

**Fox River Study Group
Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call
9:30 AM December 16, 2021**

In Attendance:

Board Members: Cindy Skrukud, Mark Phipps, Tom Muth, Tim Wilson, Art Malm, Bob Trueblood, Rob Linke and Eric Weiss

Board Members not present: Alyse Olson

Others: Dan Langguth, City of Crystal Lake, Chris Walton, EEI, Carl Fischer, Baxter & Woodman, Leonard Dane, Fehr Graham, Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD, Beth Vogt, FRWRD, Holly Hudson, CMAP, Jillian Kiss, Trotter and Associates, Inc., Christine Davis, Illinois EPA, Jack Russell, FRWRD, Dave Lampert, Illinois Tech, Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec

Everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes - Motion by Mark, second by Bob to approve minutes of November 18, 2021 Board Meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Tom presented the financial report. As of November 30, 2021 we have \$106,007.87 in our account at Harris Bank and \$536,714.82 in the CD at Old Second Bank.

Motion by Bob, second by Mark to pay bills to Geosyntec in the amount of \$4,375.50 and to PorteBrown in the amount of \$3,800.00. Motion approved unanimously.

Communications Committee

Update to financial supports draft letter - Cindy provided an overview of the draft letter she had prepared to accompany the 2022 invoice. Cindy asked for any feedback on the draft, along with including the Dam Removal factsheet and the 10 year financial plan. Bob and Mark supported. Eric suggested improving the 10 year financial plan to just have 1 column for 2021 actual expenditures. Cindy and Mark expressed support for this.

Monitoring Committee

ISWS – Karen will follow up with any stragglers for data early in the new year. Holly asked Art about the Tyler Creek/Ferson Creek data, and he is still working on it.

Rob indicated that Ken Anderson has requested to receive the report from the INHS Mussel survey surrounding the Carpentersville Dam. It is still not complete, but Rob and Karen will put Ken in contact with Alison from the INHS.

Modeling Committee

Indian Creek Watershed Based Plan Update – Holly shared that the stream physical condition assessment of the tributaries is ongoing. Generally, looking for bank erosion. Still working on BNSF access. She is also working on detention basin assessments. The Final Resource Inventory extension was granted to be completed in February. The next task is working on the Public Engagement, including site specific BMP identification.

FRIP conversation with IEPA recap – Cindy shared about the conference call on November 30th. Rishab had presented on scenario work and the proposed outline for the FRIP update. One benefit from the discussion was that Christine Davis had requested to join our meetings. Cindy shared that a follow-up to the meeting she had provided the presentation slides to the IEPA staff and this had prompted a follow-up question from the IEPA: “How is the FRSG proposing to handle the upstream

boundary at the Wisconsin State Line and/or the Chain of Lakes?”. Cindy had prepared some discussion point, and Christine Davis shared that this was more a clarification of understanding from the IEPA staff. Cindy asked the FRSG Board if we had any thoughts at this time regarding the Chain of Lakes TMDL proposals, or specifically the phosphorus reduction requirements. Art and Rishab discussed the USGS Next Generation station to be installed at the State Line. Cindy further requested the board to talk about engaging with Lauren from the IDNR. Bob, Mark and Art agreed this would be a beneficial idea. Cindy also suggested including Chad and Steve in this conversation, and Karen asked to be included as well.

FRIP Update – Rishab shared that Geosyntec has began their work. Appendix D: Watershed Management Scenarios Technical Memorandum is anticipated to be the first deliverable to the committee and with other sections to follow. Their intention is to acquire real time feedback from the sections as drafts are completed to encourage stakeholder engagement.

Fecal Coliform Study Update – Rishab shared that Geosyntec intends to have more information at the next meeting.

Studies by Others

Army Corps Connectivity & Habitat Study – Cindy shared that she had heard that now is a good time to reach out to Senators, and this prompted her to reach out to Senator Durbin’s office, to thank them for their letter of support, and keep this item on their radar for continued support through the budgeting effort. Art asked if the FRSG Board would support requesting approval from the USACOE to release the 50% complete report. Karen shared that this conversation had occurred previously, and that the USACOE was even hesitant to release the report to the FRSG Board. Cindy agreed with Karen, but Cindy did offer to reach out to the USACOE and see if their position has changed on this.

Upcoming events and other updates

Free Archery Demo – Cindy shared the invitation - Please join the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Aurora Township, Illinois Conservation Foundation, Fox Valley Ministerial Alliance, Fox Valley Park District, City of Aurora and Painters District Council No. 30 for a FREE archery demonstration featuring two world champion archers at 4pm at 313 Gale St. in Aurora. Learn more by visiting the online web registration page at <https://archerydemo.eventbrite.com>

Next meetings – Cindy shared the 2022 meeting schedule had been approved at the November 18th meeting and that schedule will be 4th Thursdays in January through September and 3rd Thursdays in October through December. Therefore, the next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 9:30 AM and will be held virtually. Karen offered that the FMWRD conference line would remain available for FRSG.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 AM.