

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Maple Meadows Clubhouse
272 Addison Rd., Wood Dale, IL
June 28, 2017
9:00 – 11:00 AM
Meeting Minutes**

1. Approval of April 26, 2017 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Nick Menninga made a motion to approve the April 26, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Dennis Streicher, motion carried unanimously.

2. DRSCW Nutrient Trading Development:

The DRSCW is in the process of contracting with the consultant team of Tetra Tech, Kieser and Associates, Abt Associates, and the Earth and Water Group to facilitate the development of the nutrient trading framework. The trading framework will:

- Evaluate economic opportunities for phosphorus (and nitrogen) pollutant trading between point sources.
- Identify opportunities for implementing nutrient removal through greater efficiency and flexible approaches such as trading between point sources and instream restoration projects and/or non-point sources.
- Select a market structure that is the most feasible for the DRSCW.
- Support a watershed approach that optimizes environmental and economic benefits.

The Nutrient Trading Framework is being developed as part of the Nutrient Implementation Plan (NIP) that is a requirement of the NPDES Special Condition Permit issued to all of the participating POTWs within the DRSCW watersheds. Per the Special Condition permit, the objective of the NIP is to identify phosphorus input reductions by point source discharges, non-point source discharges and other measures necessary to remove DO and offensive condition impairments and meet the applicable dissolved oxygen criteria and the narrative offensive aquatic algae criteria. The DRSCW envisions that the Nutrient Trading Framework will be one of several key components of the NIP due to the IEPA on December 31, 2023.

Deanna Doohaluk, Watershed Project Manager, The Conservation Foundation/DRSCW

- 3. Lower Salt Creek Watershed BMP Identification** – The identification of potential best management practice (BMP) projects and programs is one of the most important steps of the watershed planning process. BMPs included in EPA-approved watershed-based plans become eligible for grant funding under Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act through Illinois EPA’s Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. CMAP staff will demonstrate an online “BMP survey” where Lower Salt Creek (LSC) Watershed stakeholders can place markers on an interactive map and select the types of BMPs proposed for inclusion in the LSC Watershed-Based Plan. The identification of past and currently underway water-quality related BMPs is requested through the online survey as well.

Holly Hudson, Senior Aquatic Biologist, NE Illinois VLMP Coordinator, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

The DRSCW will email a link to the online BMP Survey to members. Please submit your BMP opportunities by August 4th. Stakeholders may consider using the “Other Hydrologic” option for dam modification projects. The next Lower Salt Creek Watershed Plan stakeholder meeting will be

held at 1:00PM on August in Villa Park. The final draft plan will be submitted to Illinois EPA for approval by December 31, 2017.

4. NPDES Permit Special Condition (Old Business)

- Remaining POTW Permits (Elmhurst (2/29/16 not yet issued), Wood Dale North (5/31/16, under review) & Naperville (not yet issued). Hanover Park's permit has been reissued at Hanover Park's request (no impact on Special Conditions).
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition - LDRWC budget includes a line item for supporting elements of the study portions of the special condition (NIP, trading and NPS study). The DRSCW has drawn up a draft agreement for the two organizations to sign. The draft agreement is included as **Attachment 2**. The DRSCW membership should vote to authorize the Board to negotiate and sign the agreement.

Larry Cox made a motion for the Board to negotiate and sign an agreement with the Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition; seconded by Steve Zehner; motion carried unanimously.

- Illinois EPA has agreed to extend the IPS schedule in Naperville's draft permit.

5. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

- IGIG grant program – No update.

