



DES PLAINES RIVER WATERSHED WORKGROUP

Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Agenda

09/21/2023 12:30 p.m.

Lake County Division of Transportation
600 W. Winchester Rd.
Libertyville IL 60048

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

1. Call to Order

Rob Flood called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Rob Flood (for Chair Steve Waters), Alana Bartolai, Nick Huber, Brian Kuebker, Rosemary Heilemann, Jim Bland

Members absent: Austin McFarlane

Others present: Mike Prusila, Rishab Mahajan, Anna Niedzinski, Tom Morthorst, Ashley Strelcheck

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. 7/20/23 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Rosemary Heilemann, seconded by Jim Bland to approve the 7/20/23 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes.

AYES: Flood, Bartolai, Huber, Kuebker, Heilemann, Bland

NAYS: None

Motion passed 6-0.

5. Old Business

a. Monitoring Updates

i. LCHD Updates

Alana Bartolai discussed a few comments noted by LCHD staff for July sampling during QA/QC. September will be the final monitoring run for this year.

b. Geosyntec NARP Updates

i. NARP Modeling Report Comments from Dr. Dave Lampert

Rishab Mahajan indicated that Geosyntec addressed most comments from Dr. Lampert and sent response to DRWW. The document will become part of the report. A copy will be sent to Dr. Lampert as well.

ii. Recommended NARP projects

Rishab Mahajan explained the concept of the aeration project near the Illinois/Wisconsin border that Geosyntec proposed including as an example in the NARP. The basic concept would be to include pools and riffles in this segment. One concern from the committee was that the project would be included in the NPDES permit.

Committee consensus was that projects, not just this one, need to be identified in the NARP, and include the language that was proposed to indicate that it is not a required project. Rishab Mahajan will follow up with a conceptual design and proposed language related to this item.

1. Geosyntec request to run instream projects from NARP through MBI's Integrated Prioritization System

Jim Bland noted that the IPS does not use flows and 10-day low flows and suggested that MBI should defend the decision to not use flows in their IPS tool. Could MBI run scenarios that include the extremes of flood and drought?

Rishab Mahajan brought up this suggestion so that the NARP (related to nutrient issues) could potentially link to the work done by MBI (biological impairments). Geosyntec could provide the modeled loads for each reach.

Ashley Strelcheck noted this task is not in MBI's current scope and would likely be an added cost. MBI would also need to provide results by end of November.

The DRWW Administrative Agent can make the inquiry to MBI on this item.

6. New Business

- a. Geosyntec request for no-cost 2-week extension to complete Draft NARP report from September 30 to October 13, 2023; recommendation from Monitoring Committee to Executive Board.

Motion by Brian Keubker, seconded by Alana Bartolai to recommend approval of Geosyntec's request for a no-cost 2-week extension to complete the Draft NARP report from September 30 to October 13, 2023.

AYES: Flood, Bartolai, Huber, Kuebker, Heilemann, Bland

NAYS: None

Motion passed 6-0

- b. Geosyntec request to hold meeting during second week of October 2023

Rishab Mahajan proposed a workshop during the second week of October to present the implementation plan.

DRWW President Paul Kendzior will need to call a special meeting to schedule the workshop, Rob Flood will update the Executive Board on this request.

Mahajan – how to handle Mundelein in the NARP. The committee discussed various options for identifying the membership that contributed to the NARP, of which Mundelein is not.

7. Member Comments

Tom Morthorst asked if there is still need for the monitoring committee regular meeting in October? Rishab Mahajan responded yes, he could run the incorporated results of the special meeting by the committee.

Jim Bland reported that he asked follow-up questions to Wisconsin DNR staff related to the Fox River-Illinois TMDL that is being developed in Wisconsin. He asked that SMC share that correspondence with the Monitoring Committee. He commented that Wisconsin does not monitor Mill Creek. They use Total Phosphorous rather than soluble reactive phosphorus and the technical background of water quality standards for lakes for phosphorus should be of interest due to similarity of eco-regions in SE Wisconsin.

8. Next Meeting(s)

- a. A poll will be sent for special meeting dates the second week of October.
- b. Next Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting is October 19, 2023 (LCDOT Conference Room)

9. Adjournment

Motion by Jim Bland, seconded by Nick Huber to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.