



Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

Executive Board

03/18/2021 2:00 pm

Virtual Meeting (Meeting ID: 873 5723 5036, Password: 769024)

Meeting Minutes

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Al Giertych called the meeting to order at 02:01 pm.

2. Roll Call

Jacob Jozefowski performed roll call. Al Giertych, Dave Miller, Paul Kendzior, Michael Talbett, Steve Waters, and Mike Adam were present. A quorum was present. Jim Anderson joined the meeting during discussion of agenda item 3.

3. Public Comment

Tom Morthorst encourage the Executive Board to read the following article concerning road salt environmental impacts: <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-illinois-road-salt-water-quality-nature-20210318-woctrpzhpnforikujd2nonp5qy-story.html>

4. Open Meetings Act Overview

a. DRWW Procedures Changes

Jacob Jozefowski gave a brief overview of procedure changes needed to ensure the DRWW is in compliance with the Open Meetings Act (OMA). The Executive Board asked Jacob Jozefowski to get further clarification from the State's Attorney on best practices for email communication related to the OMA. Jim Anderson suggested asking if there is any public comment for each agenda item where there is a motion for approval.

b. Public Comment Policy

It is a best practice to adopt a public comment policy. The DRWW does not have a public comment policy. The Executive Board will review Lake County's public comment policy and discuss adoption at the next Executive Board meeting.

c. Training Requirement

All Executive Board members and their alternates must complete OMA training annually and provide Jacob Jozefowski with the completion certificate. Jacob Jozefowski will distribute a link to the training to all DRWW Executive Board members and alternates.

5. Meeting Minutes

a. 01/21/21 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Al Giertych proposed two minor edits to the meeting minutes to ensure proper grammar was used.

b. 02/01/21 Executive Board Special Call Meeting Minutes

Michael Talbett motioned to approve the 01/21/21 and 02/01/21 DRWW Executive Board Meeting Minutes with the discussed revisions. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.

6. Financial Report

a. Expense-Revenue Ratification

Paul Kendzior motioned to ratify the DRWW Expense-Revenue. The motion was seconded by Mike Adam and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.

b. Invoice(s) Ratification

Discussion of invoices will be delayed until the April 2021 DRWW Executive Board Meeting.

7. Old Business

a. NARP Geosyntec Contract

i. Master Service Agreement

ii. Scope of Work

There was discussion about whether additional appropriation language was needed in either the Master Service Agreement or Scope of Work. The Executive Board concluded that the existing appropriation language was sufficient.

Dave Miller motioned to approve the Master Service Agreement and Scope of Work as drafted. The motion was seconded by Michael Talbett and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.

8. New Business

a. Membership Dues

i. Lake County Forest Preserve District

The Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD) requested a decrease in membership dues. The LCFPD stated that the current dues structure is not equitable because they are being charged as an MS4 community. MS4 communities pay membership dues based on acreage in the watershed in order to take credit for DRWW water quality monitoring activities for permit compliance. The LCFPD does not have a MS4 or NPDES permit so the major benefits of Agency membership are not realized by the forest preserve district. Additionally, LCFPD property does not have the same impact as a developed community. The LCFPD would like their DRWW membership dues to more accurately reflect their impact to the watershed and the benefits they receive from membership.

Dave Miller stated he also has issues justifying annual workgroup dues to his board and has been asked if the NSWRD's dues are fair and equitable considering the substantial investments the district has made to improve

water quality in the watershed outside of DRWW activities. Dave cautioned that there will always be aspects of the DRWW that benefit some members more than others and allowing members to negotiate dues based on their current interest in Workgroup activities is a substantial threat to the long-term viability of the Workgroup. Dave reminded the Executive Board that the Workgroup was formed to address watershed issues collectively and the long-term cost savings that everyone realizes from this approach far outweigh any perceived inequities in dues because of short-term Workgroup activities.

The Executive Board would like to consider moving the LCFPD to a different membership classification such as a professional associate. The Executive Board asked Jacob Jozefowski to ask other watershed workgroups in the region how they determine forest preserve dues and to calculate what the LCFPD's dues would be if only properties that contribute to sewage treatment plants are considered in acreage calculations. This information will be used in continued discussions at the April 2021 Executive Board meeting.

ii. Village of Buffalo Grove

The Village of Buffalo Grove put payment of all invoices on hold in 2020 pending an analysis of budget impacts due to COVID. There were internal structural changes during this analysis process that resulted in the Village of Buffalo Grove mistakenly forgetting to pay their 2020 DRWW membership dues. The Village never intended to leave the DRWW, so Buffalo Grove is asking the DRWW to allow them to pay 2020 membership dues and take credit for workgroup activities in 2020 to meet permit requirements.

Paul Kendzior motioned to approve allowing the Village of Buffalo Grove to take credit for DRWW activities upon payment of 2020 and 2021 membership dues. The motion was seconded by Dave Miller and approved with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.

iii. Village of Old Mill Creek

The Village of Old Mill Creek expressed interest in joining the DRWW. Prior to the DRWW adopting a per capita cap for membership dues, the Village of Old Mill Creek's membership dues were \$5,112.00 per year. With the newly adopted per capita cap the Village of Old Mill Creek's yearly membership dues, excluding the NARP special assessment fee, are \$200. The Village would like the Executive Board to determine what their past dues recapture fee would be and have requested that the Executive Board consider applying their new dues amount to past years dues as well.

Dave Miller stated that since the Executive Board adopted a per capita cap for the dues structure, that is what they determined what was equitable; therefore, their past dues should be what was determined equitable.

It is not clear if Old Mill Creek is eligible for membership as an agency based on bylaw language in Article III because they do not have MS4 or NPDES permits. The Executive Board asked Jacob Jozefowski to get legal clarification on which membership category Old Mill Creek is eligible for.

b. Newsletter Topics

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

9. Member Comments

There were no member comments.

10. Next Executive Board Meeting April 15, 2021 at 2:00 pm

11. Adjourn

Jim Anderson motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior a passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.