



## DRWW Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda

08/17/2023 01:30 pm – 03:30 pm

Lake County Public Works Conference Room at 650 W. Winchester Road Libertyville, IL 60048

### Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

#### 1. Introductions, Announcements, and Roll Call

Paul Kendzior, DRWW president, called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM. Ashley Strelcheck, DRWW Coordinator, performed roll call. 16 members were in attendance representing 21 DRWW members: **Karolina Cho**, Gewalt Hamilton Associates for Ela and Fremont Townships and the Villages of Kildeer, Long Grove, and Riverwoods; **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department; **Gary Glowacki**, Lake County Forest Preserve; **Joel Sensenig**, Lake County Public Works; **Steve Waters**, North Shore Water Reclamation District; **Jodi McCarthy**, Manhard Consulting for the Villages of Lake Zurich and Round Lake Beach; **Tom Morthorst**, Village of Third Lake; **Brian Joyce**, City of Lake Forest; **Jesus Alquicira**, City of Waukegan; **Anna Niedzinski**, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission; **Paul Kendzior**, Village of Libertyville; **Peter Kolb**, Applied Technologies, Inc.; **Rishab Mahajan**, Geosyntec, Inc.; **Jim Bland**, EPS, Inc.; **Rosemary Heilemann**, Sierra Club; and **Brandon Janes**, Village of Deerfield. A general membership quorum was present via a roll call vote.

#### 2. Public Comment

Mary Conley Eggert, Lake County Lake Lovers, presented the mission statement of the group and its goals. They are looking to collaborate with the different groups to share potential solutions to the harmful algae blooms that affect local lakes.

#### 3. Approve 02/16/23 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as presented by Bartolai, seconded by Kolb. The motion passed with a unanimous consensus vote.

#### 4. DRWW Business

##### a. DRWW Financials:

##### i. \*\*FY2023 Revenue & Expenditures

Motion to approve revenue and expenditures and ratify invoices as presented by McCarthy for Fremont, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed 18-0-3 via roll call vote.

##### ii. FY2023 DRWW Budget

Strelcheck presented the FY2023 budget. There were no comments or questions.

##### b. Committee Updates

##### i. Executive Board

Kendzior provided an update on the Executive Board actions. Since the last meeting the DRWW has submitted all the data to the Illinois EPA to fulfill the permit requirements for the MS4 and NPDES permits. The DRWW continues to make progress on Nutrient Assessment & Reduction Plan (NARP) and the workgroup is on-track to meet the December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 deadline at this time. The Executive Board and the Monitoring Committee will be reaching out and working with the Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs). The comment period for the NARP outline will be closing soon, after addressing these comments Geosyntec will have a draft report ready for further comment by September 2023.

##### ii. Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee

##### Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP) Update

*Rishab Mahajan, Senior Engineer & Brian Valleskey, Senior Professional, Geosyntec Consultants*

Rishab Mahajan and Brian Valleskey gave an update on the DRWW Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP), starting the overview of a NARP, types of discharges in the watershed and its relationship to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permits. Geosyntec is working on completion of the modeling tools and writing the NARP plan. The data shows that there are high swings of chlorophyll-a (Chl-a) and dissolved oxygen (DO) at the upstream boundary, and POTWs increase total phosphorous (TP) concentrations (which are reduced after a

\*\* = DRWW Action Item

short distance downstream of the plants), however decrease Chl-a due to dilution and improve DO. The two types of models that are utilized are the watershed model (which simulates the response of water quantity and quality to hydrologic processes) and the instream model (simulates hydraulics and water quality condition within a stream or river). The modeling process consists of data analysis and review, model development, calibration and sensitivity analysis. Geosyntec is running three (3) different watershed management scenarios; upstream, non-point source (NPS), and POTW load reductions.

The key takeaways are upstream TP reduction reduces sestonic Chl-a and improves DO following large flow events, tributary (NPS) TP reductions reduce sestonic Chl-a but has minimal impact on DO, POTW TP reductions below 0.5 mg/L have minimal impact on water quality, and a combination of upstream, tributary, and POTW reductions are required to address water quality issues. DRWW NARP recommendations include POTWs to meet the limit of 0.5 mg/L by January 2023, collaborate with stakeholders in Wisconsin to reduce TP loading, and to implement stormwater projects to reduce phosphorous loading. Geosyntec sent out a questionnaire before the meeting requesting stormwater projects that the membership will be implementing for input into the NARP report. The questionnaire is due September 18, 2023. With a draft report ready for comment by end of September/early October. The final report is due to the Illinois EPA by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

### iii. Lakes Committee

The Lakes Committee are planning two (2) lake education events, one in the fall and the other in the spring. Currently no dates are set. The Lakes Committee is looking for a new member to join their committee.

### c. Old Business

There was no old business.

### d. New Business

There was no new business.

