

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Annual Meeting Minutes
Lombard Village Hall
February 24, 2016**

Equivalent of 1 PDH Recognized for Attendance

9:00-9:05 Welcome, Introductory Remarks

Dave Gorman – DRSCW President and Assistant Director of Public Works,
Village of Lombard

Dave Gorman made welcoming remarks and introductions by attendees followed.

9:05-10:00 Annual Business Meeting

- **Approval of the minutes for the December 9, 2015 meeting (Attachment 1)**

Motion to approve December 9th meeting minutes as presented made by Steve Zehner, seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.

- **Election of Officers and Members-at-Large, New Business**

- President – Dave Gorman, Village of Lombard
- Vice President – Sue Baert, Wheaton Sanitary District
- Secretary – Treasurer, Robert Swanson, DuPage County
- At Large – Rick Federighi, Village of Addison
- At Large – Nick Menninga, Downers Grove Sanitary District
- At Large – Antonio Quintanilla, MWRD-GC
- At Large - Steve Zehner, Robinson Engineering, Inc.

Motion to approve slate of officers as presented made by Dennis Streicher, seconded by Karen Daulton-Lange; motion carried unanimously.

- **Adoption of FY 2016-2021- Budget, New Business**

- Approval of the FY 16-17 Annual Dues Schedule and Annual Dues by Agency (Attachment 2). A 3% increase in member annual dues is included in the schedule. It should be noted that beginning last year, the staffing assessment was included in Agency member dues. A motion to approve the Dues Schedule is required.
- POTW Agency member project assessments related to the NPDES special conditions is proceeding on schedule.
- Chloride management and project construction funding has been moved to the special conditions funding.
- Staff: Addition of 1.0 FTE.
- Review and approval of the FY 2016-17 Budget (Attachment 3 - one page budget summary). A motion to approve the Budget is required.

Motion to approve FY2016-2017 Budget as presented made by Steve Zehner, seconded by Jennifer Hammer; motion carried unanimously.

- Detailed Five Year Financial Plan for Fiscal Years 2016-2017 to 2020-2021 (Attachment 4) will also be presented and discussed. A motion to post the Five Year Financial Plan for information and planning purposes only is required.

Larry Cox stated the financial plan includes the project assessments. Karen Daulton-Lange asked whether the POTW assessments reflected on page 22 are in addition to regular membership dues. Larry Cox affirmed that the POTW assessments are in addition to regular membership dues.

Motion to approve the Five Year Financial Plan for Fiscal Years 2016-2020 as presented for informational and planning purposes only made by Dennis Streicher, seconded by Bill Blecke; motion carried unanimously.

- Accounts Update (Attachment 5).

- **Appointment of Committee Chairpersons by incoming President, New Business**

- Monitoring Committee Chairperson – Jennifer Hammer, The Conservation Foundation
- East Branch DuPage River Watershed Committee Chairperson – Larry Cox, Downers Grove Sanitary District
- West Branch DuPage River Watershed Committee Chairperson – Erik Neidy, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
- Salt Creek Watershed Committee Chairperson – Dennis Streicher, Sierra Club – River Prairie Group

- **Other business**

- Agreement with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County for funding Oak Meadows Projects (Attachment 6).

Stephen McCracken reminded members that Oak Meadows project is first on the list of special condition projects, and will be the first recipient of payments from the projects fund. The FPDDC is to be commended for accepting enhanced stream restoration work proposed by the DRSCW, for which they fronted the money that the DRSCW will reimburse. The agreement has been through review by the FPDDC attorneys and DRSCW executive board. This agreement will be used as template for future project partners moving forward.

Karen Daulton-Lange inquired about what was specifically enhanced and how it benefits the DRSCW's goals. Stephen McCracken replied that enhancements were made to the physical aspects of the restoration activities: more gravel (IPS tool identified the site lacks hard riverbed) which was one of the most expensive items; more grading around the banks, removal of armor and the dam removal. These additions were made because of the funding the DRSCW provided. The upland riparian improvements would have happened regardless of the DRSCW's involvement. He added that the Salt Creek comprehensive basin assessment is scheduled for this year and that the future budget includes 3 sites at Oak Meadows for surveying macroinvertebrates (insects).

