

DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup

February 23, 2011

Annual Meeting Minutes

Elmhurst City Hall

Equivalent of 1 PDH Recognized for Attendance

Welcome, Introductory Remarks

Kevin Buoy, DRSCW President and Director of Wastewater DuPage County

Kevin gave a review of DRSCW's 2010 accomplishments, thanked members for their continued commitment, and noted that the scheduled increase in membership dues will not occur this fiscal year.

TMDL Development for Area Waterways. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is wrapping up phase II of TMDL development for area waterways. TMDLs are being developed for chlorides, dissolved oxygen and fecal coliform. The presentation will cover progress to date and where the process goes from here.

Presenter: Jennifer Clarke, IEPA

This presentation is available on the website www.drscw.org. A draft of the 2010 Integrated Report is available online at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/tmdl/303d-list.html>. Please note IEPA looks at biology as the first part of their assessment. Physicochemical data is analyzed for assessing why each segment that is less than "fully supporting." Potential causes of impairment are based on water quality standards and non-standards-based criteria which include other criteria, observation and professional judgment. Jennifer asked if the DRSCW was interested in providing feedback on the TMDL update prior to the public comment period. A meeting on the Septic System Mapping Pilot - West Branch DuPage River, held on February 10, 2011, was positive. Jennifer is working on getting the work order through so the pilot can begin.

2009 West Branch DuPage River Survey Summary and Results.

West Branch Basin Technical Support Document (TSD) has been completed and posted on the DRSCW website. This presentation will review the principle findings of the survey and interpret what they mean for future watershed management decisions.

Presenter: Stephen McCracken, DRSCW

This presentation is available on the website. Measureable progress was made between 2006 and 2009. The East Branch DuPage River will be surveyed this year and the Salt Creek report is under construction.

Creating Priority Rankings Based on Estimated Restorability for Stream Segments in the DuPage-Salt Creek Watersheds.

The DRSCW is in the process of developing its Integrated Priority System (IPS) Tool, an empirically based methodology for prioritizing restoration and water quality options on area waterways. The tool uses ambient reach level data on habitat, water chemistry, energy sources and biotic factors to assess the condition of the reach and grade its departure from attainment of the aquatic life goal. The analysis, as well as creating a working tool for project identification and prioritization clarified a number of the relationships between stressors and aquatic life in our waterways.

Presenter: Nicholas Menninga, Downers Grove Sanitary District

This draft report on the tool is available on the website. The IPS is a dynamic tool that will be updated as new data becomes available (based on the basin, chloride and DO surveys). The tool carried out a stressor response analysis to identify proximate stressors. The tool identifies area-wide stressors and allows members to develop projects to effectively target the issue. The DRSCW is planning to host a workshop that would look at how to turn the segment level objectives into implementable projects along with cost information. Using the IPS tool in its current format, the projects committee has identified a list of project objectives for each watershed aimed at resolving proximate stressors at a segment level. Projects include improving habitat; lowering chlorides/total dissolved solids (TDS), Ammonia; Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). The plan is to identify a few projects per watershed over the next few years to implement. Project priority is given to projects with more open space, less stressors and less biological departure, as these projects will garner success more quickly as a lesser cost.

Chloride Usage Education and Reduction Program. TMDLs for chlorides exist on Salt Creek and the East and West Branches DuPage River. The IPS tool and the West Branch Surveys have identified chloride as a primary stressor of aquatic life. The chloride reduction program aims to popularize the use of ice fighting BMPs in order to reduce the amount chlorides used during the winter snow fighting campaign. The presentation will review the activities and trends of the last three years.

Presenter: Daniel Bounds, CDM

To date, in our area, over 80 agencies have participated in our workshop. Questionnaires have been distributed to public agencies again this year. The chloride committee will seek feedback from the private sector in 2011. The names of the private deicing operators that successfully completed the certification are posted on the DuPage County Stormwater Division website. The chloride committee plans to hold workshops again this year. Data on ambient levels of chloride has been collected since 2008 but there is not enough data to determine overall meaningful trends in deicing practices at a stream level.

Proposed DRSCW Legislation regarding NPDES Permit Fees – Senate Bill 2081. The Workgroup has prepared a draft of proposed legislation that would establish a pilot grant program to utilize NPDES permit fees currently paid within the three DRSCW watersheds to fund projects to improve the quality of these three streams. The following summary describes where we are on this proposed legislation, all information referred to under this item is found in attachment 1:

- Illinois State Senator Kirk Dillard has introduced the proposed DRSCW legislation as Senate Bill 2081 and a copy of the bill is attached. The bill currently contains our exact text, although changes in the text may occur. Our sincere thanks go to Senator Dillard for his support.
- As authorized at the October 27, 2010 Workgroup meeting, the Executive Board has retained a lobbyist to assist with this legislative effort. His name is Chuck Vaughn and he is currently also retained as a lobbyist by MWRDGC. Chuck is a former DuPage County Board member and former President of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. A copy of the proposed contract for an eleven month engagement in the total amount of

\$19,000 is attached. The Executive Board recommends approval of this contract by Workgroup members.

