

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup  
Meeting Minutes  
Lombard Village Hall  
December 14, 2016  
9:00 – 11:00 AM**

**1. Approval of October 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes** (Attachment 1)

*Nick Menninga made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.*

**2. Qcritical: Incorporating the Critical Discharge for Stream Erosion into Stormwater**

**Management.** Managing stormwater to prevent excess stream erosion (i.e. “hydromodification”) has become one of the latest challenges of the stormwater profession. Associated compliance costs have increased by as much as 3-fold in some jurisdictions and it is uncertain whether implementation of one-size-fits-all approaches will achieve the desired goal. Policies such as the full retention (i.e. no discharge) of the first 1” of rainfall may be over control in some streams and insufficient to prevent erosion in others. Using data from across the globe, this presentation will show how the critical flow for streambed erosion ( $Q_{critical}$ ) varies by several orders of magnitude across hydrogeomorphic settings. It underscores why policies that intend to protect streams from erosion should be calibrated to the geomorphic resistance of the streams they actually intend to protect. Hawley will conclude with a case study that covers the development of a regional value for  $Q_{critical}$  and how it has been successfully incorporated into an MS4’s stormwater management program.

**Presenter: “Bob” Robert J. Hawley, Ph.D., P.E., Principal Scientist at Sustainable Streams and a Part-Time Instructor at the University of Kentucky.**

*Questions following the presentation focused on learning from reference reach data over multiple years, understanding which flows matter and how to incorporate that data into practical strategies at the watershed scale.*

*The applicability and methods to determine  $Q_c$  for our local streams was discussed. Does the DRSCW want to propose a pilot watershed program to investigate  $Q_c$  and if so, how would we select a target basin?*

*As part of the discussion on whether a  $Q_c$  study should be conducted in the DRSCW study area, participants discussed how knowing  $Q_c$  would affect local policies and how these  $Q_c$  flows would be obtained. One idea for flow reduction strategies/BMPs could include modifying outlet structures on existing detention/retention areas. It was noted that additional field surveys would be required as programs like the Lower Salt Creek Watershed Plan’s (under development with CMAP) detention basin inventory is focused on physical characteristics (sideslope vegetation, bank conditions, etc) and not the outlet structure.*

*Smart hardware (i.e. OPTI) might help us reach goals. Current analysis lacks flow data. DuPage County and MWRD both collect data so we may not have to start from nothing and we should investigate other programs (i.e. California).*

**3. Stormwater DO.** At past meetings, we discussed the utility of moving some of our DO monitoring into stormwater driven systems. During the summer of 2016, we monitored three sites in support of TMDL development. The data gathered at these sites may provide some insight into how these systems behave compared to wastewater dominated systems.

**Presenter: Stephen McCracken, Director of Watershed Protection, The Conservation Foundation.**

*Discussion following the presentation focused on how flow and non-point source loadings impact DO and algae. The DRSCW will consider the amount of resources to allocate to studying stormwater inputs. Stephen will investigate whether biology is good at sites consistently above the DO standard.*

#### **4. NPDES Permit Special Conditions (Old Business)**

- Wheaton Sanitary District's permit has been issued. We are waiting for Elmhurst's permit to go to public comment. The Wood Dale south permit comment period ended October 31, 2016; the north permit has yet to enter the public comment period.
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition Permit Condition Update – The City of Naperville's public review period was October 21<sup>st</sup> – November 21<sup>st</sup>.  
*Jennifer Hammer - Naperville has not yet been issued their final permit.*
- MWRD-GC Permit Special Condition Update.  
*Conversations with MWRD-GC continue moving forward.*

#### **5. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)**

- IGIG grant program.

#### **6. Projects Committee (Old Business)**

- **Oak Meadows Update (Special Conditions Project).**
- **Fawell Dam Update (Special Conditions Project)** – A new scope was developed to design and bid the dam modification. Projects committee signed an agreement with V3 to move into the design and permitting phase. A second scope is under development to identify potential channel enhancements to be implemented adaptively post dam modification.
- **Fullersburg Woods Concept Plan Development (Special Conditions Project)** – After receiving 2 responses to our RFQ, Bluestem Communications was selected to create an outreach to strategy. A draft document, outlining the strategy to solicit stakeholder responses in relation to options for dam modification will be supplied to the projects committee next week.
- **Trading RFQ** – The trading RFQ was emailed to all DRSCW members and affiliates on 11/07/2016. The RFQ was also sent to other individuals, organizations, and companies that have been involved in the development of trading programs across the US. The RFQ was picked up and posted by the national bid posting site – SplashLink. The date for companies to provide their notice of intent to submit qualifications was 11/23/2016 and the following companies submitted their notification: TetraTech, The Rand Corporation, LimnoTech, Geosyntec, Arcadis/Troutman Sanders, Ruckert-Mielke, and Strand Associates, Inc. SOQs are due on December 15, 2016. Special thanks for posting the RFQ on your websites and forwarding to your consultants.  
*The projects committee is tackling the permit special condition for trading in Illinois. It is an exciting time and your participation on the committee is encouraged. We anticipate inviting a short list of primes to submit RFPs in March.*
- **IPS Tool Development** – Kick off meeting will be scheduled in next few months. The Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition will be involved as they are funding 50% of costs.  
*We will re-run the tool to include the LDRWC data and to identify causal relationships between stressors and IBIs.*
- **DRSCW Website Update** – The website was updated to include a page for DRSCW's RFQs and RFPs.

#### **7. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)**

- Salt Creek basin monitoring - finished for 2016.
- 2014 East Branch DuPage River Technical Report – under review.
- Winter chloride/conductivity monitoring – probes deployed at 4 sites.

- USGS Phosphorus Study – finalizing an agreement.  
*Leaf litter study ties to the NPS study in the POTW permit condition.*
- Resource Manager’s Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment – under review.

#### **8. Chloride Reduction Committee (New Business)**

- Resolution of Appreciation – Presented to John Kawka, former Manager of Highway Operations at DuPage County Division of Transportation, to recognize his contributions to our chloride reduction program.  
*Dave Gorman presented John Kawka with a Resolution of Appreciation for his work with the chloride reduction program since 2004. Stephen McCracken expressed his appreciation for John’s participation and commented that the first year the two chloride reduction workshops maybe had 80 participants and now attendance averages around 300 – people actually call before they are advertised to find out when the workshops will be held.*
- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway – No new information since last meeting.
- CAWS and Des Plaines River Chloride Variance – No new information since last meeting.

#### **9. Watershed Permitting Update (Old Business)**

#### **10. TMDL Development for the DuPage River/Salt Creek (Old Business)**

- No new information since last meeting.

#### **11. Watershed Committee Updates – West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek**

- **Lower Salt Creek 319 Plan** – Stream characteristic data obtained via the QHEI including channelization, bank stability and riparian area condition is being utilized to prepare the Stream Inventory portion of the 319 Plan. Once existing data is incorporated into GIS, additional field assessments may need to be conducted to fill in any data gaps. All data will be incorporated into GIS to give an overview of the stream characteristics for all waters in the watershed.  
*Deanna Doohaluk will develop the stream assessment map GIS layers to help show project development in the plan.*
- **Modeling** – On December 12<sup>th</sup>, CMAP hosted a one-day training on modeling for interested parties conducting watershed plans. In response to a request made by DuPage County, Deanna Doohaluk reviewed with DuPage County staff the pros and cons of the most commonly used models for estimating pollutant load reductions in watershed plans.

#### **12. Business Items (New Business)**

- Membership Dues 2016-2017 (Attachment 2).
- Financial Report – (Attachment 3).  
*A payment not noted in the table of payments will be made to The Verdict Restaurant for catering at both the roads and parking lots and sidewalks chloride reduction workshops (\$2425).*
- Other Business.

#### **13. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage**

- Participated in Illinois EPA’s Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy’s (NLRS) Urban Stormwater Working Group (USWG) conference calls and data gathering (Deanna Doohaluk, Stephen McCracken).
- Worked with Glendale Heights on sensible salting (and MS4 compliance) (Stephen McCracken).
- Participated in Chicago Wilderness’s Heathy Waters Workgroup (Stephen McCracken).
- Continued to talk with the Tollway about offset program. They hope to get three agreements in place by early December (Stephen McCracken).

- November 2, 2016 – Chicago Wilderness Conference, FRSG, DRSCW & Hickory Creek “Forming and Running Watershed Planning Groups” (Stephen McCracken).
- November 7-8, 2016 – South Suburban College “Chloride Management in Northeastern Illinois and the environmental impacts of salt” (delivered 5 presentations, all travel expenses and one day of time will be reimbursed) (Stephen McCracken).
- November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Orland Park’s Public Works Department. “Chloride Management in Northeastern Illinois and the environmental impacts of salt” (Stephen McCracken).
- November 12, 2016 – Wheaton College Grounds staff, “Chloride Management in Northeastern Illinois and the environmental impacts of salt” (Stephen McCracken).
- November 15, 2016 – Wisconsin Section of the Central States Environment Association Webinar, “Adaptive Implementation, Biodiversity, and TMDLs” (Stephen McCracken).

#### **14. Workgroup Meeting Schedule**

- February 22, 2017
- April 26, 2017
- June 28, 2017
- August 30, 2017
- October 25, 2017
- December 13, 2017

*Dave Gorman thanked members for their participation and wished them happy holidays. Meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM.*