



NBWW MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

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 12:34pm.

2. Roll Call

Monitoring Committee members present were **Rob Flood**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department; **Chris Johnson**, Illinois Sierra Club; **Anna Braum**, Forest Preserve District of Cook County; **Janice Aull**, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (SCDD); and **Michael Warner**, Gewalt Hamilton. A roll call was performed. A full list of attendees is at the bottom of the meeting minutes.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Approve January 8, 2025 NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes

Aull motioned to accept the January 8, 2025, NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Johnson. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. New Business

- a. Hey & Associates, Inc. new alternate position vote: Kirsten James, Professional Engineer
Warner motioned to accept Kirsten James as the primary position, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

6. Old Business

- a. Water column chemistry sampling update
Rob Flood have an update on the February 2025 water column chemistry sampling event. Chlorides results were consistently above the acceptable limit and particularly in the Skokie River. Flood brought in a copy of the draft sampling data for review. The Monitoring Committee discussed sending an email to sites with the highest chloride monitoring site results (top 5) each year moving forward. This email would inform entities tributary to the high results at that location and recommendations to be more mindful of winter best practices and links to upcoming Winter Best Practice workshops. Strelcheck will draft some language for NBWW review in June or July and the emails are estimated to go out in August/September.
- b. Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan update
 - i. Watershed scenarios
Brian Valleskey & Yifan He, Geosyntec Consultants Inc., gave an update to the NBWW Monitoring Committee on the enhanced reaeration and Lagoon Bypass watershed management scenarios. The effect of enhanced reaeration has localized impacts on improving low DO but can be insignificant if baseline flows are low. Geosyntec is interested in looking into the types of reaeration measures



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

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 @ 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Village of Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

(such as pool/riffle structures) and their actual impact on the stream. The bypass of the Skokie Lagoon would reduce chlorophyll a levels due to much short residence time and mean Total Phosphorus concentrations would be lower due to the removal of the Phosphorus flux from the sediment.

i. Draft implementation plan

Valleskey provided a brief (draft) outline of the NARP implementation plan and schedule to the NBWW Monitoring Committee. The goal is to engage more NBWW members (including strong engagement from the MS4 communities) to help create more buy-in to the implementation stage. The NBWW NARP survey resulted in 35 responses from the workgroup. Geosyntec would like to do some follow-up engagement at the August general membership meeting to dig deeper into the feedback for the NARP implementation plan.

c. NBWW microbial source tracking update

Flood and Strelcheck gave a brief overview of the NBWW top 10 highest E.coli monitoring sites from the 2023-2024 monitoring data. The data for E.coli was averaged and ranked for today’s discussion. Strelcheck provided an overview of costs for potential microbial source tracking analysis from Grand Valley State University. Given the quotes Alana Bartolai has received from several facilities, the request to the Monitoring Committee was to recommend approval to the Executive Board for negotiations and execution of a microbial source tracking contract not-to-exceed \$10,000.

i. Approve of negotiations and execution of a microbial source tracking contract not-to-exceed \$10,000

Warner motioned to recommend approval to the Executive Board for negotiations and execution of a microbial source tracking contract not-to-exceed \$10,000, pending review of references, seconded by Johnson. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

7. Member Remarks - None

8. Next Meeting: NBWW Monitoring Committee meeting: June 11, 2025 Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (Council Chambers Board Room)

9. Adjournment – 1:43pm

Aull motioned to adjourn, seconded by Warner. The motion passed unanimously.

NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Anna Braum	Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield



NORTH BRANCH
CHICAGO RIVER
WATERSHED
WORKGROUP

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NAME	ORGANIZATION
Brian Valleskey	Geosyntec Consultants
Chris Johnson	Illinois Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Janice Aull	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Josephine Meincke	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Mark Olszewski	Village of Deerfield
Michael Warner	Gewalt Hamilton
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Yifan He (virtual)	Geosyntec Consultants