



NBWW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Introductions & Roll Call

Brandon Janes, North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) President, called the meeting to order at 11:04am.

Executive Board members present were **Brandon Janes** (President), Village of Deerfield; **Rob Flood**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Al Giertych**, Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT); and **Matt Ueltzen**, Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD). A roll call was performed and an NBWW Executive Board quorum was present.

2. Public Comment – None

3. New Business

a. NBWW NARP Interviews & Selection

i. Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

Brian Valleskey, Project Manager, introduced the Geosyntec team. The team shared a timeline to complete the NARP in four (4) proposed phases: Conduct targeted data collection and data analysis from June through October 2022; Develop modeling tools (SWMM model development and WASP model development) November 2022 through November 2024; Watershed management scenarios from December 2023 through February 2024; and Implementation Plan and Schedule from March to November 2024. Outcome A was bid in the amount of \$368,700. Outcome B was bid in the amount of \$598,300. The team answered questions asked by the Executive Board and other meeting attendees.

Question 1: Bodden asked if the team foresees any challenges Geosyntec might encounter that would change their budget as the project progresses. Valleskey acknowledged that there are hiccups sometimes but responded that their previous and ongoing projects have been on budget and on time.

Question 2: Giertych asked how the team plans to keep project management on time and under budget. Valleskey responded that the team has biweekly meetings and plans to meet with the Monitoring Committee and/or Executive Board monthly to provide updates.

Question 3: Giertych asked what the team believes to be the biggest risk on a project like this. Valleskey responded that their biggest concern at this point is whether the field data is going to support what the team is proposing. The team is hoping the data supports Hypothesis A and is determined to ensure that the models are working together correctly. Mahajan added that a potential risk is not being thorough enough. The team plans to mitigate this risk by understanding that the NARP must be accepted by the Illinois EPA. Qasem added that every project completed by Geosyntec has a risk management plan and that this project will have a risk management plan drafted too.

Question 4: Flood asked how confident the team is that they will be able to start sampling in June even without a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) approved by the Illinois EPA, and what they would do if they needed a time extension. Mahajan responded that the team is confident they can sample and push



the Illinois EPA to approve their QAPP. He added that, with the Executive Board's approval, they would ask the Illinois EPA for a time extension if necessary.

ii. Fehr Graham Engineering and Environmental

Leonard Dane, Project Manager, introduced the Fehr Graham team. The team shared a timeline to complete the NARP in four (4) proposed phases: Phase I Data Collection and Analysis from June to October 2022; Phase II Modeling from October 2022 to August 2023; Phase III Watershed Scenarios from August 2023 to February 2024; and Phase IV Implementation/Schedule from February to December 2024. Outcome A was bid at \$244,645. Outcome B was bid at \$413,645. The team answered questions asked by the Executive Board and other meeting attendees.

Question 1: Flood asked if a QAPP would be submitted to the Illinois EPA. Dane said yes.

Question 2: Strelcheck asked if the team had an agreement with the Lake County Health Department. Dane said yes, they have an agreement with the lab, and this was reflected in the budget.

Question 3: Flood asked if the team plans on using the IPS tool. Dane said no.

Question 4: Flood asked if the team had worked with EA Engineering in the past. Dane said yes.

Question 5: Strelcheck asked if the team will be able to sample without their QAPP being approved by the Illinois EPA. Dane said yes.

Question 6: Flood asked how confident the team is that they will be able to start sampling in June. Dane said that the team is confident that sampling can begin in June.

iii. Michael Baker International

Tatiana Papakos, Project Manager, introduced the Michael Baker team. The team shared a timeline to complete the NARP in four (4) proposed phases: Conduct Targeted Data Collection and Data Analysis from June through November 2022; Develop Modeling Tools from December 2022 to October 2023 (Outcome B: through December 2023); Watershed Management Scenarios January to May 2024 (Outcome B: to June 2024); and Implementation Plan and Schedule from June to September 2024 (Outcome B: to November 2024). Outcome A was bid at \$399,331. Outcome B was bid at \$551,605. The team answered questions asked by the Executive Board and other meeting attendees.

Question 1: Flood asked if a QAPP would be submitted to the Illinois EPA. Papakos said yes.

Question 2: Flood asked how confident the team is that they will be able to start sampling in June. Papakos said that the team is confident that sampling can begin in June.

Question 3: Bodden asked what makes the SWMM model desirable and if the team considered any other models. Tasdighi responded that the SWMM model is desirable in simulating the flow of the river because the watershed area is more urbanized.

Question 4: Flood asked if the team has any experience performing sediment-oxygen demand (SOD). Yoder responded that they have not routinely performed SOD. Papakos responded that there are others in the company that have performed SOD modeling whose expertise can be utilized when needed.



Question 5: Strelcheck asked if one of MBI’s or Michael Baker’s staff listed in the proposal will be taking the place of a listed lead team member who has been on a medical leave of absence previously known to the County. Papakos responded that another team member will be collecting the data. Yoder added that the team member currently on leave is highly knowledgeable in conducting the analysis of the data, which won’t be for a few months, and the team member is expected to join the team by then. Yoder assured that if this team member does not return in time that there are other professionals at Michael Baker International who would be able to assist with the data analysis.

4. Member Discussion

- a. Executive Board members discussed and evaluated each firm’s proposals and presentations. A motion was made by Ueltzen to approve the selection of Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. to develop a Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan for the North Branch of the Chicago River. The motion was seconded by Flood.
Roll Call: AYES: Janes, Flood, Giertych, Ueltzen. NAYS: None. Motion passed: 4-0.

5. Next Meeting:

Executive Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 08, 2022 at Patty Turner Center, 375 Elm Street, Deerfield, IL 60015 (Members Room B).

6. Adjournment – 1:20 pm

The agenda was completed in totality and Janes asked for a vote to adjourn the meeting. The vote passed unanimously.

NBWW Executive Board Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Al Giertych	Lake County Division of Transportation
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission & NBWW Coordinator
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield, NBWW President
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Leonard Dane	Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental
Matt Farmer	Village of Northbrook
Matt Ueltzen	Lake County Forest Preserve District
Mia Gerace	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Michele Mracheck	East Skokie Drainage District
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Steve Silic	Forest Preserve District Cook County

CONSULTANT NAME	ORGANIZATION
Adrienne Nemura	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Brian Valleskey	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
David Lampert	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.; Illinois Institute of Technology



NORTH BRANCH
CHICAGO RIVER
WATERSHED
WORKGROUP

NBWW Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 11:00am – 1:30pm

Lake Forest Municipal Service Building, 800 N Field Dr, Lake Forest, IL 60045,
Basement Training Room

CONSULTANT NAME	ORGANIZATION
Karoline Qasem	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Rishab Mahajan	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Jeffrey Macke	Fehr Graham Engineering and Environmental
John Frerich	Fehr Graham Engineering and Environmental
Leonard Dane	Fehr Graham Engineering and Environmental
Michael Powell	Fehr Graham Engineering and Environmental; EA Engineering
Ali Tasdighi	Michael Baker International
Chris Yoder	Michael Baker International; Midwest Biodiversity Institute
Lauren Hochstadt	Michael Baker International
Tatiana Papakos	Michael Baker International