



Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

Executive Board

04/15/2021 2:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Al Giertych called the meeting to order at 02:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

Jacob Jozefowski performed roll call. Al Giertych, Dave Miller, Michael Talbett, Paul Kendzior, Jim Anderson, Steve Waters, and Mike Adam were present. A quorum was present.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. 03/18/21 DRWW Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Michael Talbett motioned to approve the 03/18/21 DRWW Executive Board Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote. There was no public comment on this agenda item or motion.

5. Financial Report

a. Expense-Revenue Ratification

Paul Kendzior motioned to ratify the Expenses and Revenues. The motion was seconded by Dave Miller and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote. There was no public comment on this agenda item or motion.

b. Invoice(s) Ratification

i. Stormwater Management Commission Invoice #DRWW-2021-01

ii. North Shore Water Reclamation District Invoice #MISC00000122038

iii. Lake County Health Department Invoice #400030850

Jim Anderson motioned to approve the Stormwater Management Commission Invoice #DRWW-2021-01, North Shore Water Reclamation District Invoice #MISC00000122038, and Lake County Health Department Invoice #400030850. The motion was seconded by Paul Kendzior and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote. There was no public comment on this agenda item or motion.

6. Geosyntec NARP Kickoff Discussion

Rishab Mahajan gave a brief overview of the Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP) workplan. The NARP will be completed in four phases. Data analysis will be conducted in the first phase, modeling tools will be developed in the second phase, management scenario evaluation will occur in the third phase and an implementation plan and schedule will be created in the fourth phase. Geosyntec will provide updates on the NARP progress at DRWW Executive Board meetings. Additionally, Geosyntec will give brief presentations when major project milestones are completed. Data and deliverables will be shared on OneDrive.

There was discussion about how the Village of Mundelein declining to join the workgroup will affect the DRWW's NARP. The special condition language in publicly owned treatment works (POTW) permits states that POTWs are required to implement a NARP created by a workgroup, even if the POTW does not participate in the workgroup. The DRWW will have to identify management scenarios in the Village of Mundelein to complete the NARP and it is not clear what the best approach for identifying management scenarios for non-participating agencies is. This will be an ongoing discussion that will likely be strongly influenced by the modeling results in Phase two and three of the NARP process.

There was discussion about the potential to use state revolving funds to implement projects within the watershed.

Dave Miller discussed the potential of agencies refusing to join the workgroup while realizing the benefits of the workgroup becoming a much bigger problem if it is not addressed. If one agency does not participate in the workgroup, it causes problems for all of the workgroup members. A lot of the workgroup members report to elected boards who see other agencies saving money by refusing to participate in the workgroup. It is extremely difficult to justify the substantial membership dues for the workgroup when other similar agencies are not participating while still realizing benefits. It is not clear if or when the Illinois EPA will get involved to address this issue, but it is likely the only way these holdouts will join workgroups.

7. Old Business

a. Public Comment Policy

There was discussion about whether the workgroup should adopt the Lake County public comment policy or create a separate public comment policy. The Executive Board asked Jacob Jozefowski to update Lake County's and the North Branch Watershed Workgroup public comment policies to be specific to the DRWW. The Executive Board will review these policies and discuss them at the June 2021 Executive Board meeting.

b. Old Mill Creek Membership Dues

The Executive Board determined that the Village of Old Mill Creek would be an Associate Member if it joined the DRWW because it does not have a NPDES permit.

c. Lake County Forest Preserve District Membership Dues

The Executive Board continued the ongoing discussion about adjusting the Lake County Forest Preserve District's (LCFPD) dues structure for the workgroup. The Executive Board reviewed six potential dues structures. The Executive Board asked Jacob Jozefowski to determine how the LCFPD dues structures discussed would impact dues for other members. The Executive Board will continue this discussion at the June 2021 DRWW Executive Board meeting.

8. New Business

a. Newsletter Topics

Jacob Jozefowski will write a draft DRWW newsletter and distribute it to each Executive Board member individually for comment. The final draft of the newsletter will be distributed to the General Membership.

9. Member Comments

There were no member comments.

10. Next Executive Board Meeting June 17, 2021 at 2:00 pm

11. Adjourn

Paul Kendzior motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Anderson and approved with unanimous consensus via roll call vote. There was no public comment on this agenda item or motion.