



NBWW Monitoring and Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 @ 12:30pm – 1:30pm
Patty Turner Center, 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 12:33pm.

2. Roll call

Monitoring Committee members present were **Rob Flood**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Larry Bridges**, East Skokie Drainage District; **Chris Johnson**, Illinois Sierra Club; **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department; and **Leonard Dane**, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental. A roll call and introductions were performed.

3. Public comment – None

4. Approve March 08, 2023 NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee meeting minutes

Bridges motioned to accept the March 08, 2023, NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. Old business

a. Monitoring & NARP update – Geosyntec did not have any updates this month as they continue to work on the NARP. NSWRD staff and Geosyntec have been coordinating on the 2023 additional continuous monitoring locations within the Skokie Lagoons. At the June 2023 meeting, NSWRD will be providing more details on the 2023 sampling within the Skokie Lagoons. NSWRD was able to get to all 25 NBWW monitoring sites for water quality sampling in February 2023 and the next sampling event will be in May 2023. The NBWW 2022 Illinois EPA Annual Report was sent to the Illinois EPA by the deadline on behalf of the NBWW members. There was a question asking if Geosyntec is trying to find ways to reduce nutrients from wastewater treatment plants and the response was yes, that is part of the analysis of the NARP.

b. NBWW 2023 Monitoring Strategy: bioassessment monitoring cost options

Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Coordinator, was looking for Monitoring Committee feedback on what cost scenarios to run for the NBWW for future bioassessment. The Monitoring Committee discussed the different scenarios and costs and weighed the cost-benefits of when to perform the next bioassessment cycle based on when project implementation may occur in the watershed to have an impact. The two scenarios Strelcheck is being asked to run in a future budget would be the split watershed monitoring sites approach and the full 25 site bioassessment costs. Strelcheck will create those cost estimates in the NBWW budget for June 14, 2023 NBWW meeting for consideration.

c. NBWW 2020-2021 bioassessment report approval

Chair Flood went through the remaining revisions with Chris Yoder, MBI, for the NBWW 2020-2021 Bioassessment Report. There were no additional comments or revisions at this time. Bridges motioned to



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approve the NBWW 2020-2021 bioassessment report, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

d. Middlefork nurdles update

Mike Prusila, Interim NBWW Coordinator, mentioned that SMC staff is working with Lake County PB&D to determine if the presence of nurdles constitutes an illicit discharge under the NPDES permit within Unincorporated Lake County. Potential sources are being investigated for the potential release.

6. New Business - None

7. Member Remarks

- a. Friends of the Chicago River, Greater Chicago Watershed Alliance, created a Natural Solutions Tool that was demonstrated to SMC staff recently. There will be a virtual training April 24th at 1:00 pm if anyone is interested. SMC will send out the information to NBWW members.

8. Next Meeting:

- a. NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting: June 14, 2023

9. Adjournment – 1:11pm

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

NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield
Chris Johnson	Illinois Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Larry Bridges	East Skokie Drainage District
Leonard Dane	Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental
Mike Prusila	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Interim NBWW Coordinator
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Rosemary Heilemann	Illinois Sierra Club