



NBWW MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Josephine Meincke, North Shore Water Reclamation District (Alternate for Committee Chair Rob Flood), called the NBWW Monitoring & Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee meeting to order at 12:32pm.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Approve May 13, 2026 NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes

Aull motioned to approve the May 13, 2026 NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Bartolai. The motion passed via consensus vote.

4. Public Comment - None

5. New Business

a. Executive Board Recommendation: Microbial Source Tracking Potential Grant Funding & Next Steps

The Monitoring Committee discussed a recommendation to pursue a Section 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant application for microbial source tracking, noting that this specific funding opportunity may not be available in future funding cycles. Strelcheck stated that while a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) is not required to apply for the grant, amending the workgroup's current QAPP is highly recommended to increase the application's score. The proposed grant is intended to identify the sources of human-associated E. coli markers. The primary goals of this project are education, community outreach, and watershed source identification. The Committee clarified that pinpointing specific locations is not intended to target entities or "point fingers," but rather to flag general areas and monitoring sites for water quality improvement. The Committee also discussed the alternative option of bypassing the grant and continuing microbial source tracking through Grand Valley State University (GVSU), noting that GVSU is not an accredited laboratory for certain tracking parameters. Strelcheck noted that a final decision on the grant application does not need to be made immediately, allowing time for the workgroup to request and review project plans from consultants in the meantime. The Committee recommended drafting an Request for Proposals (RFP) to the Executive Board, with the goal of bringing a finalized RFP for approval at the July NBWW meeting.

b. NBWW E.coli Pilot Program Outreach - Review

The Monitoring Committee reviewed the draft E.coli pilot program outreach materials and provided feedback for revisions. Suggested updates included using a new picture for dye testing and finding an alternative to the first photo. General text and layout modifications were requested to clearly spell out or reposition the NBWW logo, define the MS4 acronym, verify all acronyms and page numbers, and adjust



the map colors. Strelcheck will bring a revised publication for final review and approval at the July NBWW meeting.

6. Old Business

a. NBWW field monitoring updates

Meinke reported that there are no new field monitoring updates at this time due to laboratory equipment failure at NSWRD. As a result, water quality monitoring samples had to be sent out to a contract laboratory for analysis, and the results will be discussed at the July NBWW meeting.

7. Member Remarks

- a.** Strelcheck reminded Committee members to complete and submit any outstanding Open Meetings Act (OMA) certifications.
- b.** Strelcheck reported that the regional chloride (Cl) letter updates are nearly complete, utilizing the same distribution lists and locations as previous years. The letters have been updated with current and prior year chloride data to highlight local water quality trends. The distribution timeline is slated for either August or September, which will be further discussed at the next meeting.
- c.** Strelcheck noted that the Committee still needs one more educational presenter for the upcoming August session and she is looking for suggestions.
- d.** Strelcheck discussed distributing the Save the Date announcement for the upcoming Winter Best Practices Workshops.

8. Next Meeting:

- a.** NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting, July 8, 2026, Deerfield, Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 (2nd Floor Meeting Room 206); 12:30pm - 1:30pm

9. Adjournment - 1:50pm

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

NBWW Monitoring Committee Meeting Attendees

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, NBWW Coordinator
Brian Valleskey	Baxter & Woodman
Chris Johnson	Illinois Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Jaclyn Karuna	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Janice Aull	Skokie Consolidated Drainage District
Josephine Meincke	North Shore Water Reclamation District (Alternate)
Michael Warner	Gewalt Hamilton



NORTH BRANCH
CHICAGO RIVER
WATERSHED
WORKGROUP

NBWW Monitoring and Water Quality Impairment Abatement Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 @ 12:30pm - 1:30pm

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

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Rishab Mahajan	Geosyntec Consultants
Zoe Schaaf	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission