019 Data Submittal

The complete monitoring dataset from 2019 will be sent to the Illinois EPA along with a cover letter. This is done for compliance with municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) and publicly owned treatment works (POTW) permit

requirements. The DRWW is waiting for data from Mundelein and Libertyville for the 2019 MBI report.

9. Other Business

Steve Vella, Libertyville Public Works Superintendent, will be retiring on April 3rd, 2020. Brian Kuebker will be the acting superintendent of the Libertyville Wastewater Treatment Plant and will likely replace Steve on the monitoring committee.

Leslie Berns will be retiring from the LCFPD on March 20, 2020. Pati Vitt, LCFPD will likely replace Leslie on the monitoring committee.

In response to the COVID-10 pandemic, SMC is only performing mission essential functions (MEF). Mike Warner asked if there was a consensus that the DRWW falls within SMC's MEF guidance because it fulfills regulatory requirements. There was unanimous consensus that the DRWW falls within SMC's MEF's.

10. Not Meeting Next Month

The next DRWW monitoring committee meeting will be on May 21, 2020 at 01:00 PM.

11. Adjourn

Leslie Berns motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Brian Dorn and passed by unanimous consensus at 01:39 PM.