



NBWW JOINT EXECUTIVE BOARD & MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Brandon Janes, North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) President, called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

2. Roll call

- a. Executive Board roll call: Executive Board members present were **Brandon Janes** (President), Village of Deerfield; **Aram Beladi**, Village of Northbrook (Vice President); **Chuck Bodden**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Rob Flood**, NSWRD and Monitoring Committee Chair; and **Robyn Flakne**, Village of Glenview. A roll call was performed, and an NBWW Executive Board quorum was present.
- b. Monitoring Committee roll call: **Rob Flood**, NSWRD and Monitoring Committee Chair; **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department; **Chris Johnson**, Sierra Club; **Janice Aull**, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (SCDD); **Mike Warner**, Gewalt Hamilton. A roll call was performed, and an NBWW Monitoring Committee quorum was present.

A full list of meeting attendees is at the bottom of the meeting minutes.

3. Public Comment – None

4. Approve October 8, 2025, NBWW Joint Executive Board and Monitoring Committee meeting minutes

Flood motioned to accept the October 8, 2025, Monitoring Committee meeting, seconded by Bodden. The motion passed via consensus vote.

5. Financials

a. Ratify NBWW Revenues-Expenditures:

Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Meeting 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 Beladi. The motion passed via a roll call vote; Janes – aye, Beladi - aye, Bodden – aye, Flood - aye, Flakne – aye (5-0).

b. NBWW Budget review:

Strelcheck presented the NBWW budget for 2026. All membership dues will drop to ‘base dues’ (i.e. no NARP Special Assessment Fee). Microbial source tracking with Grand Valley State University (GVSU) was kept as a budget line item at \$10,000 and the MBI IPS Model expense of \$5,000 is reflected in the 2026 budget. Finally, in anticipation of a potential contractual response to the NARP comments, a \$20,000 line item is reflected in the 2026 budget. There were no questions.

6. New Business

- a. Approval: NSWRD FY26 Contract



Beladi motioned to approve the NSWRD FY26 Contract, seconded by Flakne. There were no questions. The motion passed via a roll call vote; Janes – aye, Beladi - aye, Bodden – abstain, Flood - abstain, Flakne – aye (3-0-2).

b. Approval: SMC FY26 Updated Contract

Bodden motioned to approve the SMC FY26 Updated Contract as presented, seconded by Beladi. There were no questions. The motion passed via a roll call vote; The motion passed via a roll call vote; Janes – aye, Beladi - aye, Bodden – aye, Flood - aye, Flakne – aye (5-0).

c. Certificate of Insurance Introduction

Strelcheck requested this agenda item be tabled. NBWW Members agreed.

7. Old Business

a. Water chemistry monitoring update

Rob Flood, Monitoring Committee Chair, gave an update to the Board and Committee on water quality sampling and microbial source tracking efforts with Grand Valley State University (GVSU). Thirteen samples contained greater than 300 CFU/100 mL of E. coli. Samples were tested for gene markers of human, dog and gull. Human gene markers were found at NBWW Monitoring Sites MF17, SR05, and WF25. Flood suggested the high E. coli levels at monitoring sites with human gene markers, along with a low flow season, could mean persistent leaky infrastructure. MF14 and WF20 had results higher than 354 CFU/100 mL but no human, dog or gull markers. At the January 2026 NBWW meeting, it was suggested that the workgroup further discusses these results.

b. NBWW Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) Discussion

Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec Consultants, provided an update on the NARP. Members provided feedback on language within the Implementation Table (Chapter 4). Members agreed they would like to review the table annually to have the document remain a living document. Members also provided feedback on NARP implementation measures included within the tables under the administration, actions to support NARP objectives, education and outreach and monitoring. The NBWW members will meet with the Illinois EPA on December 10, 2025 to continue to gage NBWW member feedback and gage the Illinois EPA for their feedback on the draft NARP prior to the December 31, 2025 deadline.

8. Member Remarks

- a. Bodden shared the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction (INLR) annual meeting happened recently. It was announced point-source reductions of phosphorous across the state are already reduced by 46% (original goal of 45% by 2035).
- b. Strelcheck asked if Mahajan (Geosyntec) could make an adjustment to a NARP Appendix Item D.
- c. Strelcheck confirmed with Janes that 2026 NBWW meetings were booked at the Deerfield Village Hall Conference Room.
- d. Strelcheck asked if the NBWW general membership should be invited to the December 10, 2025 Special NBWW Meeting and the Executive Board and Monitoring Committee agreed.
- e. Warner thanked the group for a productive NARP discussion.



NORTH BRANCH
CHICAGO RIVER
WATERSHED
WORKGROUP

NBWW Joint Executive Board & Monitoring Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 1:00pm – 3:00pm
Village of Deerfield, Village Hall
850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

9. Next Meeting:

- a. NBWW *SPECIAL* Joint Executive Board & Monitoring Committee Meeting
Review the Draft NBWW NARP with the Illinois EPA for feedback
December 10, 2025, Deerfield Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (Council Chambers Board Room)

10. Adjournment – 2:53pm

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

NBWW Executive Board and Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Alexandria Ulloa	City of Waukegan
Aram Beladi	Village of Northbrook, NBWW Vice President
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield, NBWW President
Chris Johnson	Illinois Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Janice Aull	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Mike Warner	Gewalt Hamilton
Rishab Mahajan	Geosyntec Consultants Inc.
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District, NBWW Monitoring Committee Chair
Robyn Flakne	Village of Glenview
Sarah Skolozynski	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission