

**Fox River Study Group**  
**Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call**  
**9:30 AM May 26, 2022**

**In Attendance:**

Board Members: Cindy Skrukrud, Tom Muth, Tim Wilson, Art Malm, Brian Witkowski, Rob Linke, Alyse Olson and Eric Weiss

Others: Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD, Mike Ott, Strand, Amanda Eness, EEI, Atticus Zavelle, ISWS, Joanna Colletti, McHenry County P&D, Leonard Dane, Fehr Graham Engineering & Environmental, Logan Gilbertsen - HR Green, Holly Hudson, CMAP, Dave Lampert, Illinois Tech, Bridget Bentley, USACE, bridget.bentley@usace.army.mil, Mike Casper, Village of Barrington, Jack Russell, FRWRD, Jenny Murphy, USGS, Jillian Kiss, Trotter and Associates, Inc., John Sten - Village of Cary, Cyrus McMains, YBSD, Mia Gerace - Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Lindsay Muth, Trotter and Associates, Inc. l.muth@trotter-inc.com , Robert Yerushalmi - HR Green, robert.yerushalmi@hrgreen.com, Steven Polaskey - Fox Metro WRD, Bob Morris, Andrew Leichty, USACOE

Everyone introduced themselves.

**Army Corps of Engineers Fox River Connectivity & Habitat Study Update-** Andrew Leichty provided the history of the study including the pause 7 years ago. He described the partnership and cost share of IDNR/FRSG and expressed thanks for the efforts to make it possible. There is \$250,000 budgeted of Federal Funding in the current year and the cost share match expected. They will be assembling the team, plan approval, and final estimate of cost for the study. The preliminary cost estimate is \$600,000 total, and the study is expected to take 2 years to finish. The scope of the study is the section of the Fox River including the Algonquin Dam down to the Montgomery Dam. Removal of the dams included in this section of the river are expected to cost more than \$5 Million for construction. The USACOE, IDNR and FRSG are working to setup a kickoff meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>. This meeting is also expected to include discussion of changes to the river that have occurred over the past 7 years since the study was first considered. A question was asked about considerations to go further upstream into Wisconsin, and it is just currently funded for the reach described. Additionally, there was a request to consider Yorkville Dam just downstream of the downstream limit, and this may be able to be considered. There are no other state agencies participating beyond IDNR. There was a clarification of the funding, this is a 65/35 match, where the Federal Funding totals \$390,000 (\$140,000 rollover and \$250,000 current budget) and the local match of \$210,000 is expected to be the FRSGs portion. Further clarification was provided on the kickoff meeting, there is currently not a time or location firmed up, but it is expected to be on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Andy will work with Chad from the IDNR to get the plans firmed up.

**Minutes** - Motion by Brian, second by Tom to approve minutes of April 28, 2022, Board Meeting. Eric abstained. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report** - Tom presented the financial report. As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, we have \$23,329 in our account at Harris Bank and \$536,938.37 in the CD at Old Second Bank. We have also opened a second checking account at Harris Bank with \$12,821.00 and a savings account with \$49,600.38. Tom shared that we are only waiting on a few more communities for contributions.

Motion by Eric, second by Tim to pay a bill to Geosyntec in the amounts of \$12,139.50 and a bill to FRWRD for USGS work in the amount of \$6,625. Motion approved unanimously.

**Chair's Report**

Tom shared that he would reach out the auditors and requested authorization from the board to extend their contract if their fee is no greater than 10% more than the cost in 2021. Motion by Art, second by Eric to authorize to extend the contract with the auditors if 2022 fee is no greater than 10% more than the cost in 202. Motion approved unanimously.

2021 In-Kind Time for Audit and 2022 Appointments to the Board – Cindy reminded all that now we need to provide the 2021 in-kind contributions, and the board members need to provide letters of appointment from their respective organizations.

### **Modeling Committee**

2022 FRIP Update – Rob shared that the committee has been reviewing the first few chapters and appendices. Hopefully, the next draft can go out to the entire group for review and input.

Indian Creek Watershed Based Plan Update – Holly shared that she is finishing up the Final Resource Inventory and now working on the plan including BMPs, education, and etc. Holly also demonstrated the interactive survey for public feedback and input, including interactive maps. They are currently aiming for completion this summer and have received an extension from the IEPA through December of 2022. There were several questions answered. There was a chute structure, a few box culverts and one weir on a tributary. There is an intention to send the survey to Aurora and Batavia to distribute to increase participation.

Request for phosphorus removal status from WWTPs- Cindy reminded all of the need for this information.

- Please [fill out this form](#) with info for your WWTP
- Here is a [spreadsheet example](#) from FRWRD staff on how to calculate the annual geometric mean of total phosphorus.

There was also discussion about making this information accessible and available online.

Carpentersville Dam Removal Update – Rob shared there have been some personnel changes, and they are still working on the permit from the IDNR, but still planning for removal this fall.

### **Upcoming events and other updates**

- o Wednesday, June 8, 2022 - FREP Noon Network - Noon to 1:30 PM, currently only a live in-person event, but they are looking into video for posting online.
  - Location: Kane County Auditorium, First floor in Building A, 719 Batavia Ave, Geneva, IL
  - Program: Kane County's Countywide Drainage Mapping Initiative– Where Does Your Water Go?
  - Presenter: Rob Linke P.E., CFM Sr. Water Resources Engineer & Wetland Specialist, Kane County Department of Environmental & Water Resources
  - For more info please visit: <https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/meetings-news>
- o Environmental Defenders of McHenry County is hosting a series of monthly Fridays Best Management Practices Talks & Tours. To register for the June 17 event-*Electric Vehicles 101: A How-To Guide for Communities* and be added to the email list for this series, please fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/XYWLS9GxBYheY6yU6> You will also find a link there to the schedule of all the Talks and Tours in this series.

2022 meeting schedule: 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs Jan-Sept, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Oct-Dec

**Next meetings** – The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 9:30 AM and will be held virtually.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 AM.