6. Projects Committee

Special Conditions Activities

- **Oak Meadows Update** – Project is complete. Per our agreement with the FPDDC, the DRSCW will reimburse the FPDDC \$1M this fiscal year.
- **Fawell Dam Update** – The DRSCW Fawell Team met again with the Illinois DNR, Bartlett office. The team is putting together a permit application for consideration by DuPage County and IDNR. Two newspaper articles on the project have been published on the project.
- **Fullersburg Woods Concept Plan Development (Special Conditions Project)** –
 - The projects committee had a kickoff meeting with Bluestem
 - A presentation for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County Board of Commissioners on pre-project outreach is scheduled for July 11, 2017.
A presentation to the Village of Oak Brook's Board of Trustees will be scheduled for August/September.
- **Spring Brook Phase II** – Permitting for the project is underway.
- **Trading Analysis** – The Projects Committee approved a final scope of work and budget from the Consultant Team. Tetra Tech's Contract Group reviewed and accepted our contract language. Once they receive approval from the Contract Group, we will officially sign the contract and begin work on the project. It is expected that the Nutrient Trading Kickoff Meeting will be held in early to mid-July. The DRSCW will invite representatives from the Illinois EPA and US EPA to participate in the Projects Committee Kickoff Meeting.
 - PDOPs – To date, DRSCW received final PDOPs from DuPage County, Hanover Park and Glendale Heights; Carol Stream submitted a draft.
 - Staff and Projects Committee members attended webinars related to nutrient trading: May 3 - NRCS Water Quality Credits from Stream Restoration Projects and May 17- CWP webinar on Nutrient Trading. Staff shared detailed summaries of these webinars with the Projects Committee. Staff also shared information on WEF's June 8th webinar, "Working with the Market for Green Stormwater Infrastructure" with the Projects Committee.
 - **QUAL2K Update** – No update.
 - **Non-Point Source** – No update.

Non-Special Condition Activities

- **IPS Tool Development** – A conference call with IEPA monitoring and database staff was held on May 25th. Following the call, IEPA supplied its data for WQ, QHEI, & IBI data for the Kishwaukee, Des Plaines and Fox Rivers (2006 - 2015). The data will be used in the updated version of the IPS tool.
 - We have been in contact with the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati to discuss GIS requirements of the new IPS tool. The FPD has offered to assist in the GIS work on this item.

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

- Summer deployment of DO probes is underway. A number of POTWs (Addison, Elmhurst, Hanover Park) will be taking on calibration responsibilities and County Stormwater staff are taking on additional coordination responsibilities.
- A new type of DO sonde is being tested by the partners.
The YSI probe data will be compared to existing data.
- The West Branch 2015 Technical Support Document is under development.
- USGS Phosphorus Study – The DRSCW made a payment to support this study.
- Resource Manager’s Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment – under review.

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

- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway – IGAs are being signed with the Villages of Bensenville and Wood Dale. Once in place, plans will be developed with Elmhurst and Itasca.
- CAWS and Des Plaines River Chloride Variance – IPCB has issued an order regarding the chloride variance. The order covers two issues:

1) Clarifies the scope of the variance to the Lower Des Plaines River watershed including the CAWS watershed (except for the North Branch Chicago River, upstream of the North Shore Channel or in the part of the watershed in Indiana) and the Des Plaines River watershed from the Kankakee River to the Will County line (except for the DuPage River); and

2) The pending chloride variance petitions submitted to the IPCB are not yet substantially complete, and will need to be modified to conform with the recently issued USEPA variance rules.

The IPCB order covers not only the dischargers (16 in total) who have already filed petitions for chloride variances, but also those dischargers who have not yet filed petitions. Those dischargers can still file petitions, and be included in the overall watershed variance.

The IPCB board issues order does not change the proposed schedule and it is still the hope of the petitioners that the completed variance package will be submitted in January 2018, so any compliance issues are addressed and resolved before July 2018. The final format of the variance package has not been determined

- 2017 Workshops will be held at DuPage County DOT on October 5th (Parking Lots & Sidewalks) and October 12th (Public Roads). We need volunteers to provide updates on their municipal snowfighting programs.
- Winter Toxicity Update – no update.

9. **Springfield Regulatory and Legislative Updates**

- DRSCW staff had a meeting in Springfield with IEPA staff on Friday, June 9, 2017. The aim of the meeting was to provide IEPA with an update on the DRSCW Special Conditions and share

with them our proposed trading scope. Hard copies of our Special Conditions annual report were given to key staff. Illinois IEPA has agreed to make staff available for our nutrient trading framework development process and to facilitate contact with USEPA Region 5 on the subject.

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

- Deanna worked with IDOT and IEPA to set a chloride load allocation for IDOT.
- We are still examining implementation scenarios for GB-16.

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

- **Lower Salt Creek 319 Plan** – A stakeholder meeting convened on Thursday, June 8 at 1pm in Brookfield. The meeting objective was to determine problem statement and goals for the watershed and begin the process of identifying water quality protection and restoration projects (a.k.a. BMPs - best management practices) to include in the plan.

