



## Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

### General Membership

08/20/2020 01:30 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#) (Meeting ID: 882 3968 3392, Password: 093084)

### Meeting Minutes

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

##### 1. Introductions and Announcements

Al Giertych called the meeting to order at 01:31 PM. Jacob Jozefowski performed introductions and announcements.

##### a. Roll Call

Roll call was performed. Roll call results are shown in Figure 1.

##### 2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

##### 3. Joe Robinson Retirement

Joe Robinson retired on 07/16/2020. Joe's work has been crucial for the establishment and success of the Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup (DRWW).

##### 4. Approve 02/20/20 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Al Giertych motioned to approve the 02/20/2020 General Membership Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote (Figure 1). Dave Brown abstained from voting.

##### 5. DRWW Business

##### a. 2020 Dues and Budget

##### • MBI Invoice #1791

Al Giertych motioned to ratify MBI Invoice #1791. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote (Figure 1).

##### • Budget Update

The total 2020 revenue and carry over is \$243,413. The DRWW has received 98.6% of the projected revenue for the 2020 budget. The total expenditures paid is \$99,641.17 leaving a remaining balance of \$143,771.83.

Paul Kendzior motioned to ratify the Expense-Revenue and budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Al Giertych and approved with unanimous consensus via roll call vote (Figure 1).

- **Amended Dues Structure**

The current DRWW membership dues amount is based on the total land area (33.33%) and wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) effluent volume (66.67%) of each entity/jurisdiction. The Village of Long Grove contacted DRWW with concerns that their dues amount was too high for their population. The DRWW Executive Board proposed a \$0.60 per capita cap on dues to address this concern.

**Q: How was the \$0.60 per capita cap derived?**

**A:** The previous DRWW technical coordinator worked with The Village of Long Grove to determine what a reasonable rate would be.

**Q: Would this affect the dues amount for all municipalities?**

**A:** The per capita cap would reduce dues for the Villages of Long Grove, Mettawa, Old Mill Creek and Wadsworth. All other municipalities dues will remain the same because their dues are less than \$0.60 per capita.

**Q: Should there be a \$200 minimum for municipalities, so they are not paying less than Associate and Individual Members?**

**A:** Yes

David Brown motioned to approve the \$200 minimum and \$0.60 per capita cap for DRWW Agency membership dues to support increased membership. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and approved with unanimous consensus via roll call vote (Figure 1).

**b. Officer Elections**

- **Dave Miller, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD) Executive Director, for Vice President**
- **Steve Waters, NSWRD Special Projects Manager, for Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Chair**

David Brown motioned to approve Dave Miller as Vice President of the DRWW and Steve Waters as the chair of the DRWW Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and approved with unanimous consensus via roll call vote (Figure 1).

**6. Committee Updates**

**a. Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee (Mike Adam)**

The DRWW continues to conduct water quality and bioassessment monitoring. Data from this monitoring is used for the IPS model and MS4 compliance. Bioassessment monitoring was reduced to 16 sites this year. The DRWW is monitoring water quality at 73 sites five times per year; however, the number of parameters assessed has been reduced to only include the most crucial parameters for water quality assessment and permit compliance. The DRWW is also monitoring sestonic chlorophyll *a* at 14 sites and bioassessments are monitoring benthic chlorophyll *a*. There was no sediment sampling this year. The DRWW monitoring focus is shifting towards the Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP). The NSWRD has purchased three Sondes for continuous monitoring at Russel Rd., Rt 120 and Rt 22 on the Des Plaines River Mainstem. This data will support NARP development. The DRWW is also considering options to update its monitoring database to allow for more secure storage and effective data exploration/manipulation.

The DRWW created a press release about PAH's, but it was not widely distributed by the press due to other issues such as COVID taking precedence.

**b. Lakes Committee (Mike Adam)**

The Lakes Committee met less frequently this year because most of the DRWW's focus has been on NARP development and funding. The committees next goal is to create recommendations for the executive board on how to include lakes in some of the future DRWW management activities and projects.

**7. Guest Speakers**

**a. Chris Yoder, *Midwest Biodiversity Institute* - Integrated Prioritization System Tool (IPS) Update**

The IPS model is a tool that combines monitoring data and management goals to inform decision making. It allows users to visualize and rank aquatic life uses and impairments and relate them to probable causes of impairment and restorability/susceptibility factors. The IPS tool uses a wider array of parameters than traditional water quality models and compares them to regionally developed stressor thresholds. A power Bi dashboard has been created to allow users to explore the data. The dashboard requires training to use it effectively. Future improvements to the IPS tool may include the addition of social wellbeing measures.

