

**Fox River Study Group  
Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call  
9:30 am March 27, 2025**

**Start:** The meeting began at 9:32 am with self-introductions.

**In Attendance**

**Board Members:**

Rob Linke, Kane County  
Cindy Skrukrud, Sierra Club  
Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD  
Art Malm, Friends of the Fox River  
Tim Wilson, Tri-Cities  
Eric Johnson FRWARD  
Alyse Olson, FREP

**Others:**

Matt Anderson, Village of Cary  
Leonard Dane, Hey and Associates  
Emma Hunter, KDSWCD  
Mark Bowman, Village of Marrington  
Karolina Cho, GHA representing Grant, Avon, Fremont, Antioch and Ela Townships;  
also representing Hainesville, Lake Barrington, Fox Lake, (Lake County)  
Kat Gerds, KDSWCD  
Yifan He, Geosytec Consultants  
Phil Cotter, Village of East Dundee  
Matt Farmer, City of Crystal Lake  
Holly Hudson, CMAP  
Lindsay Muth, TAI  
Naren Patel, Fehr Graham  
Emily Conti, EEI  
Clint Bailey - USGS  
Kat Gerds KDSWCD

**Minutes** – Approved of minutes of the Jan 23, 2025 meeting

Motion by Karen to approve the January meeting minutes Second: Cindy

Vote: 5 – Aye 0- Nays , Alyse abstained– Motion Carried

**Treasurer's Report –**

Karen provided the March financial report:

Old Second National Bank \$452,836.47

BMO Harris checking \$8,775.17

BMO Harris savings \$241,127.42

Karen reported on bill to pay for March:

- Secretary of State Annual Report (\$10)

Motion by Eric to approve the March Treasurers' report and to pay the bill to Secretary of State Annual Report Second: Art

Vote: Unanimous – Aye 0- Nays – Motion Carried

Art discussed CD and will be in support of rolling CD forward.

**Finance Committee –**

Karen provided a quick update on the letters to FRSG supporters. The letters have been mailed.

Art provided some updates on dam removal and that sediment work is still needed in the future.

Tim reminded the team about the Elgin agreement – Rob and Cindy will work on this for 2025.

**NPDES FRSG Special Condition Committee –**

Correspondence with IEPA – Karen and Cindy provided an update; the draft language was sent to the IEPA.

IEPA Annual Update letter due March 31: Karen and Cindy provided an update; the letter was sent to FRSG Participants – Cindy sent the annual update letter to the members and included the report in today's meeting. Cindy thanked Karen for the level of effort to help complete the report. Cindy also added some additional information to the report. Cindy provided an overview of the report.

Cindy has recommended the FRSG place the annual update letter on the webpage.

Holly asked if all the wastewater plants within the study area are in the group? Karen provided some information on the permit holders that are required per the discharge permit. It was noted that one treatment plant is not required. Cindy added only the majors (>1 MGD) are required to be part of the group per the IEPA special conditions.

### **Modeling/Monitoring Committee –**

ISWS next proposal for water quality reporting and trends analysis by 04/10/25 to FRSG COW - Rob provided a update on timing of the ISWS plan. Rob added we should have this prior to our next COW meeting. Cindy stated they would like to start the new contract by the end of July. The trends report will utilize the 25 years of data set.

FRSG Carpenter Dam WQ project by Hey & Associates – Rob introduced Len Dane; Len provided a quick update on the next steps including mobilization.

Microbial Source Tracking Pilot Project- Rob provided a update; the 605 B funding is not open with the IEPA yet. Kat provided some additional information and a projected long-term timeline.

Holly asked a question about timing; Kat and Holly will be working together on the project.

### **Communications Committee –**

FRSG Lunch & Learn Topics- Cindy reported that USGS hydrologist Jenny Murphy will be presenting on *Watershed-scale changes in nitrate and total phosphorus in the Fox River and surrounding watersheds: Improvements in point source contributions but mixed responses from nonpoint sources*. The presentation date is Noon on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Chair's Report -**

Cloud Storage alternative to Google Drive- Rob provided a update; after talking to his team and the IT team, the recommendation will be to continue to use Google Drive; based on usage it appears to be the best option.

