

**Fox River Study Group
Board of Directors Meeting
July 23, 2020 Minutes**

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

Others: Mike Casper, Village of Barrington; Faye Sinnott; Jack Russell, Beth Vogt FRWRD; Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec; Holly Hudson, CMAP; Ed Coggin Weston Solutions, Matt Bardol, Rishab Mahajan Geosyntec, Clint Bailey USGS, Chris Walton EEI, Lee Melcher YBSD, Karen Clementi, Josie Woger FMWRD; Bob Morris; Everyone introduced themselves.

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

Recording of E-vote on July 2: Funding to approve FOFR chlorophyll probe on sondes at Carpentersville dam. Motion by Mark, second by Bob to request Deuchler prepare a change order to add a chlorophyll probe at the reference site for the 2020 Carpentersville Dam Water Quality Monitoring Study at an amount not to exceed \$4000 to be paid by the Friends of the Fox River. Ayes: Mark, Bob, Art, Tom, Eric, Tim, Alyse, Cindy. Motion passed with 8 ayes.

Treasurer's Report

Tom presented the financial report for June and reported the group is in a sound financial position. Invested CDARS for 13 additional weeks as a temporary measure until we can find a better rate. Tom presented two bills for payment:

- Aileron for website development: \$3,000.00
- Geosyntec June 2020 bill: \$7,038.00

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

Audit is in process. Cindy reminded everyone for their in-kind services as a last call.

Thank you to everyone for their 2020-2021 financial contributions.

ACOE Project

Cindy reported on progress on the re-start of the Army Corps 519 project: Fox River Connectivity & Habitat. IDNR has provided the Corps with a letter that they are ready to restart the project. The project is now at the Corps Division office for approval to proceed. Cindy is continuing to followup. Art inquired whether we should ask our elected officials for help expediting the project re-start.

Monitoring/Modeling Committee reports

Carpenter Dam pre-removal surveys

Deuchler deployed sondes yesterday at Carpentersville Dam and collected first round of water quality sondes. Leonard sent photos of buoys to post on social media asking to not disturb buoys. Cindy has shared on the FRSG Facebook page, asking for partners to share the information on their social media pages. Holly suggested that it be shared on the Fox River Trail site. Art will follow up with Karen Miller. Cindy will followup with Becky Hoag for FREP. Rob will coordinate with Ken Anderson.

IDNR fishing work should be starting shortly. It was scheduled for July 21 but then was postponed. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, volunteers will not be allowed to help. Kane County will be getting pictures for social media. INHS mussel Carpenter Dam pre-removal survey scheduled for 2021. We have not heard yet about IEPA's schedule for macroinvertebrate sampling.

Modeling work

Rishab reported that Geosyntec has completed the setup of existing conditions setup for scenarios. Baseline results look promising so far. They will set up a meeting with the modeling committee once the work is done.

Indian Creek Plan update

Holly said the Geosyntec contract was executed on July 1 and work has begun. Lots of data sets being input. Land use and storm sewer trunks lines being input also. Meeting to come with advisory committee.

Communications Committee report

Mark reported that the new website went live last Friday. Training to any board members who would like to make simple website updates, Art and Mark volunteered to sit in also with Cindy. Aileron working on factsheet next.

Other updates

- Flint Creek group has requested a FRSG update. Cindy and Geosyntec will help on November 18 and the session will be recorded for access on their website.
- Cindy prepared a letter to be sent to our financial supporters for the board's review. There was general agreement with content and direction with some suggestions on changes from board.
- Mark on behalf of the City of Aurora requested FRSG letters of support for two 319 project applications: Mastodon Lake improvements (native buffer, aeration, emergent wetlands, micro-pools, forebays) and Indian Creek streambank stabilization. Motion by Bob, second by Eric for FRSG to send letters of support. Passed unanimously.
- Rishab said The Conservation Fund and Geosyntec would like to provide a presentation on the opportunities presented by the NRCS's Regional Conservation Partnership Project to fund ag BMP projects to reduce nutrient runoff in Fox River watershed. Plans were made to schedule the presentation at the start of the August meeting, and others we should reach out to inform of the presentation were discussed.

(background: <https://www.conservationfund.org/news/press-releases/2218-the-conservation-fund-awarded-usda-funding>)

Next meeting- 9:30 am, August 27 by conference call.