

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Lombard Village Hall, Board Room
December 13, 2017
9:00 – 11:00 AM
Meeting Minutes**

1. Approval of October 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Larry Cox made a motion to approve the October 25, 2017 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.

2. Stream Nutrient Assessment Procedure (SNAP): Ohio EPA has been working for over a decade – collecting and analyzing data – to establish a nutrient reduction strategy for Ohio waterways and corresponding water quality standards to protect aquatic life uses. The data analyses have included extensive work to establish scientifically defensible criteria, including evaluating ways to account for confounding factors such as habitat limitations and other stressors that can prevent attainment of aquatic life uses. This work led to development of preliminary concepts and a framework for nutrient water quality standards rules for rivers and streams.

The Stream Nutrient Assessment Procedure (SNAP) is designed to identify waterbodies impaired or threatened by effects from nutrients for a particular class of waters, specifically, wadeable rivers and streams. The SNAP is essentially a weight of evidence box model that seeks to determine where a waterbody is positioned along a continuum of enrichment, and directs management accordingly. Response variables that are evaluated in the SNAP are fish and macroinvertebrate condition, the magnitude of 24-hour dissolved oxygen fluctuations, and benthic chlorophyll levels.

Presenter: Robert Milter, Environmental Scientist, Ohio EPA (via web conference)

A question and answer session followed the presentation. The presentation will be posted on the DRSCW's website.

3. NPDES Permits and Reporting

- Both the Elmhurst and Wood Dale North permits passed public notice but have not yet been issued. Naperville received a draft permit to which they responded with comments to Illinois EPA (not related to special condition).
- We plan to hold a Special Condition workshop in January 2018. *(Actually held 2/1/2018)* Al Keller will retire at the end of this year. The DRSCW will contact Amy Dragovich to participate in the workshop. The tentative date was based on Al Keller's availability and members reported that the Central States Water Environment Association executive committee meeting is January 18-19th.

4. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

5. Projects Committee (New Business)

Physical Projects

- **Oak Meadows** – We will make the last 2017 payment in December. Final payment will be made next year.
- **Fawell Dam Modification**

- Work continued on tweaking the gate operations table.
- A draft channel management document is under internal review. Once the draft is accepted, it will be sent to DuPage County Stormwater Management for review.
- Team is looking at geophysical proposals.
- An unofficial proposal is being prepared for IDNR to elicit feedback. If IDNR is agreeable, DuPage County Stormwater Management (DSWM) will preview the proposal. If DSWM finds the proposal acceptable, a formal permit application will be made to IDNR.

An informal application was submitted to IDNR for consideration yesterday. With a favorable response, a formal application will be submitted to DuPage County Stormwater Management for review and approval prior to the official submittal to IDNR.

- **Graue Mill Dam on Salt Creek Concept Plan**

- The Projects Committee met on November 27th to discuss the second draft of the resident outreach questionnaire. Due to time constraints at the meeting, the Committee discussed only the introduction and questions 1-4. Committee members will submit comments on the draft via email to Deanna no later than December 15.

Our target date to release the resident outreach questionnaire county-wide is mid-April; please forward your community outreach coordinator's contact information to Tara Neff.

- We received a revised, draft literature review from Bluestem following comments made by staff and several members associated with the project. The Projects Committee will review the draft.
- Meetings/contacts with key members of the historical groups associated with the site occurred on November 17th and 21st.

The DRSCW is responding to community inquiries and will not actively solicit input until March/April. Please send us any groups we should include in the outreach solicitation.

Physical Project Update (not yet started)

Spring Brook Phase II – Permit submitted to Army Corps and Illinois DNR in September. *Construction is expected to begin in 2019.*

- **Lower East Branch** – No update at this time.

Nutrient Implantation Plan (NIP)

- **Trading Analysis** – The Projects Committee met on November 1st and 27th to discuss trading. The focus of the November 1st meeting focused on 3 proposed amendments to the scope of work:

1. Create a more pronounced two-pronged framework to address both TP permit compliance trading and stream restoration crediting.
2. Focus the two-pronged framework on existing regulatory drivers (i.e. postponing the development of nitrogen baseline and POTW data assessment regarding nitrogen).
3. Seek regulatory certainty in the short-term for compliance trading to support framework development.

The Projects Committee reached consensus on amendments #1 and #2 on November 1st; however additional clarification from the consultant team was requested for amendment #3. The consultant team provided clarification (via conference call) on amendment #3 at the November 27th meeting. Following the discussion with the consultant team, the Projects Committee voted in support of all 3 amendments. The Projects Committee will present the proposed amendments to members at the December 13th meeting for final approval.

Members discussed the proposed amendments. Jennifer Hammer made a motion to accept the three amendments as recommended by the projects committee; seconded by Jim Holzapfel; motion carried unanimously.

At the November 27th meeting, the consultant team provided an update of their review of the PDOPs and Feasibility Studies and identified data gaps/clarifications needed prior to analysis. Staff will follow-up directly with each POTW identified as needing clarification. A checklist was prepared for POTWs whose studies are due in 2018 or later. Staff will share this checklist with the POTWs.

