



Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

Lakes Committee

10/22/2020 10:00-11:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

1. Call to Order

Jacob Jozefowski called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

2. Roll Call

Jacob Jozefowski performed roll call. Mike Adam, Alana Bartolai, Sharon Osterby, Tom Morthorst and Nick Huber were present. A quorum was present.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approve 01/23/20 Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes

Mike Adam motioned to approve the 01/23/2020 Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup (DRWW) Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Nick Huber and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote. Tom Morthorst abstained from voting.

5. Old Business

a. Carp Removal Project Updates

Carp removal was initially scheduled to occur in Spring 2020; however, the project was delayed due to COVID and delays in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) approval process. The project scope has been adjusted to expand carp removal to eight lakes instead of the initially planned four lakes. The first shocking event occurred in October 2020 on Slough Lake. This is late in the year so only a handful of carp were removed. Additional shocking events will occur in the spring of 2021. During the shocking events, a catch per unit effort will be calculated to provide an estimate of nutrient load reductions from this project.

The Lake County Health Department (LCHD) and Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD) would like to increase aquatic plant coverage in the project lakes once the carp are removed. The LCHD and LCFPD planted aquatic vegetation

with a protective barrier in Slough Lake in 2018. These plants have become well established, which indicates that aquatic plants can be established in the lakes if they are not disturbed by carp.

There was discussion about exploring potential beneficial uses for the carp removed for this project instead of disposing them on LCFPD property. The current disposal strategy is the result of extensive discussions across multiple agencies. Any changes to the disposal strategy could result in additional delays in project implementation. Alternate disposal strategies could be considered in future carp removal efforts that are not funded by this grant.

Funding for this project is provided, in part, by the Illinois EPA through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.

b. Hydrilla Status

Hydrilla was found in the Des Plaines River Watershed in a stormwater pond in Libertyville in 2019. The Hydrilla rapid response plan was implemented to treat this pond. This will be a long-term treatment and monitoring strategy that will likely occur for the next 5-7 years. The LCHD conducted a plant survey on this pond, a nearby pond and the Des Plaines River in 2020. Hydrilla was not found during these surveys.

c. Lake Recommendations to the Executive Board

The DRWW Lakes Committee has previously discussed how to proceed with lake recommendations for the DRWW Executive Board while considering that the DRWW's budget and focus will likely be on the Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP) for the next few years. The committee acknowledged the importance of keeping lakes on the radar during and after the NARP process and agreed to provide lake recommendations to the DRWW Executive Board. There was discussion about whether the committee should submit a brief generalized list of recommendations for all lakes in the workgroup boundary, or if the committee should submit a larger document with specific recommendations for each lake. The committee chose to pursue a shorter document with general recommendations for all lakes within the workgroup boundary. Mike Adam will distribute a rough draft of the recommendations to the committee for comment.

6. New Business

a. November Newsletter

The committee discussed content for the DRWW end of year report.

7. Next Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting January 2021

8. Adjourn

Tom Morthorst motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Alana Bartolai and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.