



DES PLAINES RIVER WATERSHED WORKGROUP

Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Agenda

11/16/2023 11:30-1:30 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order

Steve Waters, Monitoring Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:31.

2. Roll Call

Anna Niedzinski, DRWW Coordinator performed roll call. Members present: Chair Steve Waters, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); Alana Bartolai, Lake County Public Health; Joel Sensenig, Lake County Public Works; Nick Huber, Lake County Forest Preserve District; Brian Kuebker, Village of Libertyville; and Jim Bland, EPS, Inc.

Others present: Rob Flood, NSWRD; Chuck Bodden, NSWRD; Ashley Strelcheck, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC); Anna Niedzinski, Lake County SMC; Brian Valleskey, Geosyntec; and Tom Morthorst, Village of Third Lake; Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec (virtually).

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion by Kuebker, seconded by Bartolai to approve the 10/19/23 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes. Motion passed with unanimous vote.

5. New Business

a. LCHD Water Quality Monitoring Contract Recommendation to Executive Board

Bartolai presented on the 2024 LCHD DRWW Monitoring Contract. The 2024 contract is like last year's contract, with a slight increase over the 2023 cost. A contractual lab fee was added to accommodate testing at other labs in case of machine failure. The monitoring schedule and parameters are to satisfy the permit requirements during this interim period, until the monitoring committee develops an updated monitoring strategy.

Motion by Bland, second by Huber to recommend to Executive Board the approval of 2024 LCHD DRWW Monitoring Contract

AYES: Waters, Sensenig, Huber, Kuebker, Bland

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Bartolai

Motion passed 5-0-1

6. Old Business

a. Geosyntec NARP Updates

Brian Valleskey from Geosyntec did an overview of the changes to “NARP Recommended Actions” Chart 4, which comprised mostly of language revisions softening the tone to avoid requirement in an updated NPDES permit. Bland commented that the forthcoming Dutch Gap Ecosystem Restoration project by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) should be added to the NARP report, and education and outreach should be added to Table 4. The committee approved the changes to Table 4.

Valleskey went over the DRWW NARP Identified Projects which were submitted by the DRWW membership via a survey. Projects also include WMB projects and 319 submissions provided by SMC. There was some difficulty in hearing back from project stakeholders. Valleskey said that the USACE Dutch Gap Ecosystem Restoration Project mentioned by Bland will be added. Waters will reach out to ask about wastewater treatment plant updates. Full project descriptions will be placed in the appendices, with a summary added to the report.

i. DRWW Special Monitoring Committee Meeting with Illinois EPA

Rishab Mahajan is coordinating with the Illinois EPA to schedule a meeting on November 29th, 2023 to discuss and get feedback on the DRWW NARP Implementation Plan and schedule. The goal is to get some comments, and to confirm if a permit modification will need to be filed after submitting the NARP. Geosyntec will send the Illinois EPA a draft copy of the presentation which will contain a summary of the report a week before the meeting.

The draft NARP report was submitted to the DRWW membership on Oct. 1st, 2023 for comment and the subsequent workshop on October 12th, 2023 has yielded a good amount of information. Geosyntec is officially closing the comment period to allow for sufficient time to perform revisions, and to provide a revised draft to the Executive Board and Monitoring Committee for a final review before submitting. It is advised that each POTW submits the NARP report on their own behalf, to fulfill their individual permit requirements.

7. Member Comments

There were no member comments.

8. Next Meeting

Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting January 18, 2024 at 12:30pm (LCDOT Conference Room A)

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Kuebker, seconded by Huber. Motion passed with unanimous vote, Waters adjourned the meeting at 12:29.