Larry Cox asked about project costs with and without the DRSCW funds. Stephen McCracken responded that the river riparian and wetland components are estimated at \$6M-\$6.5M, but would have cost about half of that without the DRSCW's additional items. The FPDDC may have enhanced the project, but with the DRSCW's additional data and finances there was hope to draw in other funding.

Larry Cox gave kudos to the FPDDC; all they had was the DRSCW's promise of money - if we ever got it. The FPDDC Board was committed to do the project as is. It was a boost to both the DRSCW and US EPA Region 5 that ground was broken right after the special condition was approved. Stephen McCracken noted that in 2008 there was no interest in this project.

Dave Gorman proposed holding another meeting at the site when the restoration part of project is completed, maybe as early as June. The golf course will not yet be constructed but the river should be back in place. Repayment has been stretched out a year to improve cash flow. Funds are needed now to pursue the Fawell project and development of the Nutrient Implementation and Trading programs. In addition, the Fullersburg Woods project concept planning is scheduled to begin this year.

Dave Gorman stated that a vote is needed to authorize the DRSCW's executive board to start transfers of cash \$500,000 by March; \$500,000 by end of FY 2016, \$1.0M following and \$250,000 following. A total of \$2.25M will be transferred. MWRDGC may contribute to this project. The agreement specifies that any funds provided by Workgroup members for this project will be added to the DRSCW's total reimbursement amount. For example, if a Workgroup member paid \$1.0M to the FPDDC for this project, \$1.0M would be deducted from the DRSCW's overall commitment of \$2.25M.

Dennis Streicher commented that the process looks positive. MWRDGC would be voluntarily funding projects which provides more resources. Should this happen, the DRSCW could immediately begin spending funds for the Fawell project, freeing up cash flow.

Motion to authorize the DRSCW Executive Board to sign the Oak Meadows Funding Agreement made by Larry Cox, seconded by Steve Zehner; motion carried unanimously.

- Partnership Agreement.

DuPage County Stormwater Management, FPDDC, MWRDGC and DRSCW are reviewing a partnership agreement to help avoid duplicating efforts and establishing a consensus mechanism for projects. The draft agreement was reviewed by the DRSCW's executive board with extensive comments.

Karen Daulton-Lange inquired about the four-way partnership. The agreement will set the tone for implementation partners and ensure their recognition for their involvement. It is relatively informal; it includes points of contact at each agency to share information. Karen Daulton-Lange asked whether this agreement would help the agencies secure future grant opportunities, showing collaboration. Stephen McCracken responded that was a possibility. The agreement provides an umbrella for contributing partners to collaborate on water quality improvement projects and the Board believes it is useful for the DRSCW to participate.

- Newsletter (Attachment 7, to follow).

Stephen McCracken reported that the newsletter is (still) not yet ready for review. There have been many competing priorities recently.

- New State MS4 permit was reissued on February 10, 2016 with an effective date of March 1, 2016.

Huff & Huff held a training on this last Monday and they agreed to have the information posted on the DRSCW's website. The document breaks the information down into digestible portions; there are many new requirements. Baxter & Woodman will also hold a workshop on MS4 permit requirements on the 16th.

Rob Swanson will provide clarification for which monitoring with DuPage County SWM is covered in existing agreements. Dave Gorman mentioned the DRSCW's website includes a model ordinance for salt storage. The permit allows two years to get permanent salt storage facilities in place. There is still confusion about the NOI process; new permit 90 days or 180 days prior to expiration date.

Larry Cox inquired about the wet weather monitoring. Stephen McCracken replied that monitoring wet weather is found in the permit. Some requirements are specific but you can do other things with ambient monitoring. DuPage County SWM and DRSCW monitoring should cover wet weather monitoring. Jim Huff added there are 6-7 pollutants specified for stream monitoring.

Jim Knudsen asked why a provision for retrofitting didn't get passed with the previous stormwater rule. The permit now requires evaluation of all stormwater BMPs (detention/retention ponds). Permittees must develop plan to monitor all BMPs throughout the MS4 area, regardless of whether the municipality owns them.

