

DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup October 27th, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Venue - Lombard Village Hall, 255 E. Wilson Avenue, Lombard, IL 60148

1. Minutes for August 25th, 2010 Meeting (Attachment 1)

Motion to approve minutes made by Glen Sullivan, seconded by Larry Cox, unanimously approved.

2. Presentation: Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Urban Runoff – Sources, Sinks and Treatment: A Review - PAHs have been found at or above threshold effects levels at multiple sites throughout the DRSCW program area. The presentation will summarize the current information on PAHs sources, physical and chemical characteristics, biologic effects and best management practices (BMP) that can be employed for treatment and controlling PAHs in urban stormwater run-off.

Presenter: Giridhar Prabhukumar, PhD Student, Department of Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

The report is available on our website. Please submit any comments on the report to Stephen McCracken within the next two weeks. Future research includes identifying other sources of PAHs. We have invited Roger Bannerman Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to our December meeting who may offer additional effects.

3. Presentation: Asian Carp Invasion of the Chicago Area Waterway System: What Does Science Tell Us? During the last year the local story, of “Asian Carp’s” northern migration has become national news, the subject of a plethora of radio, television and newspaper stories. Central to these reports are fears of what their arrival in Chicago area lakes, rivers and in particular Lake Michigan, will mean. The presentation will examine scientific research on the subject and what it tells us about the nature and possible impacts of the arrival of these fish.

Presenter: Dr. Philip Willink, The Field Museum/ Fish Division

This presentation is available on our website. Dennis Streicher asked about the commonly heard figure that “Asian” carp eat 20-40% of their body weight; Dr. Willink discounted this saying during the early phases that figure may hold but was not accurate for adult fish. The use of DNA testing was also discussed. Dr. Willink said that the technology was improving but still prone to false positives. The testing initially was carried out at a single DNA lab to determine the presence of “Asian” carp in waterways. The Army Corps of Engineers will conduct the DNA testing.

4. Presentation: Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program. IEPA launched a new grant program aimed at reducing CSO activation and stormwater management. Presentation will cover objectives of the program, criteria for eligibility and application process.

Presenter: Chris Davis- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Grants Management Division.

This presentation and all handouts are available online at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/igig.html>. The presentation made today is also available on our website. This program is to fund water quality improvements due to stormwater management. You should explicitly link the cause of impairment to the BMP you plan to implement. This program reimburses labor, but not staff funding, monitoring, education or outreach.

5. Chloride Usage Education and Reduction Program Update (old business)

- Workshops were held on the 21st and 22nd of September 2010 at Arrowhead Golf Course. We had 107 attendees at the public roads workshop (the 22nd) and 52 attendees (21st sidewalk and parking lot).
- The analysis of feedback from the 2010 questionnaires is underway. A brief update on the findings will be made and a full report made at the December meeting.

Dan Bounds, CDM, gave a brief update of their progress completing the final report.

6. Monitoring Committee - 2010 Salt Creek Bioassessment (old business)

- MBI has completed the second pass for the fish, macro-invertebrates and habitat. Collection of stream sediment and water column samples has been completed and is being processed by SLI. *Stephen noted that this was not true but the sampling was, with the exception of three water column sites and one sediment site, complete.*
- The West Branch report review has been completed and the draft final report is available on the DRSCW website.

7. Projects Committee (old business)

- Churchill Woods Dam update
Sarah Ruthko gave an update: the bond rating has been a smooth process; permitting was revised because there will not be any phases; bids are due in early December, 3-5 months before construction. Modifications to Crescent Boulevard are not included.
- Integrated Priority System (IPS) web tool demonstration and update. *A "Read Me" document will be included on the web site.*
- DRSCW Web site data viewer
Included is the hyperlink to the DRSCW website page for looking at the Google earth data viewer. Stephen briefly reviewed the online tool, pointing out a few issues with the number of significant figures on the chemistry data (a relic of the process of transferring the data points into geometric means). At this point the web viewer exists on a webpage inaccessible from the main website. Please give Stephen any feedback on the website (either ease of use comments or information availability comments) <http://www.drscw.org/ge.html>.

8. NPDES Permit Fee Update (old business) Please review attachment 2

This attachment was omitted from the agenda packed you received and was sent to all members following the meeting.

The goal of the proposed legislation is to establish a pilot grant program for projects recommended by the DRSCW. NPDES permit fees have been paid each year for the past eight years by all NPDES permit holding facilities state wide and these funds go into state general revenue, with a portion being used to fund IEPA activities. Under the proposed legislation, all of the NPDES permit fees paid within the three DRSCW watersheds would be re-directed into a grant program for projects recommended by the DRSCW. Based on information obtained from IEPA, the total amount of NPDES permit fees paid by NPDES facilities within the DRSCW watersheds was \$847,500 in FY2010. The proposed legislation would involve NPDES permit fees to be paid in the future, not any fees already paid. As it would not be practical to review every change to the proposed legislation with all Workgroup members, the Executive Board is seeking authorization to act on behalf of the organization “within this concept.” A motion was made by Nick Menninga and seconded by Dennis Streicher to approve the two page summary and draft bill language; authorize the Executive Board to present the proposed legislation to IEPA and explore any funding alternatives through IEPA in lieu of legislation and authorize the Executive Board to take necessary actions to present these document to local legislators and begin the process to enact the proposed legislation, including initial expenditures, not to exceed \$10,000.00 in total, for lobbying services to assist with the planning effort. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Fecal Coliform TMDL (old business) *Possible mapping areas in the West Branch and East Branch have been identified and sent to IEPA. A site is being selected on Salt Creek in conjunction with MWRDGC.*

10. Watershed Committee Updates –West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek *No updates*

11. Business Items

- **Membership 2010 -2011**(old business) (Attachment 3)
- **Investment update** (old business) (Attachment 4)
- **QuickBooks Update** (old business)
- **Other Business** (new business)
- **Grant Management Update.** (old business) A final report for Grant FAA 3190707 has been filed with IEPA. The contract for the new agreement (FAA3191008) has been signed.

12. DRSCW Calendar and Press Coverage (new business)

Stephen will be speaking about the DRSCW at the “How to Prepare a Third-Party TMDL for the EPA” workshop on November 16th in Bolingbrook.

The link to register for this workshop is <http://prairierivers.givezooks.com/events/nov-16th-tmdl-workshop>.

13. Outreach, New Newsletter. *Ready by the end of the month*

14. Workgroup meeting schedule

- December 8, 2010 *Meeting venue returns to Elmhurst City Hall*
- February 23, 2011 (annual meeting)
- April 27, 2011
- June 29, 2011
- August 31, 2011