



**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 2:02pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Executive Board members present were **Brandon Janes** (President), Village of Deerfield; **Keeley Evans**, Village of Northbrook; **Chuck Bodden**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD); **Obaid Khalid**, Village of Winnetka; **Matt Ueltzen**, Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD) (board member entered meet at agenda item 6c); and **Rob Flood** (Monitoring Committee Chair), NSWRD. A roll call was performed, and an NBWW Executive Board quorum was present. A full list of attendees is at the bottom of the meeting minutes.

**3. Public Comment**

**4. Approve April 8, 2026 NBWW Special Joint Executive Board and Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes**

Bodden motioned to approve the April 8, 2026 Special Joint Executive Board and Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Khalid. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**5. Financials**

**a. NBWW revenues & expenditures ratification**

Ashley Strelcheck, NBWW Meeting Coordinator, presented the final FY2026 expenditures and revenues to the NBWW Executive Board for ratification. There were no questions. Flood motioned to ratify the revenues and expenditures, seconded by Evans. The motion passed via a roll call vote: Janes – aye, Evans - aye, Bodden – aye, Flood – aye, Khalid – aye (5-0).

**b. NBWW budget review**

Strelcheck presented the NBWW FY26 budget for Executive Board review. There were no questions.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Geosyntec Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) Proposal Approval**

Strelcheck presented the Geosyntec revised Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) Proposal for approval. The proposal amount and information did not change from the April 2026 joint meeting minus a grammatical error. The Monitoring Committee recommended approval of Geosyntec’s NARP Proposal with the addition of a 3-month deadline. Flood motioned to approve Geosyntec’s revised NARP Proposal with the 3-month deadline revision, seconded by Khalid. The motion passed via a roll call vote: Janes – aye, Evans - aye, Bodden – aye, Flood – aye, Khalid – aye (5-0).

**b. Grand Valley State University 2026 Microbial Source Tracking Proposal Approval**

Strelcheck presented the Grand Valley State University 2026 Microbial Source Tracking Proposal for approval. The proposal amount and information did not change from the April 2026 joint meeting. The Monitoring Committee recommended approval of the proposal with the removal of “Ashley Strelcheck” as the signature authority (Brandon Janes is the NBWW signatory authority) and removal of the extra cost table in the appendices. Khalid motioned to approve GVSU’s 2026 Microbial Source Tracking Proposal with the proposed



revisions, seconded by Bodden. The motion passed via a roll call vote: Janes – aye, Evans - aye, Bodden – aye, Flood – aye, Khalid – aye (5-0).

**c. Monitoring Committee updates**

Rob Flood, Monitoring Committee Chair, gave the Monitoring Committee update that NSWRD is currently conducting the May 2026 water column chemistry sampling in the watershed (25 sites). The results NSWRD is currently seeing are low E.coli at this time, we will see once all the results come in. Other Monitoring Committee updates will be reflected throughout the meeting minutes in the corresponding agenda items.

**7. New Business**

**a. Discussion Item: NBWW Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Amendment**

The Monitoring Committee agreed to reach out to Grand Valley State University (GVSU) for their availability to assist the NBWW on creating an amendment to the QAPP to include microbial source tracking SOPs for all markers. The Executive Board agreed that Rob Flood and Ashley Strelcheck should coordinate with GVSU. Strelcheck informed the Executive Board that she will be reaching out to CMAP for potential NBWW membership opportunity as the goals of the workgroup align with CMAP and future E.coli microbial source tracking efforts may be supported with CMAP given their recent support of the Fox River Study Group's grant application. Strelcheck will reach out to CMAP about potential FY26 membership and starting a conversation about the workgroups microbial source tracking efforts.

**b. Discussion Item: 2026 Draft Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report NBWW Public Comments**

The NBWW wanted to provide public comments to the Illinois EPA inquiring if NBWW annual monitoring data has been taken into consideration for the 2026 water quality report and if the data has not been considered for the water quality report, the NBWW would like to find out how to properly submit data for future reports. "Oil" has been added as a cause to the Middle Fork North Branch Chicago River segment and the NBWW would like to inquire how this cause is added to the list of causes. It appears that visual observation is listed in the report, but the frequency and more detailed information is not provided. Strelcheck will draft these public comments on the workgroups behalf and submit them before the public comment period deadline. Any Illinois EPA responses will be reported back to the workgroup.

**8. Member Remarks**

**a.** Strelcheck made an announcement that a Save the Date will be sent out soon to the NBWW members for the Winter Best Practices Workshop and Calibration Events. At the June or July 2026 NBWW meetings, Strelcheck will also bring a request to the workgroups for total sponsorship for the 2026 workshops and events for the NBWW.

**b.** Bodden and Strelcheck brought up the Illinois' Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) for the workgroup's awareness; Illinois EPA's regulatory approach for drinking water systems with elevated lead levels has been to push corrosion control treatment, primarily orthophosphate. Some systems are increasing their dosages, which increases the amount of phosphorus received by wastewater treatment plants who are getting pushed by Illinois EPA for further phosphorus reductions. Phosphorus (as phosphates) isn't a contaminant regulated directly by the LCR's action levels (like lead/copper), but it's a vital chemical treatment used to meet the LCR's



**NBWW Executive Board Meeting**

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 2:00pm – 3:00pm  
Village of Deerfield, Village Hall  
850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015

primary goal: corrosion control to keep lead and copper out of drinking water. A question we had is what is the relationship between this “lead and copper rule” update impacts to phosphorus usage in WWTPs and it’s relationship to their objectives with the NARPs?

- c. Davey Tree Expert Company is interested in NBWW FY26 Membership and presenting their biochar as an educational presentation at a future NBWW general membership meeting.

**9. Next Meeting:**

- a. NBWW Executive Board Meeting, June 10, 2026, Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (2nd Floor Meeting Room 206); 2:00pm – 3:00pm

**10. Adjournment – 2:49pm**

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

**NBWW Executive Board Meeting Attendees**

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Brandon Janes	Village of Deerfield, NBWW President
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Keeley Evans	Village of Northbrook
Matt Ueltzen	Lake County Forest Preserve District
Michael He	Village of Winnetka
Obaid Khalid	Village of Winnetka
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District, NBWW Monitoring Committee Chair
Tim Horn	Village of Glenview