Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2026
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**

   Rob Flood, Monitoring Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

2. **Roll Call**

   Anna Niedzinski, DRWW Coordinator, performed roll call. **Rob Flood**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD), Monitoring Chair; **Brian Kuebker**, Village of Libertyville; **Christine Morris**, Lake County Public Works; **Nick Huber**, Lake County Forest Preserve District; and **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department. A quorum was present.

   Others present: Zoe Schaaf, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC); attending virtually Ashley Strelcheck, Lake County SMC.

3. **Public Comment**

   No public comment

4. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

   a. ***05/21/26 Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes**

      Morris motioned to approve the 05/21/26 DRWW Monitoring Committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Bartolai. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. **Old Business**

   a. **DRWW 2026 Monitoring Update**

      Bartolai provided an update on the 2026 water quality monitoring results. The May and July monitoring events were completed at all sites, with August results still pending.

      The Committee discussed ways to improve the information presented in future updates, including adding chlorophyll-a results, the date of the most recent rainfall event, and brief descriptions of the monitoring sites. The Committee also discussed reviewing elevated results in greater detail and comparing chlorophyll-a results with other nutrient data. The

Water Quality Monitoring Tool was discussed to further examine monitoring results at specific locations, and the Committee recommended adding site numbers to the tool map to make it easier to identify individual monitoring locations.

b. USGS Next Generation Water Observation Station (NGWOS) at Russell Road Update

Niedzinski provided an update on the proposed USGS NGWOS super gauge at Russell Road. The proposal remains under USGS. The proposal is anticipated by the end of September or early October, with additional information expected at the next Committee meeting.

6. New Business

a. Annual Review of DRWW Monitoring Strategy for 2027

The Committee reviewed the DRWW Monitoring Strategy and discussed revisions to clarify monitoring activities currently being conducted, which have been completed, and which are planned for future years. The Committee also discussed updating the historical monitoring information and revising the monitoring summary to more clearly reflect past monitoring activities and the current strategy. The Committee discussed evaluating the timing of future bioassessment monitoring, including the possibility of conducting the next bioassessment in 2028.

The Committee discussed adding information on the proposed super gauge to the Monitoring Strategy. The Committee also discussed pursuing microbial source tracking to further investigate sites with consistently elevated bacteria levels. Bartolai will check with the Health Department's laboratory to determine the feasibility of microbial source tracking and review past monitoring data to identify potential hotspots. Niedzinski will look into the cost in relation to NBWW.

7. Member Comments

There were no member comments.

8. Next Meeting(s)

a. Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee Meeting October 15, 2026 at 12:30pm, Lake County Division of Transportation (600 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, Conference Room A)

9. Adjournment

Motion by Kuebker, seconded by Huber to adjourn. Motion passed with unanimous vote. Waters adjourned the meeting at 1:36 pm.