Rob Swanson added that we need to determine needs to develop regional implementation for IDDE monitoring language and monitoring programs. We are missing "within 48 hours" and should assess this (formalized IGAs?).

Dan Bounds noted that MS4 permits are getting more requirements. Jim Knudsen added that they said it would happen, but now it is. Some items municipalities will have to manage individually.

- The 2016 Integrated Report and 303(d) List was released. Comments are due by March 11, 2016.

The DRSCW will submit comments, which members will have the opportunity to review. If your municipality submits comments, please send a copy to Stephen McCracken.

- The DRSCW and the Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition (LDRWC) signed a funding agreement to update the IPS tool.

Updating the IPS tool is budgeted this year and the LDRWC is committed to paying half. The stressor analysis was used to help identify the projects in the special condition. We now have more reference site data, which should give us top end of good fish/habitat. The updated IPS tool will include the data we have collected since the initial tool was developed and the LDRWC's assessment data from two assessments.

The City of Naperville approached the DRSCW about the possibility of signing on to the special condition. They felt it was a good deal fiscally and environmentally.

Larry Cox stated that the City of Naperville is already a DRSCW member for stormwater, but their plant discharges into the DuPage River. Their POTW is a member of LDRWC. Naperville initially inquired about funding the DRSCW special condition projects. However, it might make more sense to look at projects in the LDRWC watershed; there is a large macrophyte issue, driver for p conditions, biological and also fish passage issues. The City of Naperville approached Illinois EPA with a plan for an identical permit special condition but with different projects as an alternative to taking a phosphorus limit at their facility. Illinois EPA is interested.

Illinois is interested in expanding this approach to other areas. Good incentive for LDRWC and DRSCW to collaborate and spend funding outside watershed boundaries. This collaboration can help manage and execute projects the DRSCW would have to execute in the future. Looking forward this, would keep Illinois EPA, DRSCW and LDRWC stakeholders happy. Jim Holzapfel stepped out of the meeting and was not available to comment. Amy Ries commented that they are pleased with the response they have received and have to move quickly to get their POTWs together to discuss a similar formula.

Larry Cox added that triggers for phosphorus include sections with algae impairments; that is the target of this effort. Dennis Streicher noted that what is happening downstream impacts impairments. When you try to define downstream, it keeps moving south. Macrophytes can be seen on the bottom of a stream and we can redesign the corridor to help mitigate or reduce them; that's a big positive. Anti-backsliding – if p removal did not work, we cannot stop doing it. With this approach money, is still available to try something else.

- *A POTW workshop was held on January 28th covering pre-treatment, phosphorus optimization and point source trading. The workshop had excellent attendance. Board members Nick Menninga, DGSD, and Rick Federighi, Addison, both provided excellent presentations. Jill Kostel, The Wetlands Initiative, provided a spot-on presentation on trading. The workshop provided clarification to members on the special conditions, which are DRSCW responsibilities and which are individual POTW responsibilities, and to help start planning and acting on them.*
- *Illinois EPA approached the DRSCW about putting a chloride variance in place for the program area's three watersheds. A meeting with Illinois EPA was held on February 19th.*

The meeting was scheduled to discuss two issues related to chloride: Would the DRSCW support legislation to provide Illinois EPA with tools to implement waterbody, watershed or multiple discharger variances and would the DRSCW be interested in pursuing a chloride variance in our program area. We will have more information available at the April meeting. Discharges in the CAWS are currently pursuing a chloride variance; MWRDGC is heading this initiative. The

DRSCW must determine whether we will we support the initiative and if we need or want to pursue a variance; including understanding repercussions for not having a variance. Dave Gorman noted that the DRSCW should have no reason not to support Illinois EPA's request for support of variance tools, but have not yet decided to pursue a chloride variance process in the area. The CAWS process prescribes group documents that individual discharges would use to file individual variances.

Jim Huff clarified that only individuals can get variances under current state law. USEPA released variance guidance in August 2015. It makes sense to support the use of other tools identified in the document. Stephen McCracken concurred that support for access to other tools makes sense.

Jim Huff added that the DRSCW has protection through the approved TMDLs, where there are none in CAWS. The CAWS must now meet 500mg/L within 3 years or have a variance in place, which would set a different standard they could achieve through the process (5-years). Already 3 options. MWRDGC is also heading up support of legislation.

