



NBWW Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 12:30pm – 2:30pm

Village of Deerfield, Village Hall

850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

NBWW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Brandon Janes, North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) President, called the meeting to order at 12:37pm.

2. Roll Call

Executive Board members present were **Brandon Janes** (President), Village of Deerfield; **Aram Beladi**, Village of Northbrook; **Robyn Flakne**, Village of Glenview; **Chuck Bodden**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Hayley Frank**, Village of Winnetka; and **Rob Flood**, NSWRD and Monitoring Committee Chair. A roll call was performed, and an NBWW Executive Board quorum was present. A full list of meeting attendees is at the bottom of the meeting minutes.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Approve June 12, 2024, NBWW Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Bodden motioned to accept the June 12, 2024, Executive Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Flakne. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. Financials

a. Ratify NBWW Revenues-Expenditures: Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Coordinator, presented the expenditures and revenues to the NBWW Executive Board for ratification. There were no questions. Flood motioned to ratify the revenues and expenditures, seconded by Flakne. The motion passed via a roll call vote; Janes – aye, Beladi – aye, Flakne – aye, Frank – aye, Bodden – aye, Flood - aye.

b. NBWW Budget Review: Strelcheck presented the NBWW budget. There were no comments or questions.

6. Old Business

a. Monitoring Committee – Currently, the NSWRD staff are performing the July 2024 (high flow conditions) water column chemistry in-stream sampling for the NBWW. There were no other updates to report to the Executive Board.

i. NBWW NARP Update

Yifan He, Geosyntec, presented NBWW's instream water quality model development with a total of 27 stream segments divided among the Skokie River, Middle Fork and West Fork. Geosyntec have completed the preliminary calibration results and are confident that the results are ready to use that 2022 model to be the baseline scenario for multiple management scenarios for the NBWW NARP. Three scenarios proposed include 1. Impact to receiving streams if Clavey STP discharges downstream of the lagoon instead of upstream in 2022, 2. Impact to receiving streams when POTWs cap effluent TP concentrations to 0.5 mg/L and 3. Impact to receiving streams when POTWs cap effluent TP concentrations to 0.1 mg/L. More analysis of the results is needed but for 2022 baseline condition, most of the NSWRD Clavey STP effluent TP measurements were already below 0.5mg/L, so capping TP to 0.5 mg/L does not show much difference and capping effluent TP to 0.1 mg/L improves downstream chl-a and TP conditions very slightly. However, due to uncertainties associated with the sediment flux and model limitations, it's hard to justify the additional costs for the limited benefits. Capping Deerfield WRF effluent TP to 0.5 mg/L makes



significant improvements compared to the baseline condition. Additional improvements by further reducing effluent TP to 0.1 mg/L are less significant.

Q/A & Discussion

- Geosyntec had a discussion with the Executive Board that they will look at potential future management scenarios and present a few more options to the Monitoring Committee for the September 2024 NBWW meeting for Committee members to choose what additional scenarios to run in the model.
- There was a discussion on the Lagoon – offline/online modeling and if it was necessary to do that given how unrealistic it is to implement that in real life. Geosyntec believes that even though they are fairly certain of the results it would be good to show the online/office impacts for data and sake of argument.
- Has DRSCW (and their consultants) looked into aeration systems and any research support for that? Geosyntec was not sure but DRSCW has been focusing on project implementation and stream restoration projects so they are adding aeration into the stream systems.

ii. NBWW Water Quality Summary Draft Report Presentation

Aaron Vandermus, Geosyntec, gave an update on the water quality summary report progress. The data compilation and analysis are completed, and the reporting (key figures, tables, plots) are still in progress. Geosyntec is working to finish incorporating the NBWW Board and Committee comments into the report and find ways to make the report understandable to a variety of audiences. Geosyntec will present the full draft report to the NBWW members at the August Annual General Membership meeting.

7. New Business

- a. Approval of NBWW Annual Sponsorship of Regional Deicing Events – Strelcheck requested approval of a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,000 (amount approved by the Executive Board in the proposed FY24 education and outreach budget) for the Regional Deicing Workshops and Lake County’s Fall Calibration Event (open to the public). This amount would be divided between the two events and contribute to winter maintenance best practice (and chloride reduction) education. Flood motioned to approve the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,000, seconded by Beladi. The motion passed via a roll call vote; Janes – aye, Beladi – aye, Flakne – aye, Frank – aye, Bodden – aye, Flood - aye.
- b. Discussion on the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club, Environmental Law & Policy Center & FOIR Letter to Illinois EPA on Village of Deerfield NPDES permit
Strelcheck presented a public comment letter submitted by the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club, Environmental Law & Policy Center and Friends of the Chicago River to the Illinois EPA regarding the Village of Deerfield’s NARP extension request and the process of completing the NBWW NARP. This letter contains public comments from those agencies and Dr. JoAnn Burkholder, Ph.D. After discussion with the NBWW Executive Board, the Board would like to request Illinois EPA to comment on this letter and the other public comment letters sent to the regional POTWs with NARP submissions before acting or responding to this letter.

- 8. Member Remarks** – Strelcheck asked for a clarification on NBWW monitoring location SR8. The monitoring location was adjusted to provide additional sampling within the Skokie Lagoons in 2022 for the NBWW NARP data collection. That monitoring location does not need to be on NBWW’s online mapping applications as a water column chemistry monitoring location.



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9. Next Meeting: NBWW Annual General Membership meeting: August 14, 2024, Lake Forest Municipal Services Building, Training Room, 800 N Field Dr, Lake Forest, IL 60045 (1:00pm – 3:00pm)

10. Adjournment – 1:55 pm

Bodden motioned to adjourn, seconded by Flood. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

NBWW Executive Board Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Aaron Vandermus	Geosyntec Consultants (virtual)
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department – Lakes Management Unit
Anna Braum	Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Anna Niedzinski	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (virtual)
Aram Beladi	Village of Northbrook
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield, NBWW President
Brian Valleskey	Geosyntec Consultants
Chris Johnson	Illinois Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Hayley Frank	Village of Winnetka
Josephine Meincke	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Keeley Evans	Village of Northbrook
Larry Bridges	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District, NBWW Monitoring Committee Chair
Robyn Flakne	Village of Glenview
Yifan He	Geosyntec Consultants (virtual)