

**Fox River Study Group
Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call
9:30 AM August 26, 2021**

In Attendance:

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

Others: Karen Clementi, Fox Metro WRD, Leonard Dane, Deuchler, Matthew Drabik, Deuchler Engineering, Chris Walton, EEI, Beth Vogt, FRWRD, Deanna Doohaluk, TCF, Holly Hudson, CMAP, Faye Sinnott FCSCWP, Christina Smith, City of St. Charles, Mike Casper, Village of Barrington, David Lampert, Illinois Institute of Technology, Clint Bailey, USGS, Mike Ott, Strand, Jack Russell, FRWRD, Jillian Kiss, Trotter and Associates, Inc., Atticus Zavelle, ISWS, Susan Quasney, Oswego, Carl Fischer, Baxter & Woodman, Gary Swick, FOTFR, Rishab Mahajan, Geosyntec, Bob Morris, Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County

Everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes: Motion by Mark, second by Tom to approve minutes of July 22, 2021 meeting. Motion unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report Tom presented the financial report. As of July 30, 2021 we have \$161,828.58 in our account at Harris Bank and \$536,536.93 in the CD at Old Second Bank.

Motion by Bob, second by Mark to pay bills to Geosyntec - \$2,165.25, CMAP \$15,759.00 and University of Illinois \$18,409.00 for the first payment due 45 days after Sponsored Research Agreement Signed on 7.27.21 for the ISWS Contract. Motion approved unanimously.

Tom requested the 2020 in-kind donation submittals should be sent to foxriverstudygp@gmail.com . Cindy will send out a reminder to any that are missing.

Communications Committee Mark shared that Aileron had received good feedback from the Board and attendees for the Dam Removal fact sheet and we are hoping to have a draft fact sheet for this topic by the next meeting.

Senator Katrina Villa's Fox River Walk – Cindy shared that she believes a date has been set, but will need to confer with Rob on the exact date.

Budget Committee Mark shared that the committee had a joint meeting with the Modeling and Monitoring Committees. We will need the final cost for the FRIP Update to plug into the financial plan. Overall, the 10 year financial plan has a few years early on where we are spending down savings, but the further out years are fairly balanced between income and expected expenses.

Monitoring Committee Karen shared that the first required payment to the ISWS had been authorized earlier in the meeting for \$18,409 for Fox DB and trends analysis. We need to get data to ISWS. Atticus shared that he will send out his contact information, a link where to share data, and a template of data format. The data needed includes the Lat., Long., local agency site name, parameter (full name, not abbreviation), units (mg/L, %, etc.), date and time. Additional discussion about the method of collection (auto, grab sample) would be helpful, and notes about the Standard Methods would be fine as well. That being said, colors and notes are not generally utilized. The date range should be December of 2018 through 9/30/21. It was recommended to have all data to Atticus by end of

October, and send all data from a single organization at once. The template would be preferred, but send the data even if it is not exactly in that format.

Comments were made that we are looking forward to updates from NHS and WDNR for Mussel Surveys.

Modeling Committee Cindy shared a thanks to Rishab for the special webinar presentation on the latest update to the model and scenarios. The presentation was recorded so anyone that missed it could watch the presentation.

Indian Creek update – Holly shared that they are working on the Detention Basin and Stream Assessments. CMAP's amendment to extend the completion through June 30th 2022 is being considered by IEPA. Additionally, they are working with Geosyntec to extend the agreement through that date. After completing the assessments, they will be looking at BMP recommendations both site specific and general, then will run the model for these recommendations. Holly did offer her contact information if anyone wanted to participate in a day or 2 of the creek walk.

FRIP Update – Cindy shared that the committee had received a proposal from Geosyntec and that they are working through some questions on this.

Fecal Coliform Study- Cindy shared that the committee had received a proposal from Geosyntec for this study at the request made. This request was based on the Fecal Coliform observed in Indian Creek. The committee is working through review of the proposal.

Studies by Others Army Corps Connectivity & Habitat Study – Cindy shared thanks to all who sent in letters of support, and shared a link to the press release from Senator Durbin's office the link is found here [Senator Durbin update on funding](#) . Cindy shared that she has had further conversation with Andy from the IDNR and he is planning for the funding and looking at likely finishing the work in 2 years, rather the original estimated 3 years. They believe all of the field work is completed, and the outstanding work will include verification of dams removed, updating costs, and further activities that will not require field work. Cindy shared and updated about the Joint Funding Agreement, that she and Mark had conveyed additional requested revisions to the IDNR and these are being considered by their legal department.

The WDNR Mussel Survey of the Fox River – Cindy will try to get an update on this effort for the next meeting.

USGS Monitoring Station Installation at the Wisconsin/Illinois Border – Cindy asked if Clint had any information on this, but he responded that he would need to look into the status. Rishab shared that the USGS is looking for stakeholder recommendations for additional stations for the NG-WOS program. Rishab shared the link to USGS NG-WOS program https://www.usgs.gov/mission-areas/water-resources/science/next-generation-water-observing-system-ngwos?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects

Scott shared the final published watershed planning document can be found at mchenryh2o.com .

Upcoming events and other updates

- Alyse shared Wed. Sept. 8, 1pm- FREP membership meeting & educational program: Carl Strang on Singing at Creek Bend Nature Center in St. Charles, more details at <https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/meetings-news>
- Faye shared that FC/SC WP is hosting James Duncker on Sept 22 at 10 via Zoom to talk about the USGS project. How to sign up will be on the FlintCreekSpringCreekWatersheds.org website later today.

Annual Meeting – Cindy shared that October generally has the normal monthly meeting on the third Thursday, and the Annual FRSG meeting held on the 4th Thursday. Cindy suggested that Rishab present on the scenarios, and there were also suggestions that we see if we can get a presentation on and overview of the FRIP Update and steps going forward, as well as the WDNR Mussel Survey. Bob suggested doing a hybrid annual meeting with some in person and some virtual. Cindy asked if this was something that could be hosted at FMWRD or FRWRD. There will be more discussion in the September Meeting.

Next meeting The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, September 23th at 9:30 AM and will be held virtually.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.