



NBWW Monitoring and Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at 12:30pm – 1:30pm
Patty Turner Center, Members Room B
375 Elm Street Deerfield, IL 60015

NBWW MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Introductions & Roll Call

Rob Flood, North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) Monitoring Committee Chair, called the NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee meeting to order at 12:36pm.

Monitoring Committee members present were **Rob Flood**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Kate McDonell**, Village of Wilmette; **Larry Bridges**, East Skokie Drainage District; **Sam Barghi**, Village of Lincolnshire; and **Leonard Dane**, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental. A roll call and introductions were performed.

2. Public Comment – None

3. Approve April 13, 2022 NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes

Bridges motioned to accept the April 13, 2022, NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Dane. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Old Business

- a. **2022 Water Quality Testing Results:** Rob Flood, Committee Chair, provided the Monitoring Committee with hard copies of the data that North Shore Water Reclamation District collected and analyzed for the North Branch Chicago River from February to May. He pointed out that the data looks normal compared to previous years' data, except that chloride levels are high in February, which is consistent with the use road salts during the winter season. Flood also mentioned that E. Coli levels were high. Bridges asked where it might be coming from. Flood responded that it comes from warm-blooded animals but that genetic testing would be necessary to determine if the E. Coli bacteria is coming from humans and/or other animals. Dane asked about if NSWRD looked into doing any testing. Flood said no, but that it could be done in the future.

5. New Business

- a. **Draft QAPP & NBWW 2022 NARP Monitoring Recommendation:** Brian Valleskey informed the Monitoring Committee that based on his conversations with the Illinois EPA contact, it's important the NBWW has acknowledged the QAPP and approves it internally. Dane adds that the Flow Monitoring and the Sonde Monitoring Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) documents are missing from the QAPP. Valleskey assured the Monitoring Committee that these documents and all other outstanding edits will be included when the Illinois EPA returns the QAPP back to Geosyntec. Flood asked how Geosyntec chose 30% for the relative percent difference. Valleskey responded that he would have to check with the field crew for how they determined that figure. Chuck Bodden asked what Geosyntec's schedule would look like if the NBWW Executive Board agrees with the Monitoring Committee's recommendation to proceed without Illinois EPA approval. Valleskey responded that he is going to suggest sampling begin the week of July 25,



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2022 and that if anyone would like to see the equipment installed that interested people can reach out to him. A motion to recommend to the NBWW Executive Board to proceed with monitoring, before the Illinois EPA approves the QAPP was made by Bridges, seconded by Dane. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

- b. **Approve by Appointment, Alternate to Rob Flood (Committee Chair): Josephine Meincke, North Shore Water Reclamation District:** Chuck Bodden, Rob Flood’s current alternate, is running for the NBWW Executive Board vacancy. Therefore, Flood nominated Josephine Meincke as his alternate. A motion was made to approve Josephine Meincke as Rob Flood’s alternate by Bridges, seconded by Barghi. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- c. **Approve by Appointment, member replacement for Steve Silic: Deborah Antlitz, Forest Preserves of Cook County:** The Forest Preserves of Cook County would like to remain on the Monitoring Committee but would like to replace Steve Silic with Deborah Antlitz as their representative. A motion was made to approve Deborah Antlitz as Steve Silic’s replacement by Bridges, seconded by McDonnell. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- d. **Elected Official Status:** Gerace reminded the Monitoring Committee members that this is an election year for the NBWW. If any members wish to step down, they should email Gerace as soon as possible.
- e. **Nominations for Monitoring Committee Members:** Gerace reminded the Monitoring Committee that there are two (2) vacancies because the Village of Wilmette and Libertyville Township are stepping down from their seats. Gerace asked the Committee members for recommendations on nominations so the vacancies can be filled at the August General Membership Meeting.

6. **Member Remarks** – Sam Barghi mentioned [an EPA drinking water advisory article](#) that was published in June 2022 regarding PFAS chemicals. At this time, it’s an advisory for drinking water only, but these chemicals might have future implications for water quality monitoring in waterways.

7. **Next Meeting:**

General Membership Meeting: August 10, 2022
Monitoring Committee Meeting: September 14, 2022

8. **Adjournment** – 1:05pm

Bridges motioned to adjourn, seconded by Barghi. The motion passed unanimously.

NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Brian Valleskey	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Deborah Antlitz	Forest Preserves of Cook County



NORTH BRANCH
CHICAGO RIVER
WATERSHED
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NAME	ORGANIZATION
Josephine Meincke	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Kate McDonnell	Village of Wilmette
Larry Bridges	East Skokie Drainage District
Leonard Dane	Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental
Mark Olszewski	Village of Deerfield
Mia Gerace	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Interim Coordinator
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District, Committee Chair
Sam Barghi	Village of Lincolnshire