



## NBWW JOINT EXECUTIVE BOARD & MONITORING COMMITTEE SPECIAL 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; **Keeley Evans**, Village of Northbrook (Alternate Vice President); **Chuck Bodden**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Matt Ueltzen**, Lake County Forest Preserve; **Hayley Frank**, Village of Winnetka; **Rob Flood**, NSWRD and Monitoring Committee Chair; and **Robyn Flakne**, Village of Glenview (entered at agenda item 5a). 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; **Janice Aull**, Skokie Consolidated Drainage District (SCDD); **Leonard Dane**, Hey & Associates; and **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 November 12, 2025, NBWW Joint Executive Board and Monitoring Committee meeting minutes

Bodden motioned to accept the November 12, 2025, Monitoring Committee meeting, seconded by Ueltzen. The motion passed via consensus vote.

### 5. Financials

- a. Ratification: NBWW Revenues-Expenditures  
Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Meeting Coordinator, presented the final FY2025 expenditures and revenues to the NBWW Executive Board for ratification. There were no questions. Ueltzen motioned to ratify the revenues and expenditures, seconded by Evans. The motion passed via a roll call vote: Janes – aye, Evans - aye, Bodden – aye, Ueltzen – aye, Frank – aye, Flood – aye, Flakne – aye (7-0).
- b. Approval: NBWW FY26 Budget  
Strelcheck presented the NBWW budget for FY2026. The NBWW FY2026 budget approved on October 8, 2025 needed to be revised and re-approved. There were no questions. Evans motioned to re-approve the NBWW FY26 Draft Budget with the proposed edits, seconded by Bodden.

### 6. Old Business

- a. NBWW Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) Review and Discussion  
Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec Consultants, provided a review of the NBWW NARP to NBWW members and representatives from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA). Mahajan presented key



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Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 1:00pm – 3:00pm  
Village of Deerfield, Village Hall  
850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

takeaways including the data collection, data analysis, watershed and instream model development, five simulated water management scenarios, and implementation plan.

QUESTIONS

*What would reassessment of the North Branch of the Chicago River look like following the WWTP upgrades required by 2030?* NBWW plans to continue NPDES required in-stream monitoring (annually) and would carry out any additional monitoring needed once the stream has time to react to the WWTP upgrades (likely in 2032).

*Do the NARP models consider a Dissolved Oxygen threshold (standard) along with a Risk of Eutrophication threshold?* Yes.

*Will the Illinois EPA be providing information on NPDES permit renewals following NARP submittals?* Yes. The Illinois EPA understands that permittees want feedback before committing to NARP action items.

*Was a model run to understand the combined scenario of an urban runoff load reduction of 50% and a WWTP phosphorus effluent level of 0.1 micrograms/L?* No. Based on previous studies, Geosyntec did not believe this model would be beneficial to phosphorus reduction in the North Branch Chicago River watershed.

*It appears that the pollutant load reductions between WWTP phosphorus effluent level of 0.1 mg/L and the urban runoff load reduction of 50% and a WWTP phosphorus effluent level of 0.5 mg/L are very similar, but the graphs do not show that. Why is that (explanation)?* The graphic shows the total loading and the POTW are specific points. It depends on how and where the pollutant loads are coming in; the spatial element is driving the difference.

**7. New Business – None**

**8. Member Remarks**

- a. Bodden suggested the addition of an agenda item for next year's meetings relating to Illinois Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) released by the US EPA in 2024, which calls for the addition of phosphates into water treatment to help with corrosion control. Bodden thinks the NBWW should consider the LCRI in their phosphorus-reduction efforts under the NARP and this should be a future agenda item.

**9. Next Meeting:**

- a. NBWW Executive Board Meeting (2:00pm – 3:00pm)  
January 14, 2025, Deerfield Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room 206**)

**10. Adjournment – 2:06pm**

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



NORTH BRANCH  
CHICAGO RIVER  
WATERSHED  
WORKGROUP

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**NBWW Executive Board and Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees**

\* = attended virtually

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Alexandria Ulloa	City of Waukegan
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Ashley Warren	City of Evanston
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield, NBWW President
Brant Fleming*	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Getie Yilma*	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Hayley Frank	Village of Winnetka
Higinio Jasso	City of Waukegan
Janice Aull	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Jim Jabcon	Chicago Botanic Garden
John Quail	Friends of the Chicago River
Josephine Meincke	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Justin Vick	Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
Kaushal Desai*	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Keeley Evans	Village of Northbrook, Alternate Vice President
Leonard Dane	Hey & Associates
Manny Gomez	City of Highland Park
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
Ryan Sherman*	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Sam Barghi	Village of Bannockburn
Sarah Skolozynski	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Scott Twait*	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Yetunde Agbesola*	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency