



MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2019

10AM

Location: Plainfield Public Works Facility – 14400 Coil Plus Drive, Plainfield

1. **Approve** Meeting Minutes from May 16th meeting. *Motion to approve by Scott Killinger, seconded by Randy Jessen, motion carried.*
2. **Hammel Woods Project Update:** Andrew Hawkins from the Forest Preserve District of Will County will provide an update on the dam modification project and timeline. This project is the first of three restoration projects that will be funded with money generated through the special conditions language in NPDES permits. *Engineering for the project is about 75% complete at this time. WBK has hired a sub-contractor to dive in the river behind the dam to do further investigations of the structure to assess the physical makeup of the dam. This will help to determine how to deconstruct the dam. They have also made a slight change to the initial design that will keep a small portion of the dam above grade to provide grade control and connection to Hammel Creek just downstream of the dam location. They expect to submit permits for the removal by the end of July or early August. Overall time-line is still to go out to bid for the project early in 2020. The response to this project has been overwhelmingly positive, Andrew Hawkins has only heard one comment in passing about the historical nature of the dam.*
3. **Monitoring Program Update:**
 - a. Integrated Prioritization System Model – Update will be provided on draft report submitted to Illinois EPA to meet NPDES permit requirements. *A draft of the first three chapters of this report have been shared with LDWRC members. This draft does not include benchmarks from the stressor analysis or a list of projects. The DRSCW Projects Committee will be holding meetings in August and September to make decisions on benchmarks so that the ranking can be completed and a list of projects developed. **These decisions will drive the work of our watershed groups over the next permit cycle and beyond and will be used in the development of our NIP.** Deanna Doohaluk encouraged people interested in this are to participate in the Projects Committee. There will also be a new subcommittee put together to focus on benchmarks for nutrients. Deanna will be reaching out to people for this committee, but if you are interested in nutrients in particular please let us know if you would like to participate.*
 - b. Pre-project monitoring at Hammel Woods *Midwest Biodiversity Institute will be doing pre-project sampling for fish, bugs and habitat at our set stations above and below the dam as well as two additional stations within the impoundment. This information will be used to track improvements have the dam has been removed. This sampling will be paid for out of the special conditions project funds.*
4. **Education & Outreach:**
 - a. Summer Outreach Campaign – Detention Basins – Proper management, benefits of buffers and what residents can do to keep detention basins healthy. *Summer campaign materials are available on the website. Jennifer Hammer shared a new checklist developed to remind communities what materials are available as well as*

track what is used so that it can be recorded in the MS4 reports. The LDRWC will also be asking members to report back how/what they are using so that it can be tracked on the annual report that the Coalition puts together.

- b. *Fall – focus on leaves, requesting input on needs from members. Jennifer shared a draft of new poster for fall about the impacts of leaves on water quality. Members were asked for input on messages that would be useful. Based on the discussion we will work on a similar poster on the impact of leaves on localized funding with a focus on keeping leaves out of the streets. Suggestions were also made to develop social media posts alerting people about coming storms and checking/clearing storm drains. Fall materials should be available by the end of August.*

5. Update Nutrient Implementation Plan: -

a. Watershed Modeling:

- *Discuss updating and expanding Qual2-W model for Lower DuPage River. This dynamic state model will help to further define stream restoration project goals and provide support for NIP development. The project would be in partnership with DRSCW and updating a similar model for the West Branch DuPage River. Deanna Doohaluk discussed the QUAL2 model update that DRSCW will be completing on the East Branch and Salt Creek as required by their permit and funded through the special condition. They will also be including developing a model for the West Branch out of funding coming from membership dues. The Lower DuPage has a QUAL2-K steady state model for one segment (GB-16). Deanna suggested that the Coalition consider updating that model to the QUAL2-W dynamic state model and include the whole mainstem. This modeling could be completed in partnership with DRSCW and benefit from some economies of scale cost savings. The benefits of this model include being able to model at different points in time and flow regimes and can help us identify where/how to change flow or cross sections to provide a greater benefit to aquatic life. The information can be applied to project designs and NIP development. Deanna's initial estimate to develop the model with calibration, validation and a sensitivity screening is around \$65-70,000. This does not include additional data collection that may be needed. The data gaps analysis would be the first step of the process.*

As this is a new topic for the Coalition, we will hold a special meeting in August for permit holders to discuss the modeling effort in context of the larger Adaptive Management Approach that DRSCW had embraced and is embodied in the current Special Conditions Language found in NPDES permits. Consensus is needed among the communities with treatment plants that this approach is equally beneficial to the Lower DuPage. By working through this approach Coalition members will negotiate permits together with DRSCW with common language rather than individually.

Deanna requested permission to include the Lower DuPage area in an RFP that DRSCW is developing to go out in August. This does not commit the Coalition to the project at this point. A motion was made by Scott Killinger and seconded by Ken Carroll to include the Lower DuPage in the RFP. The motion carried.

6. Organization Updates:

- a. Membership Update –
- b. Treasurer’s Report –

7. Other Business:

- a. *Andrew Hawkins provided some cost information on signage labeling street names that can be attached to bridges to help canoe/kayakers identify where they are at on the river. Signs would run about \$75-100 each plus installation. The signs would have the River Trails and Coalition logos on them. Dan Lobbes suggested some possible grant funding that could be sought to cover the cost and others suggested asking some of the communities with in-house sign shops to see if they could make the signs. Jennifer Hammer offered to put together a list of bridges and ownership as well as some pictures to help identify how signs could be mounted. Information will be reported back at the next meeting.*

8. Calendar

- a. August 28th – DRSCW membership meeting 9AM at Village of Lombard
- b. September 19, November 21 – Lower DuPage Watershed Coalition Member Meetings 10AM Plainfield Public Works
- c. October 15th – Will County Parking Lots & Sidewalks Winter Deicing Workshop
- d. October 16th – Will County Public Roads Winter Deicing Workshop
- e. November 6th - Will County Good Housekeeping Workshop