12. Other Activities

- Cal Tar Sealants update – HB 2958 is in the rules committee and likely will not be called for a vote this session.
- Member MS4 report – A summary of the DRSCW MS4-related activities for 2016-2017 was completed on May 19, 2017 and distributed to all MS4 members and member transportation agencies. Per permit requirements, the 2016-2017 expanded on the information included in previous reports and details our monitoring program. Include in the MS4 report is a description of our monitoring plan, monitoring strategy, and sampling methods and a summary of the most recent available results for all three watersheds.

13. Business Items (New Business)

Invoice Payments May through June 15th (approved by Board)

Vendor/Project	Invoice Number	Amount (\$)
Forest Preserve District DuPage Cty.	Oak Meadows Stream Restoration #3	1,000,000.00
MBI	WB2015	\$1,933.72
V3 Companies	Fawell 3/26 - 4/29	\$2,565.11
V3 Companies	Fawell 2/26/17 - 3/25/17	\$1,864.21
Baxter & Woodman	Chloride Reduction Program Services	\$2,752.50
HACH	Service Agreements	\$5,645.00
The Conservation Foundation	May Prof. Svc, Fixed, Match	\$18,637.77
The Conservation Foundation	June Prof. Svc, Fixed, Match	\$18,637.77
The Conservation (increase)	November (+1FTE), May June (DD Increase); \$2.40 (Fixed Costs)	\$6,545.23
Stephen Expenses	April-May 5, 2017	\$492.21
Stephen Expenses	May 5-31, 2017	90.63
Deanna Expenses	April 2017	\$70.16
Deanna Expenses	May 2017	\$251.70
Tara Expenses	April 2017	\$79.16
Langan Haeger Vincent & Born	Insurance 2 of 3 Annual Installments	900.00
Illinois Charity Bureau Fund	Business Registration	15.00
Illinois Secretary of State	Business Registration	10.00
Harland Clarke	Check Order - May	\$126.98
Bank Service Fee	Transfer to Savings May	\$4.00

- **Membership Dues 2017-2018 – (Attachment 3)**
Current Agency and Associate members received renewal packets. Invitation letters were sent to eligible MS4 communities and potential Associate Members. The DRSCW will conduct individual follow-up with the five largest eligible MS4 communities.
- **Financial Report May 2017 – (Attachment 4)**
- **Professional Services to Prepare Annual Audit and Tax Returns**
After reviewing four qualifications-based proposals, the DRSCW Board contracted Lauterbach & Amen to prepare the DRSCW’s Auditor’s Report and Financial Statements and state and federal information returns FYE 2017 for a fee of \$6950.00. The Board voted to approve these documents, with two minor changes, at the Executive Board meeting on June 15th. Final documents will be posted on the DRSCW website.
- A new staffing agreement with The Conservation Foundation was approved by the Board. Membership should vote on the agreement (**Attachment 5**). The new figures in the agreement are in line with those approved in the 2017-18 budget in February.
Dennis Streicher made a motion to approve the staffing agreement with The Conservation Foundation; seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.
- TCF is changing how it provides some of its professional services to economize workflow for the watershed groups it serves. Nancy Cinatl is joining the DRSCW team to assist with the organizational administration. Tara Neff is reallocating some of her time to the Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition and the Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group.
Members welcomed Nancy to the group.

14. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage

- May 2, 2017 – Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group (Romeoville, IL) – NIP Development (DD)
- May 4, 2017 – Sweet Water Trust (Wisconsin) – 1) Adaptive Management Financing and Implementation and Project Selection (SMC), 2) Oak Meadows Design and Financing (Erin Pande ERA and SMC)
- June 6, 2017 – Fawell Dam newspaper article in the Daily Herald (SMC)
- June 8, 2017 – Lower Salt Creek Watershed Stakeholder Meeting (Brookfield, IL) – Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring in Salt Creek (DD)
- June 9, 2017 – IEPA (Springfield, IL) – Development of the DRSCW Nutrient Trading Framework (DD)
- June 22, 2017 – Fawell Dam newspaper article in the Naperville Sun (SMC)

15. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- August 30, 2017
- October 25, 2017
- December 13, 2017
- February 28, 2018
- April 25, 2018

The business meeting concluded at 10:00 AM and a tour of The Preserve at Oak Meadows followed.