



DES PLAINES RIVER WATERSHED WORKGROUP

Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes
10/16/2025 12:30-1:30 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

Steve Waters, Monitoring Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.

2. Roll Call

Ashley Strelcheck, interim DRWW Coordinator performed roll call. Members present: Chair **Steve Waters**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department (LCHD); **Nick Huber**, Lake County Forest Preserve District; and **Brian Kuebker**, Village of Libertyville. A quorum was present.

Others present: Sarah Skolozynski, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC); Chuck Bodden, NSWRD; Rob Flood, NSWRD; Don Wilson, EPS Inc.; and Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. (virtually).

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. *09/11/25 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion by Kuebker, seconded by Bartolai to approve the 09/11/25 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. New Business

a. Water Column Chemistry Sampling Updates & Discussion

Bartolai provided an update on Water Column Chemistry Sampling. Bartolai shared that the DRWW monitoring site 10-4 had a very high phosphorous level in August 2025. The sampling site is downstream from the Lindenhurst wastewater treatment plant. Bartolai was interested in reaching out to a Lindenhurst contact to inform them of these results, and asked if the Committee had any objections. The Committee agreed to reach out to Lindenhurst with a letter notifying them of the high phosphorous level. The letter will be sent by Steve Waters, Monitoring Committee Chair.

b. *DRWW 2026 Meeting Schedule Approval

Motion by Bartolai, seconded by Kuebker to approve the DRWW 2026 Meeting Schedule for recommendation to the Executive Board. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

6. Old Business

a. USGS Next Generation Water Observation Station (NGWOS) Update (Super Gage)

Strelcheck shared she, Alana Bartolai and Chuck Bodden spoke with the USGS regarding the installation of a Super Gage for the DRWW at Russell Road at the Illinois/Wisconsin border. USGS currently has the capacity to install and maintain a Next Generation Water Observation Station (NGWOS) Super Gage. USGS is currently updating a proposal from April 2025 that was provided by Jim Duncker (who is no longer with USGS) for DRWW's consideration including updated costs. The USGS would potentially be interested in using the Super Gage data for in-agency analysis, which could result in some cost-sharing opportunities. Bodden encouraged the Committee to review the proposed parameters. Bartolai

said the Total Phosphorous and Total Nitrogen sensors are the most expensive parameters of the ones listed in the current proposal. Mahajan offered to provide the DRWW with a cost estimate from Geosyntec if the workgroup was interested in receiving proposals outside of the USGS. Members were interested in potentially drafting an RFP for outside funding for the Super Gage once DRWW knows Geosyntec's proposed costs.

b. NARP Implementation Table Continued Discussion

Strelcheck presented the ongoing NARP Implementation table to update short-, medium- and long-term tasks the DRWW may be interested in pursuing. This will be an on-going agenda item to be updated until it is filled out and then prioritized. There was discussion that this table be a living document to be reviewed annually.

7. Member Comments

a. [Great Lakes Beach Association 2025 Annual Meeting](#)

Strelcheck shared the Great Lakes Beach Association Annual Meeting is happening November 3-5, 2025, in Michigan City, Indiana. Bartolai shared that a Lake County Health Department employee will be attending the meeting and she can share any information relevant to DRWW's mission.

b. Mahajan asked the Committee if they would be interested in a trend analysis of phosphorous levels in the Des Plaines River Watershed, and members said they would be interested in pursuing the trend analysis in 2027 (via the potential Water Quality Summary Report contractual – listed in the budget).

8. Next Meeting(s)

a. Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting November 20, 2025, at 12:30pm (LCDOT Conference Room A)

9. Adjournment

Motion by Huber, seconded by Kuebker to adjourn. Motion passed with unanimous vote. Waters adjourned the meeting at 1:23pm.