### **Upcoming events/other updates-**

Saturday, March 29, 9-11 a.m., Boone Creek cleanup in McHenry [Details here](#).

Wednesday, April 9 6:30 p.m. Film: *Mississippi River Speed Record, an Epic Adventure* at Kane County Government Center Auditorium, First/Lower Floor of Building A, 719 S. Batavia Avenue, Geneva, IL More info at <https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/home1> - Rob provided some back ground on the video

Third annual Midwest Beaver Summit (hybrid) Thurs, June 5 [Register HERE](#).

June 22nd EL CARDUNAL celebration on the Fox River – Art provided a update; on Sunday, a celebration of the dam removal. The Friends of the Fox will be working with the municipalities to gather some additional information will about the event. Holly

asked about the registration; Art provided the webpage link. Rob asked about water crafts, Art thinks there will be rentals available. Link to the event:

<https://friendsofthefoxriver.org/el-cardunal/>

Holly provided some information about the FRIP field tour of the Carpentersville dam removal. Rob provided information on the flows around the dam areas; the county will be flying the river for LARDAR data and will be comparing the information as flows change. Art suggested the Forest Preserve would improve some boat access from the west side because currently there is a bunch of muck; some matting would help with access to the stream. Rob suggested this recommendation should be provided to the forest preserve.

Army Corps Habitat and Connectivity Study – Cindy asked about status – Rob said the group hasn't seen anything from the Corps.

- Links to videos/slides of past events- (find most in our [FRSG videos folder](#))
  - FRSG Lunch & Learn Sessions
    - Dr. Andrew Margenot April 18, 2024 presentation on his UIUC lab's work on streambank erosion and historic soil resampling effort (see also factsheet on Centennial soil project in the folder) [Sheet for listing potential streambank erosion sites](#)
    - ISWS Trends Report- presented by Elias Getahun and Atticus Zavelle, [Link to Trends Report folder](#) Feb. 29, 2024
    - Great Lakes to Gulf Observatory Nov. 30, 2023 webinar presented by Laura Kammin and Jong Sung Lee is available at  
  
[https://lewisclark.zoom.us/rec/share/JmJV\\_4gPWLxFFc2UtcSqjMo5Up6p6f9egCTfLnI0MOzUn2hOmaSsTR2MlfiBi3Ws.2Ygo-7xWakkYcbYg](https://lewisclark.zoom.us/rec/share/JmJV_4gPWLxFFc2UtcSqjMo5Up6p6f9egCTfLnI0MOzUn2hOmaSsTR2MlfiBi3Ws.2Ygo-7xWakkYcbYg). Passcode: 89S=e#f7
    - April 10 – FREP Noon Network – Fishes of the Fox River presented by Tristan Widloe, IDNR's Region 2 Streams Biologist. Slides available at: <https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/presentations>
  - 2024 Midwest Beaver Summit videos:  
<https://www.illinoisbeaveralliance.org/2024-midwest-beaver-summit>
  - Mohammed Haque & Bartlett Durand May 23, 2024 presentation: [“Developing a Nutrient Trading Pilot Program in the Fox River Watershed”](#)
  - Fox River Summit Videos (2021-2025) are at Southeast Fox River Partnership YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@benlikesjazz/playlists>. Videos and slides from prior years can be found at

<https://www.southeastfoxriver.org/foxriversummit>

- “Total Maximum Daily Loads for Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids in the Fox Illinois River Basin” (FOXIL TMDL). Project website: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/TMDLs/FOXIL> Includes Project Update Webinar- Sept 25, 2024, Informational Webinar - Oct. 31, 2023 & Project Introduction Webinar - Feb. 15, 2023
- [McHenry County 2024 Water Forum YouTube](#)

**Next regular meeting:** April 24 at 9:30 am virtual

**END:** Cindy moved, and Alyse seconded the meeting to be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 am.