Dave Gorman stated that the variance comes with conditions. Jim Huff agreed and added that you have to show compliance in 5 years. Meeting the standard after even 10 years is difficult. This item will be discussed in more detail, including the essentials for what DRSCW members must understand, at the April meeting.

Stephen McCracken added that Vince Mosca from Hey & Associates attended the variance discussion meeting and provided an example of a water quality certification being held up for a parking lot construction because of post-construction increases in chloride loadings. It is clear that chlorides are being looked at differently than in the past. A variance allows for non-compliance with the law for 5 years, while it is unlikely to get into water quality compliance.

- **DRSCW Calendar**

The DRSCW is presenting information on stressor analysis – how the DRSCW analyzed phosphorus as a stressor impacting biological life, at the IWEA annual conference on Tuesday, March 1st in Champaign.

No other questions. Moved to presentations.

- **Workgroup meeting schedule (9:00 AM start time)**

All meetings are scheduled to occur at Lombard Village Hall beginning at 9:00 AM.

- February 24, 2016 (Annual Meeting)
- April 27, 2016
- June 29, 2016
- August 31, 2016
- October 26, 2016
- December 14, 2016
- February 22, 2017

11:10-12:00 Presentations of Implementation Program

1. Permit Condition Review and Schedule - The DRSCW special permit condition requires a number of physical projects and studies to be implemented over the next 8 years. The presentation will cover the project schedule, objectives and key deliverables. – Nick Menninga, DGSD, Stephen McCracken, TCF

Individual permittees are responsible for certain activities on their own; others the DRSCW as a group will complete. DO watershed impairments – we have to do monitoring collect/evaluate. Offensive condition impairments – our 303d and 305b include a small smattering of sections, one stretch on the mainstem West Branch DuPage River. There are a couple tributaries as well, but for the most part, there are not a lot of offensive conditions identified by Illinois EPA. There are certain sections to focus on and a main component is to identify projects. This is all spelled out in the permits. It is up to us to flesh out what our projects look like. We have limited funds so we must be judicious, with realistic expectations for these projects. The goals identified are ones which we have a high degree of certainty.

The Fawell dam modification, which will modify the channel and dam for fish passage at that location, is slated to be completed by the end of 2018. Fish scores are significantly higher downstream of the dam. Biological habitat restoration has occurred upstream of dam but we need fish downstream of dam to migrate there. This year we will focus on concept development and permitting.

Springbrook 12/31/2019

Short term concept plan for Fullersburg Woods dam. There was great resistance from both the village and project neighbors when the idea of this project was initially floated. We will need to have a good vision, statement and materials to show decisively what a successful project might look like. Some might picture mud flaps and flopping fish as the alternative to the impoundment. The DRSCW must demonstrate what it could look like to nay-sayers. The DRSCW will focus on those materials and sell the project more effectively to local stakeholders.

Longer term – southern West Branch and East Branch stream enhancement. We don't have specific locations or lengths. We need to start thinking how much money will be available to negotiate the biggest bang for our buck. Further downstream, scores are generally better for fish and bugs; we may start lower and aim to bring those conditions upstream.

The DRSCW is also working on chlorides and significant nutrient and phosphorus issues at a watershed scale. Individual POTWs will study their plants, provide costs, and identify projects – the DRSCW will collect all the information and investigate trading possibilities. For example, one POTW might be able to make higher reductions at a lower cost (trading). The Nutrient Implementation Plan will focus on narrative standards (offensive conditions/ DO) and investigate correcting these issues; many cases of upstream POTW discharges. Permittees are obligated to work on these.

Chlorides: The DRSCW is probably in the best position to make progress in reducing chloride use and evaluating impacts on receiving streams. Obviously, we will continue to educate salt users for winter operations. DRSCW will also generate an annual report for

individual POTWs to use to satisfy requirements in their permit to identify progress (history of usage, potential impacts) for the upcoming year.

The DRSCW is collecting significant revenue in exchange for a delay in expenses for phosphorus removal at POTWs (less than phosphorus removal).

