



**NBWW MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Introductions & Roll Call

Rob Flood, North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement 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); **Chris Johnson**, Illinois Sierra Club; **Wally Dittrich**, Village of Lincolnshire; **Leonard Dane**, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental; and **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department. A roll call and introductions were performed. After agenda items 5a. and 5b. were voted on by the Committee, Larry Bridges, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (SCDD) and Anna Braum, Forest Preserve District of Cook County were able to vote on remaining agenda items.

**3. Public Comment – None**

**4. Approve June 14, 2023 NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes**

Johnson motioned to accept the June 14, 2023, NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Dittrich. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

**5. New Business**

**a. Monitoring Committee Member Adjustment Vote: Larry Bridges, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (ESDD & WSDD)**

Dane motioned to accept the Monitoring Committee Member Adjustment: Larry Bridges, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

**b. New Monitoring Committee Member Vote: Anna Braum, Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Dittrich motioned to accept the New Monitoring Committee Member: Anna Braum, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, seconded by Bridges. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

**c. New Monitoring Committee Alternate Vote: Ethan Hoffman, Village of Lincolnshire**

Dane motioned to accept the New Monitoring Committee Alternate: Ethan Hoffman, Village of Lincolnshire, seconded by Bridges. The motion passed with a consensus vote; Dittrich abstained.

**d. FY24 Proposed Monitoring Contracts**

Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Coordinator, presented the FY24 Proposed Monitoring Contracts to the Monitoring Committee. No revisions or additions were requested.



**i. NBWW Monitoring Strategy: Bioassessment Monitoring Cost Options**

The Monitoring Committee decided to table a decision on when to perform the next cycle of bioassessment monitoring until after the NBWW NARP is complete. For budgeting purposes only, Strelcheck will account for potential bioassessment monitoring costs in 2026.

**e. IPS Model Report on the NBWW Website**

Strelcheck explained that Chuck Bodden, NSWRD, and Brandon Janes, Village of Deerfield, have coordinated with Chris Yoder, MBI, and Stephen McCracken, The Conservation Foundation, about the IPS report and how the workgroups are represented. Bodden recommended revisiting putting the IPS Model report on the NBWW website given that NBWW has not received training on the IPS Model yet and NBWW members are not in full agreement on the language within the report. The Monitoring Committee agreed to revisit putting the IPS Model report on the NBWW website once NBWW has received training on the model.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Monitoring & NARP update**

NSWRD shared the data results and summary from the February - September 2023 NBWW water quality sampling. Braum asked about the locations of the monitoring sites. Strelcheck shared that an interactive map is available on the NBWW website with site location IDs. There was a question about whether rain events occurred before some of the findings. NSWRD confirmed that some rain events did take place. Bridges asked about comparing the findings to previous dates. NSWRD confirmed the location of this information on the data sheet. Johnson asked about *E. coli* fluctuations. NSWRD explained how these fluctuations appear to be seasonal.

Bodden asked the Monitoring Committee if there is a better way for NBWW to view and use the monitoring data. The Monitoring Committee discussed potential options. Meincke shared that she could create simple graphs in Excel. For each parameter, Strelcheck suggested comparing the data from multiple years at the end of each year. Johnson added that this information could be helpful for the annual report and to see the impact of NBWW monitoring efforts. Strelcheck noted that Committee members can send in ideas to add to the next agenda packet. Bartolai added that she can assist NSWRD and ensure consistency with Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup practices.

NSWRD finished the 2023 sampling within the Skokie Lagoons to help fill the data gaps for monitoring. Two datasondes were deployed in May, and another sonde was deployed in June. NSWRD has shared the data with Geosyntec and showed some data to the Monitoring Committee. The NARP is proceeding along, and Geosyntec will provide an update next month.

**7. Member Remarks**

Janes joined the meeting at around 1:04pm. Strelcheck updated him on the IPS report discussion. Janes agreed with the Monitoring Committee's recommendation to revisit putting the IPS Model report on the NBWW website at a later date.



NORTH BRANCH  
CHICAGO RIVER  
WATERSHED  
WORKGROUP

## NBWW Monitoring and Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 @ 12:30pm – 1:30pm  
Village of Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

### 8. Next Meeting:

- a. NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting: November 08, 2023, Village of Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (Council Chambers Board Room)

### 9. Adjournment – 1:05pm

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

### NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Anna Braum	Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield
Chris Johnson	Illinois Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Jack Bielak	Village of Northbrook
Joesphine Meincke	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Larry Bridges	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Leonard Dane	Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental
Mark Olszewski	Village of Deerfield
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District,
Rosemary Heilemann	Illinois Sierra Club
Sharene Gould Dulabaum	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Wally Dittrich	Village of Lincolnshire