

**Fox River Study Group  
Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call  
9:30 AM January 27, 2022**

**In Attendance:**

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

Others: Bob Morris, Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD, Karolina Cho, Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Gloria Charland, Manitou Creek Watershed, Dan Langguth, City of Crystal Lake, Mike Ott, Strand, Carl Fischer, Baxter & Woodman, Josie Woger, Fox Metro WRD, Leonard Dane, Fehr Graham, Mike Casper, Village of Barrington, John Stein, Village of Cary, Jeff Edstrom, Illinois EPA, Chris Walton, EEI, Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec, Holly Hudson, CMAP, Lee Melcher, YBSD, Jack Russell, FRWRD, Bob Trueblood, FRWRD, Clint Bailey, USGS

Everyone introduced themselves.

**Minutes** - Motion by Mark, second by Art to approve minutes of December 16, 2021 Board Meeting. Alyse abstained. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report** - Tom presented the financial report. As of December 31, 2021 we have \$81,867.66 in our account at Harris Bank and \$536,760.40 in the CD at Old Second Bank.

Motion by Mark, second by Eric to pay two bills to Geosyntec in the amounts of \$3,949.50 and \$13,268.38 and two bills to FRWRD for USGS work in the amount of \$6,050.00 and \$6,625. Motion approved unanimously.

**Chair's Report**

2021 In-Kind Time for Audit – Cindy reminded all that now we are in a new year the 2021 in-kind contributions will be needed.

2022 Appointments to the Board – Cindy shared that it is time for organizations to renew their appointments to the Board.

Mark Phipps shared that he will be moving to Iowa, and changing jobs, so he will no longer be Aurora's appointee to the FRSG after the meeting today. Most likely once Aurora has filled the employment role, the successor will also be appointed to the FRSG. Mark did share that it has been an honor to serve on the FRSG Board, and to keep up the good work.

Bob Trueblood shared that he will be retiring from FRWRD in July of this year; therefore, FRWRD has appointed Beth Vogt to the FRSG Board, effective now.

Cindy shared appreciation of time served to both Mark and Bob.

Nominating Committee for 2022 Officers – Cindy shared that she had originally intended for 2021 to be her last year as FRSG Board Chair; however, with these announcements she is willing to stay for another year. Cindy did suggest a nominating committee be established for officers going forward. Tom and Cindy agreed to lead this effort and are hoping to have nominations for the next meeting.

**Communications Committee** – Mark shared that he has been the primary point of contact for Aileron and there are still ongoing scope items within the current contract. The nominating committee will include this committee chair position in their considerations.

2022 Update to financial supporters – Cindy had previously shared and updated the letter. There were no additional comments, and this is considered ready for mailing.

**Monitoring Committee** – Karen shared that she had reached out to Alison at the INHS that the bills we have received are very small, and just make sure that the billing is accurate.

### **Modeling Committee**

Indian Creek Watershed Based Plan Update – Holly shared that the stream physical condition assessment of the tributaries is completed. She has made a lot of progress on detention basin assessments. The Final Resource Inventory is currently supposed to be completed by mid-February, and Holly will need to ask IEPA for an extension on that.

Fecal Coliform Study Update – Rishab shared that Geosyntec will be sending out to the Subcommittee in the next few weeks.

2022 FRIP Update – Rishab shared that Geosyntec has submitted a few sections to subcommittee for review, and currently on track. Rishab did ask for the preferred common abbreviation for waste water treatment plants, and there was general concurrence to use WWTP.

Beth shared a Request for phosphorus removal status from WWTPs and all should provide updates as soon as possible here <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1FLeyxjNxeJVuZoOKMqhwt2fy-Kx9faO98OMrcCyXfns/edit?usp=sharing>. Beth will also provide a sample table for geometric mean calculation. Tim asked if he should include data for plants discharging to tributaries, and Beth agreed that would be beneficial.

Carpentersville Dam Removal Update – Rob shared the schedule is for removal in fall of 2022 and that they are still working on the permit. There was discussion about permitting challenges.

### **Studies by Others**

Army Corps Connectivity & Habitat Study – Cindy shared that congress hasn't approved a budget yet, so no update on this yet.

Dean Farr's Conversations with Watershed Legislators – Dean shared his background in farm conservation, and that he has been reaching out to legislators, including Senator Wilcox and Representative Ness. Cindy shared that this brings up an opportunity for the FRSG communication strategy should be to reach out to legislators. Art and Holly both expressed thanks for Dean's efforts.

### **Upcoming events and other updates**

- o FREP Legislative Update via Zoom. Noon Wednesday, February 9.
  - Jack Darin from Sierra Club and Elliot Clay from Illinois Environmental Council will be presenting. For more info or to receive the zoom invite, folks can visit the following link: <https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/meetings-news>
- o Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy 1-4:20 pm, February 9
  - AGENDA at <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/excess-nutrients/Documents/Policy%20Working%20Group/2022/pwg-agenda-020922.pdf>
  - Zoom: <https://illinois.zoom.us/j/81238383792?pwd=ekNiUkpiVIFxRi9FUXQ0VVJDbyt3UT09>
  - Meeting ID: 812 3838 3792 Password: 617317
  - Skype: <https://illinois.zoom.us/skype/81238383792>
- o Fox River Summit Thursday, March 17

- tickets at <https://www.southeastfoxriver.org/>
- in person and remote viewing options
- o Leonard Dane shared ILMA/ILAFS Conference is March 16-18 <https://ilma-lakes.org/conference>
- o Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec Consultants shared IWEA Governmenta Virtual Webinar is tomorrow morning with speakes from US EPA region 5 and Illinois EPA <https://www.memberleap.com/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=32881>

2022 meeting schedule: 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs Jan-Sept, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Oct-Dec

**Next meetings** – The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 9:30 AM and will be held virtually.

Motion to adjourn by Art and second by Tom. The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM.