



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); **Anna Braum**, Forest Preserve District of Cook County; **Larry Bridges**, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (SCDD); **Leonard Dane**, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental; and **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department. A roll call and introductions were performed.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Approve October 11, 2023 NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes

Bridges motioned to accept the October 11, 2023, NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

5. New Business

a. New Monitoring Committee Alternate Vote: Michele Mrachek, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District

Dane motioned to accept the New Monitoring Committee Alternate: Michele Mrachek, SCDD, seconded by Bridges. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

b. New Monitoring Committee Alternate Vote: Karoline Qasem, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental

Bridges motioned to accept the New Monitoring Committee Alternate: Karoline Qasem, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

c. NBWW FY23 Workplan & Scorecard Approval

Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Coordinator, presented the NBWW FY23 Workplan & Scorecard for approval. Strelcheck noted that the workplan will not be updated until the NARP is completed but that the annual scorecard has been updated. Strelcheck reminded everyone that NBWW provides members with an annual scorecard evaluation for applicable Minimum Control Measures of the NPDES ILR40 permit requirements. Flood asked about reminding NBWW members of this service. Strelcheck will remind members about the scorecard in February via email and at the NBWW General Membership meeting. Flood asked about when the workplan and scorecard will be revised. The workplan will likely be revised in 2026 once the NARP is complete, and a scorecard will be updated based off the new workplan. Strelcheck asked if anyone had any revision requests for the FY23 Scorecard, and there were no comments. Brian



Valleskey, Geosyntec, asked if the updated NPDES permit was finalized, will this scorecard be updated to reflect any applicable changes? Strelcheck responded that the draft will likely not be released before February when the FY23 Scorecard is finalized, and future scorecards will reflect the updated NPDES permit after the permit is finalized.

6. Old Business

a. Monitoring & NARP Update

Flood gave an update to the Monitoring Committee that NSWRD will be submitting their FY24 water quality monitoring contract for consideration to the Executive Board. NSWRD has completed the FY23 NBWW water quality monitoring efforts, and data was reviewed at last month's Monitoring Committee meeting.

Valleskey gave an update on the NARP, specifically the SWMM Model Baseline Model and the NSWRD Skokie Lagoons data analysis. The SWMM Model Baseline Model involves subbasin processing, sub-catchment characterization, streams characterization, and baseflow estimate. Several calibration considerations exist such as the highly impervious nature of the system and the complex urban phosphorus sources. At this time, it is unknown if POTW improvements alone will be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the NARP. Discussion took place about the data NSWRD collected in the Skokie Lagoons. One of the implications from the data analysis is that the NSWRD effluent is largely improving the baseflow water quality of the Skokie River. Geosyntec's next step is completing the Instream Model. At the next Monitoring Committee meeting, Geosyntec will likely present some results from the modeling efforts. Flood asked about monitoring data gaps and if there is a need for additional data that Geosyntec would have wanted for their analysis. Valleskey said the data is sufficient. Flood noted that turbidity data is available for the modeling, and Geosyntec mentioned they will take that data into account.

b. Water Quality Summary Report Discussion

The Monitoring Committee discussed potentially using the NBWW water quality data to create a Water Quality Summary Report that shows water quality monitoring data general trends and would make the data more accessible to NBWW members. Contracting with a consultant will likely cost between \$5,000-\$10,000. SMC will draft an RFP, and NSWRD will review the draft and offer feedback; SMC and NSWRD will bring the RFP to the next Monitoring Committee meeting and seek approval from the Executive Board. The Monitoring Committee will aim to publish the RFP in Winter 2024.

7. Member Remarks

Flood noted that NSWRD has drafted their technical services agreement and offered to share it with anyone who would like to read it at the meeting. Strelcheck shared that a draft NBWW 2023 Annual Newsletter is almost completed, and color is reduced within the newsletter per Sierra Club's request. Strelcheck will send the draft newsletter to the Monitoring Committee and Executive Board for review in December and will bring a revised version to the January meeting for approval. Strelcheck will also bring the updated NBWW monitoring strategy to the January meeting.



**NBWW Monitoring and Water Quality Impairment
Abatement Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 @ 12:30pm – 1:30pm
Village of Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

8. Next Meeting:

- a. NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting: January 10, 2024, Village of Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (Council Chambers Board Room)

9. Adjournment – 1:22pm

Bridges motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dane. 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
Brian Valleskey	Geosyntec
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Larry Bridges	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Leonard Dane	Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District,
Sharene Gould Dulabaum	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission