

Fox River Study Group
Board of Directors Meeting
Fox Metro Water Reclamation District
September 27, 2018

In attendance: Cindy Skrukud, Tom Muth, Kyla Jacobsen, Robert Trueblood, Mark Phipps, Art Malm

Guests: Bob VanGyseghem, Jack Russell, Beth Vogt, Karen Clementi, Trish Beckjord, Rishab Mahajan, Carl Fischer, Mike Ott, Chris Walton, Ken Krueger, Holly Hudson, Deanna Doohaluk

Meeting called to order at 9:33 am. Everyone introduced themselves.

- Approval of Minutes of August 23 meeting - Robert Trueblood made a motion to approved the minutes. Mark Phipps seconded. They were approved unanimously.
- Actions taken since August meeting for inclusion in September minutes:
 - Sept. 19- Motion by Rob that FRSG authorize payment for the additional \$13,023 in expenses by Geosyntec for the purposes of updating the HSPF models needed to complete the FRSG's Fox River Water Quality Modeling Project currently in progress. Second by Kyla. Passed unanimously via email.
- Treasurer's Report – Tom
 - Financial report - Balance as of 8/31 is \$604,981.29
 - 2017 Audit was distributed to the board. The board had previously reviewed the draft audit. Robert Trueblood motioned to accept the audit. Mark Phipps seconded. Unanimously approved.
 - Bills to pay- Geosyntec for August (\$14,755), DEI for August (\$202.50), PorteBrown-audit (\$2500-final payment) - motion to pay bills by Robert Trueblood, Kyla Jacobsen seconded. Passed unanimously.
- Updates
 - Kane County grants extensions - invoices have been submitted for the parts of the project that they were funding. Need to demonstrate the "matching" portions. We have

requested an extension until the bills have been paid. Extension is through the end of 2019. Cindy will complete the extension the paperwork. Robert Trueblood made a motion to authorize the board chair to sign the extensions. Art Malm seconded. Passed unanimously.

- USGS probes- Cindy gave update from Clint Bailey: The data has been coming in from Stratton dam, no issues. Clint will pull the Stratton Dam and Algonquin Bike Path equipment at the end of October but continue to collect discreet samples upstream and downstream. Clint asked if there is a likelihood to collect data in the future at the Algonquin Bike Path, he will leave the infrastructure and just removed the sensors. The board was in agreement to leave the infrastructure.
- NPDES permits being issued with Fox River major plants' special conditions - If someone cannot meet the 0.5 mg/L phosphorus limit by 2030 then a permit modification will be required. IWEA lawyers, environmental groups, Cindy Skrukud and Beth Vogt have all reviewed it and agree with IEPA's language.
- Bluestem Contract for Fall Listening sessions - at the last meeting the board gave approval to execute a contract with a limit of \$12K. Focus groups will be in the time frame of 11/5 - 11/20 in 3 locations - Elgin, Aurora and Batavia, inviting a representative group of people. If there are any specific people that need to be invited, please share those names with BlueStem. People that live on the pools, key leaders. Art Malm suggested Chambers of Commerce would be a key stake holder. Others suggested someone involved in the St. Charles area river reno, kayaking groups, Smallmouth Bass alliance, Park Districts that have property along the river. We decided to give BlueStem some "groups" and let them make the invitations. Potential Communications meeting Dec 6 or 7 for follow up. Training for the board would be on Thursday, December 13th – starting at 12:30 pm. This will be after the board meeting which is being changed to December 13th at 9:30 am.
- Discussion Items
 - WWTP data gathering update- Karen Clementi - we are in good shape. We have received formatted data from most of the dischargers. Cindy has gotten IEPA to agree to send us data from the communities that we have not heard from. Big thanks to all who helped gather the data.

- Modeling work update- Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec
 - HSPF model update – They have updated the files for flow and water quality for areas that drain directly to the main stem that were not previously accounted for. Then used the updated load data into the QUAL2K model and adjusted the proportion for calibration of the QUAL2K model.
 - Next steps will be to update the HSPF model with the point source data, run the HSPF model for all watersheds and update the time series of flows and loads in the QUAL2K model.
 - They are focusing on the larger stations and working upstream to downstream to update the calibration. Rishab needs river withdrawal from City of Elgin which Kyla will send.
 - Model does not take into account local rainfall data, misses the flow contribution. When they update, they will revise some of the watersheds to reflect rain data from more regionally collected data.
 - Temperature simulations track pretty well. The further south we go, the more disparate the data. They are reviewing the hydraulics and meteorological data to see if the calibration can be improved.
 - Water quality model predications are close to the measured data for total P, Chlorophyll and DO. The model predicts the diurnal fluctuations well.
 - Flow calibration looks good. Temperature is within 1-2 degrees C, and will continue to calibrate the WQ data.

- Annual meeting plans – Presenters will be Geosyntec, ISWS, Fox Metro update and FRSG intro on what we else we are working on. Please let Cindy know if you are bringing a display.
- Cindy will send an email to our entire distribution list to have any data collected sent to ISWS.

- Karen Clementi presented on algae blooms in the Fox River
 - Diatom blooms - Brown Algae Blooms - Green algae got Fox River on the IEPA “radar”, but the brown algae is likely an “offensive condition”. The diatoms are not necessarily affected

by the WWTP discharges. Silica levels and warmer temperatures may be creating a favorable conditions for the development of the diatoms. Sampling done by IU grad students in August 2018. We will be awaiting their results.

- Upcoming meetings
 - Mill Creek Watershed Planning public Open House tonight at Peck Farm
 - Sierra Club Valley of the Fox Celebration for Clean Water - Potluck Social at Fabyan Woods is this Saturday. Link in agenda.
 - Next meeting date-**Annual Meeting, Thursday, October 25 9:30 am –Noon** Batavia City Hall
 - November 15th
 - December 13th

Adjourned at 11:35 am