



Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes

03/17/2022 11:00 am

Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order

Chair Waters called meeting to order at 11:01

2. Roll Call

Prusila performed the roll call. Members present: Chair Steve Waters, Mike Adam, Al Giertych (arrived 11:15), Nick Huber, Rosemary Heilemann. Members Absent: Austin McFarlane, Brian Kuebker

Others Present: Rob Flood, Mike Prusila, Chuck Bodden, Ashley Strelcheck, Mia Gerace, Rishab Mahajan, Gary Glowacki

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. 12/16/21 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Adam, second by Heilemann to approve as presented. AYES: Waters, Adam, Huber, Heilemann NAYS: None. Motion passed 4-0.

5. Old Business

a. Monitoring Updates

i. NSWRD Updates

Flood reported that continuous sonde went back in at Russell road this week. There was 1 Quality Control failure for data over last 3 months, otherwise all data looked good.

ii. LCHD Updates

Adam reported that the Health Department performed February monitoring, most sites were accessible, and they will be analyzing these first samples of 2022.

Waters updated the committee that the Annual Monitoring Report is due to IL EPA at end of March. Waters will draft the report and include the monitoring data spreadsheet which the Health Dept. was working on. Will easily meet the deadline and thus meet the requirements for members' permits.

6. New Business

a. Geosyntec NARP Update

Rishab Mahajan provided an update on the mainstem instream model for the NARP. The mainstem of the Des Plaines River has been divided into segments, for which each will have modeled water quality parameters. Stream inventory cross sections were used to characterize the hydraulics of each reach. NOAA weather stations at Waukegan Airport and Chicago Exec. Airport were used for meteorological data. Geosyntec is also attempting to model effect of stream shading, which may impact algae growth. The USGS gage at Russell Rd. is used for flow in from Wisconsin. They will also develop a separate model for the portion of the Mill/North Mill/Hastings Creeks systems that receive POTW discharge.

Adam asked how normal was 2020, could it be compared to other years? Mahajan responded that 2020 was a low flow year, which is good for a NARP because low flow conditions are when issues are likely to occur.

Project is progressing and on-schedule. Geosyntec hopes to begin using the model to run watershed management scenarios in September time frame.

7. Member Comments

a. Future meeting(s) location/schedule

Waters asked about resuming in person meetings. The committee discussed options and would like to continue virtually until in-person becomes required.

Strelcheck announced she will be on maternity leave this summer, Mia Gerace will assist with DRWW coordinator tasks in her absence. Gerace introduced herself. Committee members welcomed Gerace and congratulated Strelcheck.

8. Next Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting April 21, 2022 at 11:00 am, planned virtual, at LCDOT conference room if in-person attendance needed.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Heilemann, second by Adam to adjourn. AYES: Waters, Adam, Giertych, Nick Huber, Heilemann NAYS: None. Motion passed 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 PM.