



Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee

04/15/2021 11:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

1. Call to Order

Steve Waters called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

2. Roll Call

Jacob Jozefowski performed roll call. Steve Waters, Mike Adam, Al Giertych, Austin McFarlane, Nick Huber, Brian Kuebker were present. A quorum was present. Rosemary Heilemann joined the meeting during discussion of agenda item 6a.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. 03/18/21 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes

Al Giertych motioned to approve the 03/18/21 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Austin McFarlane. Steve Waters, Al Giertych, Austin McFarlane, Nick Huber, Brian Kuebker voted Aye. Mike Adam abstained because he did not attend the 03/18/21 meeting. The motion passed.

5. Old Business

a. Monitoring Updates

Steve Waters notified the committee that the DRWW's Annual Report and 2020 monitoring data was submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) in March 2021. The 2020 monitoring data and publicly owned treatment works data was also distributed to Midwest Biodiversity Institute (MBI) for use in the Integrated Prioritization System (IPS) model.

6. New Business

a. *E. coli* monitoring Discussion

There was discussion about how to address monitoring sites where *E. coli* concentrations regularly exceed maximum detection limits. Alana Bartolia, Mike Adam and Jacob Jozefowski will discuss potential options and recommended a

strategy to be discussed at the 06/17/21 DRWW Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting.

b. Lakes Committee Discussion

When the DRWW was formed there was a Monitoring, Impairments, and Lakes committee because the workgroup was pursuing several initiatives at once. Once the monitoring program was established, the committee's workload was reduced so the Monitoring and Impairments Committees were combined. Since the workgroup is mostly focused on creating a Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP) at this time, there have been no new Lakes Committee initiatives and the committees' agenda has been limited to updates on a few ongoing services. The workgroup is considering either combining the Lakes Committee with the Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee or holding joint meetings for the two committees, to reduce the number of meetings for committee members. This will be discussed at the 04/22/21 DRWW Lakes Committee Meeting. The Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee will consider next steps based on the results of this discussion.

7. Member Comments

Steve Waters requested that Jacob Jozefowski add the 2020 DRWW Monitoring Strategy to the organization's website.

The committee asked Jacob Jozefowski to determine if it is possible to generate usage statistics for the DRWW website.

The Sierra Club created a subcommittee focused on increasing public awareness of the impacts of coal tar sealants and road salt. The Sierra Club would like to contact churches, schools, businesses, park districts and communities as a part of this effort.

Jacob Jozefowski informed the committee MBI is behind on the most recent monitoring report for the DRWW and may submit the first draft later than expected.

8. Next Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting 06/17/21 at 11:00 am

9. Adjourn

Steve Waters motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mike Adam and passed with unanimous consensus via roll call vote.