

# **Fox River Study Group**

Minutes of the meeting on April 17, 2006 in Oswego, IL. The meeting was called to order about 9:00 AM.

## **Attendance:**

### **Directors**

Officers Present: P. Anderson, T. Muth, C. Skrukud, C. White,

Officers Absent: G. Hergenroeder

Other Directors Present: K. Anderson, R. Linke, K. Rudensiuk,

Other Directors Absent: S. Andras

### **Guests**

Bratasova, C. Hughes, R. Hummer, D. Kaptain, T. Kluge, R. Locke, S. McConkey, P. Moreau, B. Richardson, J. Russell, J. Singh, J. Slowinski, USGS (G. Johnson, D. Dupre)

## **Topics:**

### **Approval of minutes from March 8, 2006**

Moved by K. Anderson, second by Muth, approved.

### **Secretary Report**

No report

### **Treasurer's Report**

Interest in the amount of \$911.38 was added to the account; the total balance is \$222,767.95.

### **Chair's Report**

Skrukud reported FRSG submitted a request to IEPA for the FY04 federal appropriation for the study.

Skrukud asked for discussion about how the monitoring study should be structured, especially given the difference between projected costs and available funding. Skrukud circulated copies of discussion questions suggested by P. Anderson. Moreau offered that one goal for FRSG was to develop water quality criteria for the Fox River. Skrukud noted that FRSG should identify urban loads to the Fox River, and that USEPA asked FRSG to work toward understanding biological impacts. Hughes offered there were three goals: Characterize sources, establish water quality criteria, and provide a scientific basis for decision making. She suggested that other areas of the country have conducted similar studies, and data from Ohio, for example, could be used to jump-start this study. Hughes noted that a model and water quality monitoring data were complementary information.

Linke summarized the discussion for ISWS personnel. The primary goal is source characterization and identifying sources that put the Fox River on the 303(d) list.

Kaptain noted that the original FRSG activity focused on relatively simple goals. Since that time the project seemed to get tangled up in finding exact answers; the result is that the project got too expensive.

McConkey observed that the group started with two main goals: Characterize sources and develop a model that can continue to be developed as more information develops. J. Singh presented a summary of recent modeling results for Poplar Creek and Blackberry Creek. Skrukud asked how the suspended solids loading compares between the two creeks; Singh noted that the data were limited to relatively low flows.

### **CDM report**

There was discussion about the work needed to compile pre-1999 DMR data when available, and to correct locations for 26 facilities with locations outside the Fox River basin. Consensus was that the need for this information is not covered in the CDM contract. C. Hughes will propose a contract amendment for the Board to consider.

### **ISWS report**

Bartasova and McConkey talked about the low-flow modeling effort. Cindy will email a copy of the presentation to Board members.

The Board will need to make a decision at its May 1 meeting about going ahead with the low flow portion of the monitoring project.

### **USGS presentation**

G. Johnson presented an overview of USGS activities with an emphasis on stream gaging.

### **Schedule of next meeting**

May 1, 2006 at 10 A.M. at Fox Metro headquarters in Oswego. FRSG will discuss the model objectives.

### **Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned about 12:10. Minutes prepared by P. Anderson with additional notes provided by T. Kluge.