- We request that all DRSCW Agency members pass a resolution in support of Senate Bill 2081 and sent it to their local legislators. A model resolution of support for the legislation will be provided for this purpose. The attached table shows the Illinois legislative districts and legislators within the DRSCW service area, their addresses and contact information as well as how much of each House district is within the DRSCW.
- We request assistance from DRSCW members in scheduling meetings to present the proposed legislation to their local legislators. Each legislator meeting would be attended by DRSCW Executive Board members and the DRSCW member who scheduled the meeting. There are 16 Illinois House districts and 11 Illinois Senate districts within the DRSCW service area, or 27 total legislators (see attached table referred to above).
- We are working to identify House sponsors and additional Senate co-sponsors for the bill. We hope to attract sponsors from both parties.
- MWRDGC, DMMC and IAWA have agreed to support the legislation
- Our legislative proposal was sent to Governor Quinn's Chief of Staff Jack Lavin in January, requesting a meeting with Mr. Lavin to discuss our proposal. We are awaiting a reply.
- We plan to present the proposed legislation to the Illinois Municipal League and other organizations, as appropriate, to obtain their endorsement and to coordinate lobbying efforts.
- It appears that a bill has been introduced (Senate Bill 1981) to establish a state-wide grant program from the Illinois Clean Water Fund (NPDES permit fees) to reduce pollution and protect surface and ground water quality and aquatic habitats. We will monitor this bill and how it would interface with our proposal.

Motion to sign contract with Charles Vaughn for lobbying activities throughout this calendar year (December 31, 2011, through the legislative and veto sessions) made by Dennis Streicher, seconded by Sue Baert. Bob Wagner, representing the Village of Villa Park did not vote (not an authorized representative). The motion carried.

The proposed legislation will fund projects only, not administrative or monitoring costs. DRSCW Executive Board members are available to help present this legislation to boards for support. The model resolution will be distributed electronically to encourage ease of use.

Dissolved Oxygen Project Update – Churchill Woods Dam Removal

The dam will be removed next week.

Annual Business Meeting

- **Approval of the minutes for the December 8th 2010 meeting (Attachment 2)**

Motion to approve December Meeting Minutes made by Tom Richardson, seconded by Dennis Streicher, unanimously approved.

- **Election of Officers and Members-at-Large**
 - President – Kevin Buoy- DuPage County Public Works

- Vice President - Dave Gorman, Village of Lombard
- Secretary-Treasurer – Antonio Quintanilla, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
- Member-at-Large- Sue Baert, Wheaton Sanitary District
- Member-at-Large- Tom Richardson, Sierra Club
- Member-at-Large – Steve Zehner, Robinson Engineering

Motion made to approve officers and members-at-large as presented made by Nick Menninga, seconded by Ron Johnson, unanimously approved.

- **Adoption of FY 2011-16 Budget (Find budget and 2005 -2010 dues received in attachment 3)**

Larry Cox outlined the budget. Motion made to approve budget as presented made by Jennifer Hammer, seconded by Dennis Streicher, unanimously approved.

- **Membership dues for FY 2011-12 (Attachment 4)**

There will be no increase in membership dues for FY 2011-2012. Motion made to approve membership dues made by Nick Menninga, seconded by Gary Smith, unanimously approved.

- **Appointment of Committee Chairpersons by incoming President**

- Monitoring Committee Chairperson – Jennifer Hammer, The Conservation Foundation
- East Branch DuPage River Watershed Committee Chairperson – Larry Cox, Downers Grove Sanitary District
- West Branch DuPage River Watershed Committee Chairperson – Ross Hill, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
- Salt Creek Watershed Committee Chairperson – Dennis Streicher, Sierra Club

- **Newsletter and website update**

- **DRSCW Calendar**

- **Workgroup meeting schedule (Wednesdays)**

Meeting location for the duration of this calendar year has changed to the Village of Lombard, 255 E. Wilson Avenue.

April 27th 2011 at Lombard Village Hall Board Room
 June 29th 2011 at Lombard Village Hall Community Room
 August 31st 2011 at Lombard Village Hall Community Room
 October 26th 2011 at Lombard Village Hall Community Room
 December 7th 2011 at Lombard Village Hall Community Room
 February 22nd 2012

Motion made to adjourn meeting made by Mitch Patterson, seconded by Jennifer Hammer, unanimously approved.