

**Fox River Study Group
Board of Directors Meeting
September 24, 2020 Minutes**

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

Others: Beth Vogt, Jack Russell, FRWRD: Deanna Doohaluk, TCF; Mike Casper, Village of Barrington; Faye Sinnott, Flint Creek/Spring Creek Watersheds Partnership; Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec; Holly Hudson, CMAP; Ed Coggin, Weston Solutions; Clint Bailey USGS; Chris Walton EEI, Cyrus McMains, YBSD; Karen Clementi, Josie Woger; FMWRD; Carl Fischer, Baxter and Woodman; Leonard Dane, Deuchler; Mike Ott, Strand; David Lampert, IIT; Susan Quasney, Village of Oswego; Ben Shorofsky, Greenprint Partners; Susan Quasney, Village of Oswego, John Witte, Bob Morris, Deanna Doohaluk

Everyone introduced themselves.

Approval of minutes of August 27, 2020 meeting. Motion by Bob, second by Mark. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Tom presented the financial report for August and reported the balance of \$319,388. Thanks to Mark for his help in getting the CDARS renewed at a favorable interest rate.

Audit is in process via digital methods, almost finished.

Tom presented three bills for payment:

- Geosyntec August 2020 modeling bill: \$8,881.00
- Porte Brown for audit: \$3,500.00
- Deuchler for Carpentersville sonde: \$10,915.31

Motion to approve payment of bills by Bob, second by Art. Motion passed unanimously.

General Updates

Draft letter to financial supporters almost complete. Should be ready to send shortly.

ACOE Project

Cindy reported on progress on the re-start of the Army Corps 519 project: Fox River Connectivity & Habitat Study. USACOE has approved the restart of the study. Next step is to get the study in a work plan to proceed. Once the budget passed for FY2021, the Corps will develop the work plan. Each Corps District submits their project wish list, and projects are ranked by the Division office. Headquarters makes the final decision on what gets in the workplan based on the budget received from Congress. We discussed that it would be helpful to contact our members of Congress and Corps officials to remind them of interest in the project and the local funding we have committed to provide. The City of Elgin is also moving forward with a resolution in support of the 519 project but wants our help to know who to send it to at the Corps. It was decided that the FRSG should send its own letter to members of Congress, the Corps Division commander and IDNR as well as prepare draft resolutions and letters of support for municipalities and other organizations to make use of (FRSG members organizations, CMAP, etc). The Communications Committee will develop a FRSG letter and template letters and resolution for board's approval.

Monitoring/Modeling Committee reports

Update on Carpentersville Dam

- Leonard Dane, Deuchler reported that 4 of 6 rounds of sampling are complete for the pre-removal water quality sampling, with plans to sample again on October 5 and October 26 (when the sondes will be

removed). A summary memo will be prepared the end of the November and data will be ready by end of December per contract agreement.

- Rob reported that Kane County FPD's engineering plans are moving forward. IDNR's Fish survey field work is complete, they are still working on IDing the minnow and young fish. IBI scores are dramatically worse in the dam pool, data consistent with past fish surveys in this area: 32 species found below the dam/IBI score 50 and 17 species found in dam pool/IBI score 33. IEPA has also completed their macroinvertebrate study.

N. Batavia Dam Removal

Rob reported that the City Council and Park District are in favor of removal and sharing costs. They are working with Hitchcock Design Group on a plan for preservation of their Riverwalk and Depot Pond. Funding for the removal will come from IDNR's dam safety fund. Chad Craycraft is checking with IDNR Office of Water Resources to get an updated list of dams they are working to remove.

Modeling work

Geosyntec has completed the development of baseline scenarios using May to October 2012. They have developed post processing tool to allow an easier comparison of scenario results. Plots are completed and under internal review. Geosyntec will present to subcommittee within the month.

Indian Creek Plan update

IEPA has provided comments back on the draft watershed resources inventory. HSPF modeling update will be presented today to the advisory committee. Survey collector app for data collection will be available online to develop a map. MOU between CMAP and FRSG in support of the HSPF modeling is in process. There was discussion on CMAP coordinating field visits with City of Aurora work next week.

ISWS Phosphorus Sources Update

Cindy requested that the board consider asking Geosyntec for a proposal to update the 2014 ISWS memo on the phosphorus sources by watershed. Rishab said they could use the updated HSPF model to do this. The HSPF model has been updated from 1990-2010 conditions to 2011-2016 conditions, including the latest data on wastewater plant discharges. The QUAL2K model could be used for this effort for the mainstem. The board supported sending the project on to the Model Committee to develop a plan and bring back to the board.

Communications Committee report

Mark reported that Aileron has developed a powerpoint template and a draft factsheet. Plans for press releases were discussed with a recommendation from Mark that FRSG could plan releases in this order: 1) IDNR Carpenter dam fish sampling results, 2) FRSG's call for the restart of the Army Corps study and 3) results of scenarios modeling.

Public Private Partnership (P3) pilot opportunity for funding green infrastructure projects in the Fox River watershed Rishab and Ben Shorofsky of GreenPrint Partners described how GreenPrint is looking for a partner for a feasibility study for a regional pilot that the Kresge Foundation has funded. They have a model framed out that they'd like to present to FRSG. It was agreed to schedule a presentation for our Oct. 22 meeting with specific info on the funding needed, partners needed and private partners role.

Annual Meeting The board discussed and made the decision to move the meeting to a virtual format. We will investigate the ability to record the meeting. Presentations will include Art's on Elgin's Kimball Street dam, the

work that FRSG has been doing on improving its communications tools this year and Mark's presentation on using the FRSG's P tool for MS4s. The meeting will start at 10 am.

Next meeting- 9:30 am, October 22 by conference call.