Deanna Doohaluk presented preliminary data analysis and West Branch DuPage River POTW costs to treat for phosphorus comparison information we received from the consultant team. Members requested more information on the assumptions made in the cost comparisons and whether ortho or poly phosphate is figured in the analysis. A summary of this information will be presented at the Special Condition Workshop to be held in early 2018.

- **Related to Nutrient Trading** – DRSCW reminded POTWs to finalize and forward to staff PDOPs and Feasibility Studies upon completion. Staff received all but two of the PDOPs and Feasibility Studies due through 11/30/2017. Itasca and Bolingbrook requested extensions to complete their studies. The studies for Addison’s two plants are due by 12/31/2017.
- **QUAL2K Update** - No update at this time.
- **Non-Point Source Washoff Model** – No update at this time.

Non-Special Condition Projects Committee Activities

- **IPS Tool Update**

This project is on schedule for the targeted deadline at the end of 2018.

6. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)

- Staff sent comments on the draft 2015 West Branch Technical Support document to MBI. *Staff will send the revised draft to members of review.*
- Resource Manager’s Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment – under review.
- DuPage County and DRSCW are reviewing the possible purchase of new DO probes. A proposal will be forthcoming. YSI and Eureka probes are being considered. *In terms of Chlorophyll A, Karen Clementi noted that YSI probes may be good for trend analysis but not for reliable data.*
- An RFP is being developed to solicit bids for water and sediment chemistry analysis and water quality sampling collection. The RFP will include sampling to be carried out for

the DRSCW, Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition, and Lower Des Plaines River Watershed Group.

7. Chloride Reduction Committee (New Business)

- Bensenville and Wood Dale purchased their new equipment. Conversations started with Elmhurst.
- Winter sonde deployment is being organized with DuPage County Public Works.
- Revised Fact Sheets are underway.
- Toxicity Study Update.
- SB2138

8. Springfield Regulatory and Legislative Updates

- Stephen and Deanna are reviewing dates, times and with whom they should speak for the next visit.

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

- **TMDL Update** –We are awaiting draft reports from the consultant.

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

- **Lower Salt Creek 319 Watershed Plan --** Staff submitted to CMAP the following plan elements: chloride reduction measures, streambank and gully erosion calculations and entered projects identified by the IPS tool into the BMP database. Staff is in the process of completing the following elements: 2016 biological, habitat and water quality data and an update to the physical characteristic survey to include data provided from DRSCW members (Northlake and Elmhurst). The Lower Salt Creek Watershed-Based Planning Stakeholder group met on December 7, 2017 at 1pm at the Village of Itasca. *Holly Hudson thanked DuPage County Stormwater Management and DRSCW for participation in the planning process. Holly reported the draft plan was submitted to IEPA on November 3, 2017. Additional information related to projects, monitoring measurements of success and data from the 2016 Salt Creek assessment will be added.*

11. Other Activities

- Coal Tar Sealants update – HB 2589 remains in Rules Committee.

12. Business Items (New Business)

Vendor/Project	Invoice Number	Amount (\$)	Status
Fortin Consulting: P&S workshop	3117	2,333.33	Paid
Jeff Pieroni: P&S workshop exp. Reimb.	None	103.34	Paid
Glenbard Wastewater Auth: Wkshp Reg. refund	None	75.00	Paid
Bluestem Communications-Sept. 27 planning mtg	307	570.00	Approved
MBI - IPS update	1472	10,431.50	Approved
V3 - Fawell Dam Phase II	817187	1,928.62	Approved
V3 - Fawell Dam Phase II	917419	4,440.68	Approved
The Conservation Foundation-food exp for workshops	None	2,821.50	Approved
FPD of DuPage County - Final 2017 Pmt for Oak Meadows	None	500,000.00	Approved
Stephen McCracken - Staff Expenses	Oct	502.71	Approved
Deanna Doohaluk - Staff Expenses	Oct	132.16	Approved
Tara Neff - Staff Expenses	Oct	238.67	Approved
Nancy Cinatl - Staff Expenses	Oct	9.80	Approved

- **Membership Dues 2017-2018**
Membership payments received to date - Attachment 2.
- **Financial Report through November 2017** – Attachment 3.
- **Board and Budget Update**
Both parties the DRSCW approached expressed interest in filling the vacant board position. Please contact Stephen McCracken directly if you have questions. The DRSCW will send members the slate of officers before January 1, 2018.
- **Newsletter** – under development.

13. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage

- 12/7/2017 – A presentation titled “2016 Monitoring Results for the Lower Salt Creek Watershed” was made to the Lower Salt Creek Watershed Stakeholder Group (Deanna)

14. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- February 28, 2018 from 9AM-11AM
- April 25, 2018 from 9AM-11AM
- June 27, 2018 from 9AM-11AM
- August 29, 2018 from 9AM-11AM
- October 31, 2018 from 9AM-11AM
- December 12, 2018 from 9AM-11AM