

**Fox River Study Group  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Fox Metro Water Reclamation District  
9:30 AM May 24, 2018**

**Present:** Rob Linke, Mark Phipps, Cindy Skrukrud, Bob Trueblood, Kyla Jacobsen, Tom Muth

**Guests:** Jack Russell, Amy Underwood, Karen Clementi, Maggie Soliz, Eric Weiss, Beth Vogt, Holly Hudson, Tim Wilson, Carl Fischer, Clint Bailey, Karoline Qasem, Rishab Mahajan, Chris Walton, Jillian Kiss, Laura Marcasciano, Sarah Parker, Ken Krueger, Trish Beckjork, Bob Morris

Minutes of Mar. 22 and Apr. 26 2018 meetings- tabled til next meeting

Treasurer's Report – Tom reported that the ending balance as of 3/31/18 is \$470,334.22. Funds were transferred to Old Second Bank on May 1st, receiving more interest. Bob made a motion to pay the invoice of \$438.75 to DEI for FRSG assistance. The motion was seconded by Mark Phipps and passed unanimously. Reminder to get 2017 in-kind time in to Cindy as audit will start soon.

Modeling work update- Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec

They are updating the HSPF model to simulate time period from 2011 to 2016. They identified meteorological stations in the watershed and determined which to use for each sub-watershed which is its own HSPF model, using Thiessen Polygons. They used the polygon that covered the maximum area in the watershed. They are currently focusing on updating the hydrology while we gather point source data. They are also evaluating the simulations to use for the QUAL2K model inputs.

Next steps: finish up the hydrology set up, update the HSPF model for water quality once the rest of the data is received, develop time series of flow and loads into Fox River main stem, then evaluate the sensitivity of QUAL2K model to uncertainties in HSPF simulations of flow and water quality.

Karen Clementi has been getting real data from POTWs. Rishab suggests we now use what we have and use IEPA data for those who we don't receive data from.

Post processor Development: Rishab reported working with QUAL2K in Excel is unwieldy in large data bases. They are developing a post processor using Python to read the model outputs to create time series plots, box and whisker plots and longitudinal plots. It will be useful for comparing future scenarios as regenerating all the plots is very simple. They will meet with the FRSG modeling subcommittee to finalize all the formatting for plots of scenarios.

Fox River major plants' special conditions from USEPA and IEPA – We sent draft conditions to IEPA and USEPA and got back edits from the USEPA. As a group we went through each of the edits - accept, reword, modify. SPECIAL CONDITION 8 had quite a bit of discussion. Cindy will write up and send to the group and the IEPA. Then once we have input from IEPA, will go to USEPA. There was a question from St. Charles regarding the language in the permit regarding DO and dam removal. If that language is in there, will the removal of the dam be required? The answer was no. What dam removals will be recommended will come out of watershed-wide discussions.

Army Corps Fox River Habitat & Connectivity Study update - IDNR and Army Corps met again last week, but did not discuss this 519 project. Another meeting is set for the beginning of July. IDNR assured that they would respond to our letter and request to assist in funding of this project. In order for us to be the official local cost share sponsor with the Army Corps, it could take years so that is why we are hoping to be able to work with IDNR to get the study going again with the IDNR continuing as the local cost share sponsor.

ISWS Water Quality Trends Report update - ISWS should have a draft to us in July. They are prepared to present at the FREP in September and we asked them to present at our annual meeting in October.

#### Communications update

- May 14 Watershed Management Group Panel at CSWEA - Bob was on a panel, not a huge turnout, good discussion amongst the watershed groups.
- Feedback from American Rivers on dam removal outreach - Karen reached out to Jessie at American Rivers and picked her brain on how to get the word out to the communities to embrace dam removal. Lots of great input that our Communications Committee will share with BlueStem Communications. American Rivers suggested some listening sessions in various communities. Then we would use the information gleaned to put out our flyers and marketing materials. Rob suggested working with KCFPD and the dam removal at Carpentersville, possibly do a listening session with people in the area just to get some feedback.

Modeling Committee is meeting with USGS after the board meeting today to discuss monitoring needs.

Next meeting date is June 28 at 9:30 am

Adjourned at 11:08.