

**Fox River Study Group**  
**Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call**  
**9:30 AM November 18, 2021**

**In Attendance:**

Board Members: Mark Phipps, Tom Muth, Alyse Olson, Tim Wilson, Art Malm, Bob Trueblood, and Eric Weiss

Board Members not present: Cindy Skrukrud and Rob Linke

Others: Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD, Keith Powell, EEI - kpowell@eeiweb.com, Carl Fischer, Baxter & Woodman, Mike Ott, Strand, Cyrus McMains, YBSD, Karoline Qasem, Geosyntec, John Stein - Village of Cary, Atticus Zavelle, ISWS, Holly Hudson, CMAP, Joanna Colletti, McHenry County, Jeff Weiss, Flint Creek/Spring Creek Watersheds Partnership, Jillian Kiss, Trotter and Associates, Jan Mangers, Sierra Club Valley of the Fox Group, Beth Vogt, FRWRD, Susan Quasney, Village of Oswego, Jack Russell, FRWRD

Everyone introduced themselves.

**Minutes:** Motion by Bob, second by Tim to approve minutes of October 28, 2021 Board Meeting and November 2, 2021 Annual Meeting. Motion unanimously approved.

Mark shared of Actions taken via email since October 28 meeting to be added to November minutes:

- The board relayed the Geosyntec Memo *Observations about Preliminary Conceptual Designs for Batavia Dam Removal* with a cover letter to City of Batavia staff and city council
- The board reviewed the 2020 990 documents for submission to the IRS and Illinois Attorney General.

**Treasurer's Report** Tom presented the financial report. As of October 31, 2021 we have \$108,205.85 in our account at Harris Bank and \$536,669.23 in the CD at Old Second Bank.

Motion by Bob, second by Art to pay bill to University of Illinois for Illinois Natural History Survey Mussel Survey in the amount of \$209.74. Motion approved unanimously.

Tom shared that the 2020 Audit and Form 990 are completed and submitted.

**Communications Committee** Mark shared an update on the 3-tier approach of outreach for dam removal communications. 1<sup>st</sup> Tier is to environmental groups, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier is to county and municipal groups, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tier is to officials. Mark requested any suggestions for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier groups for dam removal proponents that we should reach out and offered that anyone can email him with these suggestions.

FRIP Communication – Mark shared that starting in 2022, we will be looking for feedback regarding the FRIP update.

**Monitoring Committee**

ISWS – Atticus indicated that he has received some data from the IEPA. He requested location information from FMWRD, and Tom asked that he email Tom and Karen. The deadline for data submission would be within the next few weeks, as Atticus is trying to wrap this up by the end of the year. Art mentioned that he is working on the Tyler Creek/Ferson Creek data.

## Modeling Committee

Indian Creek Watershed Based Plan Update – Holly shared that the stream physical condition assessment of the main stem is nearly complete. She mentioned a few areas where she would need to coordinate with landowners on tributary access. She is planning to be working on detention basin assessments through December, then working on the Public Input phase, BMP identification discussion with stakeholders in January or February. The study is anticipated to be completed by June 2022.

North Batavia Dam Removal Options Discussion – Mark shared that FRSG had sent a letter and memo to Batavia staff and city council regarding *Observations about Preliminary Conceptual Designs for Batavia Dam Removal* prior to their November meeting. Tim shared that he had listened in to the council meeting, and that much of the discussion was surrounding financial decisions, and they did discuss the options. Tim further shared that Batavia has an Environmental Subcommittee that would be a good group for FRSG to reach out to.

Carpentersville Dam Removal Status – No update.

FRIP Update – Mark shared that FRSG has requested a conference call with IEPA to discuss the outline. Karoline shared that Geosyntec has begun work on the template and is moving into work on: Section #1: Introduction (Study Area, Purpose and Overview of FRIP), Section #2: Water Quality Status (Standards, Nutrient Sources in Fox River Watershed, Water Quality Trend Analysis), and Appendix D: Watershed Management Scenarios Technical Memorandum. This work will be concurrent with stakeholder engagement. Geosyntec is currently targeting mid-March 2022 for the first full draft to be submitted to the Modeling Committee.

**Studies by Others** Army Corps Connectivity & Habitat Study – Mark shared we do have the signed IDNR Joint Funding Agreement. The ACOE is waiting on FY2022 budget to see if funding will be available. Art asked if there is anything that can be done to further support funding. Mark expressed thankfulness for all of the support already shown by many stakeholders. Art asked if we should ask the ACOE if we could make the 50% draft available, since it was originally released as a confidential draft. Mark suggested that Cindy may have input on this idea.

Annual Meeting Recap – Mark expressed thanks to all who had presented. He further mentioned that the event was recorded and posted to the FRSG website. Holly followed up with support as well.

### Upcoming events and other updates

- CMAP Greenhouse Gas Inventory – Holly shared that this effort will include a consultant reaching out to FRWRD and FMWRD for any data that they have.
- Spring Creek Update to Watershed Plan – Jeff Weiss([marjeff1@aol.com](mailto:marjeff1@aol.com)) introduced himself and shared they will be beginning this work in January. He mentioned this watershed has decent water quality, but the challenges are the high percentage of private land adjacent to the creek.

**Next meetings** – Mark shared the 2022 meeting schedule 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays in January through September and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays in October through December. There were no comments on this schedule.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM and will be held virtually.

Motion to Adjourn by Bob and Second by Tom.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 AM.