The IPS tool shows that the northern portion of the study area has significant challenges for restorability that are related to habitat modification, altered flow, and non-point source contributions. This causes lingering effects downstream. Full attainment occurs further downstream due to dilution by WTP effluent flow that tempers the downstream export of upper mainstem impacts.

**b. Vincent J. Mosca, *Hey and Associates, Inc.*, Operation and Maintenance of Green Infrastructure Practices**

Vincent Mosca provided an overview of green infrastructure design and maintenance. Green infrastructure is regional and site-specific practices that are designed to ameliorate the negative impacts of stormwater runoff.

Project design should start with the selection of realistic objectives. It is important to acknowledge that green infrastructure may not always be the best way to achieve project goals. Selection of best management practices (BMP) should be based on project objectives, not what easily fits. If possible, larger best management practices (BMPs) are typically more effective than multiple small BMPs.

BMP designs should identify the appropriate soil mixture needed to achieve the desired infiltration. Compost should be used with care, as it may result in a net export of nutrients, which is counterproductive to many green infrastructure objectives. Plant selection guidance is typically vague. Planting of different species with different tolerances is generally recommended. Projects should plan to replant after the first growing season. Turf grass can be an option in difficult areas as it does provide some infiltration.

Green infrastructure design should also consider line of sight impacts for public safety, owners aesthetic expectations, if infiltration will result in groundwater contamination, likelihood of trash and debris impacts, and expected chloride load.

BMP maintenance should be considered throughout the design process. Designs should not overburden owners with high maintenance costs. Simpler designs are more likely to be successful and typically have lower maintenance costs. All BMPs should include an operations and maintenance manual that identifies who is responsible for maintenance. Municipal budgets should include a line item for green infrastructure maintenance. If you rely on the general fund you will be competing with multiple other high priority objectives and may not receive needed funds.

Estimates for green infrastructure maintenance cost vary. The quality of BMP installation and vegetation establishment heavily impacts maintenance demand. Maintenance should start as soon as the project is built because remedial work is more expensive than maintained.

Large scale naturalized detention basins maintenance needs include backpack spraying, hand pulling of weeds, and dormant season mowing. Prescribed burns can be used but may be difficult depending on site specific conditions. Maintenance of these basins may cost \$2,000-\$3,000 per year. Prescribed burns typically start at \$2,000 but can be substantially higher.

Small rain garden (150 square yards) maintenance is mostly focused on weed control, which can cost \$750-\$2,250 per year if using outside help. Vacuuming catchments and pipes may be necessary for some BMPs, potentially multiple times a year, with costs ranging from \$200-\$300 per maintenance event.

**Q: How far away are we from identifying the BMPs that work, are economically feasible, and have contractor support in this region.**

**A:** We know that naturalized detention basins with buffers work. There is still a learning curve and conflicting data about effectiveness for the smaller, more modern practices, such as rooftop gardens and roadside bioswales.

**Q: Is there grant funding available for pollinator plants?**

**A:** Comed and Openlands may have grants. There is a group in Kansas named Monarch Watch that may provide pollinator plants to deserving groups.

**Q: You mentioned small decentralized BMPs tend to be less effective. Does this include small BMPs that are part of a larger decentralized green infrastructure system? Or does it only apply to small one-off BMPs?**

**A:** It is probably a mix. For example, if you have multiple parking lot bioswales that function as a pretreatment to a larger detention facility, the bioswales tend may not function as well, or be as cost effective, as the naturalized detention basin. This is because the smaller BMPs tend to be maintained less and are subjected to more stressors such as foot traffic, shopping carts, heat radiation from the pavement, chlorides or excess litter/debris. Larger facilities are less likely to be subjected to these stresses.

#### **8. Old Business**

There was no old business.

#### **9. New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **10. Next General Membership Meeting February 2020 at 2:00 pm**

#### **11. Adjourn**

Al Giertych motioned to adjourn the 08/20/2020 DRWW General Membership Meeting. The motion was approved with unanimous consensus via roll call vote (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: DRWW Membership Roll Call Vote Summary.** Y: Yes, N: No, A: Abstain, NP: Not Present, NR: No Response

