

Fox River Study Group
Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call
9:30 AM November 17, 2022

In Attendance:

Board Members: Cindy Skrukud, Alyse Olson, Beth Vogt, Tom Muth, Tim Wilson, Brian Witkowski, Rob Linke, and Eric Weiss

Others: Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD, Dan Langguth, City of Crystal Lake, Leonard Dane, Fehr Graham, Bartlett Durand, Sand County Foundation, Emily Conti, EEI, Adrienne Nemura, Geosyntec Consultants, Karolina Cho, Gewalt Hamilton Associates (representing: Antioch Township, Avon Township, Ela Township, Village of Fox Lake, Fremont Township, Grant Township and the Village of Lake Barrington), Carrie Carter, Fehr Graham, Holly Hudson, CMAP, Phil Cotter, Village of East Dundee, Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County, Mike Casper, Village of Barrington, Lindsay Muth, Trotter and Associates, Inc., Jenny Murphy, USGS, Anna Koostra, Village of Wauconda, Jack Russell, FRWRD, Gary Swick, Friends of the Fox River, Mike Ott, Strand, Cyrus McMains, YBSD, Carl Fischer, B&W, Bob Morris, Stephen McCracken

Everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes - Motion by Tim, second by Brian to approve the meeting minutes of November 2, 2022 Annual Board Meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Cindy shared that she is working on assembling minutes for the October 20, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes, due to absence of both the secretaries at that meeting. She plans to have these draft minutes for the December Board Meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Karen presented the financial report. As of October 31, we have a balance of \$17,255.11 in our checking account at Harris Bank, \$9,612.36 in our savings account at Harris Bank and \$537,244.42 in the CD at Old Second Bank. There is \$79.47 in outstanding withdrawals not yet cleared from the checking.

Motion by Beth, second by Eric to pay bills to FRWRD for USGS payment in the amount of \$13,250.00, reimburse Karen Clementi for IL-900 submittal fee in the amount of \$15.00, Porte Brown in the amount of \$1,300.00, and Geosyntec (subject to review of Treasurer) in the amount of \$16,336.90. Motion approved unanimously.

Karen reminded that we should anticipate an invoice for payment to IDNR for Army Corps study local cost-share in December and this is anticipated to be approximately \$70,000. There will be a need for funding transfer to have enough funds available in checking for this cost. Karen and Brian also discussed coordination add Brian as a signatory on the accounts as previously approved by the Board.

Illinois River Watershed Study Group Fall Meeting Recap – Alyse shared that she, Cindy, Rishab and Adrienne attended the meeting on November 9th. There were presentations on phosphorus base loading, phosphorus load studies, and IEPA sample station network. The next meeting is scheduled for May 1st, 2023. Adrienne shared an observation about the disconnect of the IEPA data and connection to USGS data collection. Cindy and Alyse will follow up with the IEPA to ensure that they are aware of the FRSG data.

Modeling and Monitoring Committee

Indian Creek Watershed-based Plan Update – Holly shared that she is working on getting site specific BMPs into ArcGIS. She is also engaging with Aurora and Fox Metro to incorporate their BMPs into

the plan. Once incorporated, she will turn it over to Geosyntec to model pollutant load reduction. Also, looking at private septic system. The final plan is due to the IEPA by the end of December.

Change Order request from Geosyntec to completed FRIP – Rob shared the item. Brian asked if there is any backup justification. Karen clarified that we have received the \$16,339 invoice from Geosyntec, and there is approximately \$12,000 left in the current agreement, and Geosyntec is estimating an additional \$12,000 in effort necessary to complete the report. Adrienne has offered to provide additional documentation for an estimate of hours. Motion by Brian and Second by Rob to conditionally approve the Change Order of additional \$12,000, subject to receiving additional supporting hourly information from Geosyntec. Motion passed unanimously.

2022 Draft FRIP – Rob opened up for an opportunity for any comments, questions or concerns on the draft FRIP. Cindy shared a link for the FRIP and Appendices in the Chat, and shared that the plan is to have the FRIP finalized for the next FRSG Board meeting; therefore, comments are needed by December 1st in order to be able to consider and incorporate the comments. Beth added that comments provided by Mark Phipps included numerous references to statements regarding the FRSG's support for various initiatives, and this does not mean financial support in most instances. The support intended is educational, such as webinars. Beth further explained that it was not always clarified in the draft FRIP. There was discussion about how to handle further comments, and it was concluded that a MS Word/Google Doc would be shared in the draft FRIP folder, to incorporate all comments and references to the page/section in the draft FRIP pdf file provided. Cindy offered that if anyone has any questions, that the Monitoring and Modeling Committee members would be willing to help, and she further referred people to the presentation done by Rishab at the Annual Meeting. Cindy then shared the major findings of the FRIP:

- Major WWTP discharges reduced to 0.5 mg/L Phosphorus by 2030
- USACOE 519 Study Completed by 2024
- Removal of as many dams as possible within 10 years
- FRSG to continue to monitor the river and benefits of dam removal
- Encourage state of the art land management practices

There was discussion that the Executive summary will not be drafted until comments are received, reviewed, and incorporated as deemed appropriate. It was acknowledged that if the Executive Summary is not completed in time for submittal to the IEPA by December 31, 2022, that it was not necessary to be in the submittal, as the Executive Summary is much more beneficial for explaining to the public. Cindy also shared that she had provided the draft FRIP to the IEPA and has requested review comments from them, and that she will follow up with a call.

Upcoming events and other updates

- Here is the [video of our 2022 Annual Meeting](#). We will also get it up on our website. (If you have problems accessing the video, wait a bit as it needs to be processed a bit once it is loaded to our Google Drive.)
- The 2022 NLRS Partnership Workshop presentations are now available on the [Illinois EPA NLRS website](#). Scroll down to "NLRS Workshops and Conferences". Notes are expected to be posted by next month.
- FY2023 Section 319 NOFOs have been posted! [News Release with all the info](#). This year, there are two applications – one (solely) for watershed-based plan development and update, the second is for watershed-based plan implementation and other NPS pollution control activities. Both NOFOs are now in the GATA Portal and may only be submitted through the Portal. Please plan accordingly, as all applications are due by noon on December 7, 2022.
- The Gulf Hypoxia Task Force's annual public meeting will be held at 12:30-4 pm CT on December 14, 2022, in-person in Washington, DC, with a virtual live-stream. The in person

meeting will be at the US EPA Ruckelshaus Conference Center, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Meeting information and agenda will soon be posted here: <https://www.epa.gov/ms-htf/recentupcoming-htf-meetings> If you will attend the Public HTF meeting in person, please register by December 8; if you will attend virtually, please register by December 13. Bartlett Durand offered that he and a colleague are planning to attend the Gulf HTF meeting and would like any comments to be able to present.

- 2023 ILMA Conference Registration March 8-10, 2023 Holiday Inn — Gurnee Convention Center 6161 West Grand Ave, Gurnee, Illinois Registration is NOW OPEN: <https://ilma-lakes.org/conference-registration>
- The Carpentersville Dam has received the USACOE permit for removal. Rob is uncertain about the actual construction date.

2022 meeting schedule: 4th Thurs Jan-Sept, 3rd Thurs Oct-Dec

Next meetings – The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 9:30 AM and will be held virtually.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 AM.