Stephen McCracken added that the budget shows projected expenditures and O&M costs associated with phosphorus removal. Larry Cox added that the project completion dates are also available.

2. Chloride Reduction and Management - Implementation of the Chloride Reduction Program began in 2007 and is ongoing. The presentation will provide an overview of program elements, progress to date, and how the Program's successful training workshops have evolved. An update on current developments and changes to chloride regulatory standards will be provided. – Dan Bounds, CDM Smith

A model facilities plan is available on the DRSCW's website.

Rishab Mahajan inquired about hotspots. Dan Bounds replied that we do not have much spatial analysis but do focus on municipal and specific points. Stephen McCracken added that we have some summer spatial analysis and had three (3) hits for high summer chlorides; these looked like storage facilities. We are investigating whether they are the source and how to address. Dan Bounds noted that a study from a different area of the country found a storage facility impacted residential wells.

Stephen McCracken added that he didn't like linking the POTW condition to chlorides (a stormwater pollutant) but US EPA felt that this was an important item. Chloride questionnaires will be out in April; please be sure to return them.

3. Oak Meadows Construction Update - Oak Meadows construction is continuing on schedule. The river restoration work is on track to be completed by June 2015 and the golf course is scheduled to reopen in May 2017. – Beth Wentzel, Interfluve

Kelsey Musich asked how the agreement with the golf course for sediment and phosphorus reductions compared to plans at other golf courses. Stephen McCracken responded that the FPDDC's golf course operations already had in place optimized pesticide, herbicide, fungicide and nutrient applications; they applied very conservatively. The FPDDC plan went so far as to prescribe when (and when not) to apply fertilizers and fungicides. Stephen McCracken added that documentation of stream restoration and turf maintenance regime can be shared with others post project for other courses to utilize.

Deanna Doohaluk inquired whether the redesign included traditional turf. All wetlands and buffers include the use of native plants in natural areas. The golf course was reduced by 9 holes so the existing golf footprint is much smaller. The FPDDC will increase native planting throughout playable areas. Stephen McCracken added that most of his time was spent on river design and not much attention was paid to the golf course architecture except where it intersected with the river. However FPD staff were involved and the architect was very focused on producing a green design. While we are

unsure of the scale to measure, there will be much more naturalized than traditional golf courses.

Jen Boyer added that the FPDDC added upland buffers to wetlands and riparian areas. There were some permitting concerns related to nutrient runoff from the lawn into wetlands. Boyer added that the FPDDC introduced BMPs in the riparian buffer before flowing into the wetlands and/or creek. Good job.

4. Fawell Dam Modification Update – Analysis of the culverts is underway with the objective of having a completed design in place by the end of the year to allow permitting to take place in 2017. – Stephen McCracken, TCF

Rishab Mahajan inquired whether analysis for how the channel will evolve after modification will be completed. Stephen McCracken replied that an upstream depth of refusal study was conducted, before it hits gravel, to learn what the downcut will look like after. The face of dam thalweg after would lead us to modify east side instead of the west. We have a good idea from the cross sections of what the channel will do. We plan to let the river find its own course; it will move and downcut, then we'll look at what further restoration can occur. Beth Wentzel added that predictions will be made with a practical perspective – what makes sense, what the system should do passively, and regulatory issues as well. We do not want to lock the channel in place before the modification; it's more expensive and less fruitful. The drawn down water level should bring QHEI benefits.

Rishab Mahajan inquired about the use of a non-steady state model. The FEQ model ends upstream of the face and starts downstream of the face of the dam. DuPage County uses the FEQ model for permit work. There may be a need to incorporate the use a different model, due to the characterizations of the proposal. The FEQ model is still our first process; we can look at other models that might offer more flexibility.

Dennis Streicher asked for clarification that the original plan was a single box culvert and now is two. Yes, to get the in-culvert velocities we want, we are now looking at modifying two. The sluice gates look like they remain in place. These do not close completely; they are dropped and gradually opened. DuPage County just completed the process to change the use protocol with IDNR; IDNR owns the dam and DuPage County SWM operates it. While we would prefer not to open that process again for modification, we may have to; on the bright side IDNR should be up to speed on what's going on with dam.