## 5. Guest Speakers

### a. Fox Illinois River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

*Eric Hettler, TMDL Modeler, Water Quality Program & Kevin Kirsch, Water Resource Engineer, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)*

Eric Hettler presented on the TMDL process in Wisconsin and the Fox-Illinois TMDL (FOXIL). In Wisconsin there is a water quality criterion for phosphorous, 100µg/L for rivers and 75 µg/L for streams. In the FOXIL basin, there are 9 lakes and 170 stream miles that are impaired for phosphorous. The land use in the Des Plaines watershed in Wisconsin is predominately cropland (58%), followed by developed land (16%) with the rest of the land comprising grasslands, wetlands, and forests, however in the last decade there has been an increase in development and impervious surfaces.

The TMDL process is broken up into four phases before implementation: monitoring, conceptualization, modeling, and allocation. During the recently completed Phase 1 WDNR collected data from February 2020 to May 2022 at 13 locations in the Des Plaines River watershed. WDNR found that the growing season median (from February to October) was 164 µg/L for phosphorous over double the water quality criteria. Currently WDNR is in Phase 2 of the TMDL process, known as the conceptualization phase. WDNR sent out agricultural surveys, looking at tillage practices, crop rotations, and fertilizer use. In addition, WDNR is working with stakeholders like County conservationists, treatment plant managers, MS4 permittees and municipalities, and additional stakeholder groups like the Fox River Study Group. Once this phase is complete WDNR will enter Phase 3, creating a watershed model and calibrate the model using the collected data, while getting feedback from the stakeholders. After the model is complete, they will run it using data collected from a 12-year period, which mirrors crop rotation cycles in the study area. Following completion and validation of the model WDNR will enter Phase 4 and use it to assign allocations.

### Questions/Answers

#### 1. How do you go about the implementation phase in the agriculture area?

Implementation is a complex process, by using the SNAP plus model as well as nutrient management software to obtain a numeric value which can be used to set performance standards. When a TMDL is implemented higher loading areas are targeted first, and WDNR works with counties to establish benchmarks and a timeline to work with producers to reach the allocations.

2. Can you identify the source of your rainfall data?  
WDNR uses the Daymet tool, it uses climate and precipitation gage data to capture climate variables in the sub watersheds in the study data. Which is then supported by observed rainfall data that has been collected over the last 22 years.
3. Can biochar treatments be used to capture the phosphorous from internal loading?  
Normally internal loading is looked at after external loading has been addressed. It is premature to discuss internal loading options.

**6. Watershed Updates & Announcements**

**a. SMC FY2024 Countywide Request for Project Proposals**

SMC has put out a request for project proposals for FY24, which includes internal funding from WMB, WMAG, and SIRF. The County-wide Best Management Practices Implementation Program Phase II through the Illinois EPA 319 program. To set up a pre-application meeting do so before August 25<sup>th</sup>, the deadline for project submissions September 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

**b. 2023 Deicing Workshop & Lake County Calibration Event**

Registration is open for the 2023 Deicing Workshops, there will be five (5) virtual workshops this year. There will be an onsite calibration demo at the Lake County DOT facility on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Member Remarks**

Rosemary Heilemann from the Sierra Club wants people to remind people to reach out to their local municipalities to investigate local ordinances to ban coal tar sealants in parking lots, and to promote the Deicing Workshop to local businesses.

**8. Next General Membership Meeting: February 15, 2024**

**9. Adjournment – 3:35pm**

Joel Sensenig motioned to adjourn, seconded by Michael Warner. The motion passed with a unanimous consensus vote.

**Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup Meeting Attendees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Anna Niedzinski	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield
Brian Valleskey	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Bryan Joyce	City of Lake Forest
Chris Johnson	Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Dave Shackleton	Self
Don Wilson	Self
Emily Grimm	HDR
Gary Glowacki	Lake County Forest Preserve District
James K. Bland	EPS, Inc.
Jesus Alquicira	City of Waukegan
Joanna Colletti	GRAEF.USA
Jodi McCarthy	Manhard Consulting for the Villages of Lake Zurich and Round Lake Beach
Joel Krause	Lake County Planning, Building, & Development
Joel Sensenig	Lake County Public Works

Karolina Cho	Gewalt Hamilton Associates for Ela and Fremont Townships and the Villages of Kildeer, Long Grove, and Riverwoods
Mary Conley Eggert	Lake County Lake Lovers
Mike Adam	Lake County Health Department
Mike Warner	Gewalt Hamilton Associates for Antioch and Avon Townships and the Villages of Mundelein, Prospect Heights, and Wadsworth
Nick Huber	Lake County Forest Preserve District
Paul Kendzior	Village of Libertyville
Peter Kolb	Applied Technologies Inc.
Randy Kerkman	Village of Bristol
Rishab Mahajan	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Rosemary Heilemann	Sierra Club
Sharene Gould Dulabaum	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Steve Waters	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Tom Morthorst	Village of Third Lake