Organization	Voting Member	Number of Votes	Attendance	Feb. Meeting Minutes	MBI Invoice	Ratify Financials	Dues Structure	Elections	Adjourn
Applied Technologies, Inc.	-	2	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
Christopher Burke	Michael Burke	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NR
City of Lake Forest	Brian Joyce	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
City of Park City	-	4	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
City of Zion	-	4	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
Ela Township	Caitlin Burke	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Freemont Township	Caitlin Burke	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hey & Associates	Vincent Mosca	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lake County DOT	Al Giertych	8	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lake County Forest Preserve	Nick Huber	6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lake County Public Works	Joel Sensenig	16	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lake County SMC	Jacob Jozefowski	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Libertyville Township	Jon Happ	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NR
North Shore Water Reclamation District	Dave Miller	18	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Vernon Hills Park District	James Kin	2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Village of Deer Park	Michael Burke	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NR
Village of Deerfield	-	4	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
Village of Grayslake	Emily Grimm	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NR
Village of Gurnee	Heather Galan	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y (in chat)
Village of Hawthorn Woods	Erika Frable	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Village of Kildeer	Caitlin Burke	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Village of Lake Zurich	Betty Harrison	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NR
Village of Libertyville	Paul Kendzior	6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NR



**Figure 2: Meeting Registration**

First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization Name
Austin	McFarlane	amcfarlane@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County
Steve	Waters	stwaters@northshorewrld.org	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Todd	Budnik	tbudnik@lesseragency.com	Not Provided
Tracy	Gastfield	Tracy@vernontownship.com	Vernon Township
Rishab	Mahajan	rmahajan@geosynetec.com	Geosyntec Consultants
David	Brown	DaveB@vhills.org	Vernon Hills
Dave	Miller	DaMiller@NorthShoreWRD.org	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Todd	Peck	tpeck@zionparkdistrict.org	Zion Park District
Erika	Frable	efrable@vhw.org	Village of Hawthorn Woods
Penny	Bouchard	pbouchard@baxterwoodman.com	Baxter&Woodman
Charles	Frank	zsf6116@gmail.com	Sierra Club
Betty	Harrison	betty.harrison@lakezurich.org	Village of Lake Zurich
Kurt	Woolford	kwoolford@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Diane	Legge	diane.legge@crtkl.com	CallisonRTKL
Ray	Roberts	raylr@zion.il.us	City of Zion
Kirsten	James	kjames@heyassoc.com	Hey and Associates, Inc.
Don	Wilson	wilsondonaldm@gmail.com	Not Provided
James	Kim	jamesk@vhparkdistrict.org	Vernon Hills Park District
Lisa	Woolford	lwoolford@ilmenvironments.com	Integrated Lakes Management
Mike	Prusila	michael.prusila@gmail.com	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Joanne	Dill	DillJ@mwrld.org	Metropolitan Water Recl. Dist. of Greater Chicago
Harlan	Doland	harlan.m.doland@imegcorp.com	IMEG engineer for the village of Third Lake
Brandon	Janes	bjanes@deerfield.il.us	Village of Deerfield
Lisa	Pugliese	lpugliese@roundlakebeachil.gov	Round Lake Beach
Emily	Grimm	egrimm@baxterwoodman.com	Baxter&Woodman
Brian	ONeill	bjoneill@burnsmcd.com	Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Inc.
Joel	Sensenig	JSensenig@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County Public Works
Ashley	Strelcheck	astrelcheck@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Catherine	Shannon	catshannon9@gmail.com	Diamond Lake Preservation Alliance
Jonathan	Happ	jhapp@libertyvilletownship.us	Libertyville Township
Mike	Warner	mwarner@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Tatiana	Papakos	tatiana.papakos@mbakerintl.com	Not Provided
Mike	Adam	madam@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County
Peter	Kolb	pekolb@ati-ae.com	Applied Technologies Inc.
Rosemary	Heilemann	rosemaryheilemann@gmail.com	Woods & Wetlands Sierra Group
Jacob	Jozefowski	jjozefowski@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Leonard	Dane	ldane@deuchler.com	Deuchler Engineering Corp
Brian	Joyce	joyceb@cityoflakeforest.com	City of Lake Forest
Linda	Tilton	lt@thetilttons.net	Sierra Club
Michael	Burke	michaelburke@cbbel.com	CBBEL
Nick	Huber	nhuber@lcfpd.org	Lake County Forest Preserve District
Chris	Yoder	cyoder@mwbinst.com	Midwest Biodiversity Institute
Heather	Galan	hgalan@village.gurnee.il.us	Village of Gurnee
Faye	Sinnott	Faye.Sinnott@gmail.com	FC/SC Watersheds Partnership
Al	Giertych	agiertych@lakecountyil.gov	Lake County Department of Transportation
Darren	Olson	dolson@cbbel.com	CBBEL



Sarah	Surroz	ssurroz@openlands.org	Openlands
Karenda	Mella	karenda.mella@abbott.com	Abbott
Caitlin	Burke	cburke@gha-engineers.com	Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc.
Paul	Kendzior	pkendzior@libertyville.com	Libertyville
Tom	Morthorst	tmorthorst@icloud.com	Village of Third Lake
Vincent	Mosca	vmosca@heyassoc.com	Hey and Associates, Inc.