Larry Cox referenced the project schedule slide. Our timetable calls for construction in 2018. 2018 is the year we are scheduled to complete the basin assessment for the West Branch; we won't fully assess the basin for another three years to ascertain the impact on fish. Oak Meadows project impacts can be measured within the footprint of project. Fawell is unusual in that it can impact the entire system upstream. With the project completed in 2018, we could delay the basin assessment by one year. We could survey upstream fish, but it would be nice to have whole basin assessment. There are marginal costs for additional sites, but this project warrants the entire basin assessment. It is out of sync with the existing basin assessment schedule.

Another observation, same post-project assessment scheduling conflict occurs with Oak Meadows, comprehensive basin assessment in 2016 then not again until 2019. We can add two passes (July and September) the following year for the three sites in the project's footprint.

John Norton asked whether the plans to improve stream water quality and functionality while acting as a flood minimization structure are competing interests. Stephen McCracken responded that the water quality benefits may be small while the biological improvements could be massive. The project considers both chemistry and biology. DuPage County SWM is a great partner and they are committed to seeing this project through. The first priority is that Fawell dam must always operate as flood control structure. However, there should not be any competition between flood control and fish passage.

This is an example of the precise application of funds. The project has a relatively small budget, but can have a very high impact on fIBI scores and meeting special conditions.

The two other barriers upstream are now gone (Warrenville and McDowell). New species could possibly make it to Hanover Park/Schaumburg. Stephen McCracken has not assessed how far north they may move. FPDDC's habitat restoration throughout the river system has improved mIBI; they should be able to support a more diverse fish population.

Dennis Streicher inquired about the scores that drop considerably north of Hanover Park in Schaumburg. Stephen McCracken replied that we don't know why the scores drop. After the project is completed, further information may point to an answer (low flow?). The drop in scores is replicated in both years but neither TSD identified a cause.

Dave Gorman proposed providing QHEI and IBI education at a future meeting.

Larry Cox noted that the graph depicting fIBI scores should be updated to include data through the current year.

Jennifer Hammer stated the DuPage River Sweep is this May 21st and encouraged attendees to take and post the flyers are available at the sign in table.

Nick Menninga made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.

DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
Lombard Village Hall
April 27, 2016
9:00 – 11:00 AM

1. Approval of February 24, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Motion to approve the February 24, 2016 meeting minutes as presented made by Nick Menninga; seconded by Steve Zehner. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Reducing Urban Phosphorus Load: Identifying Sources and Controls Update - Over the last 10 years, the USGS has evaluated several Best Management Practices that are commonly used by MS4s as a means to reduce pollutant load, including leaf litter collection programs. Recently, the USGS began a study to evaluate leaf collection programs as a means to reduce nutrients from urban basins. An early report to the DRSCW showed leaves to be a significant source of phosphorus to stormwater in the fall. As DRSCW's wastewater permits now require a study on non-point source nutrient loading, it is an excellent time to review what the USGS findings have been to date.

Presenter: Bill Selbig, Research Hydrologist, USGS - Wisconsin Water Science Center

John Norton asked whether they are able to extrapolate the total load area for p – enhanced treatment costs and the estimated load from the canopy to the stream (lbs p) and whether they had enough data to evaluate the cost effectiveness of this versus POTW treatment.

Selbig responded that they had not produced a cost comparison but it would be something that the City of Madison may have done. As of October, they implemented 24-hour leaf collection through November; it seems that the costs for personnel and equipment pale in comparison to capital costs. The study shows the dissolved p blasts right through the storm drain system.

A primary objective for the proposal is to build the case/tools to allow other communities to use a survey to estimate how much p reduction they might expect from an enhanced leaf pick up program. For example, in a small basin or service area – bagging leaves on the street, use categories (low, medium, high) can be applied with the regression analysis USGS hopes to develop. Rather than monitoring stations, the idea is to use a windshield survey to estimate the end of pipe benefits. We hope regulators will adopt and allow cities to use bagging for some p credit.

Jim Knudsen inquired if there are other sources of p that may be removed that are not leaf litter generated.

Selbig said that are other sources of P in runoff besides organic detritus such as atmospheric deposition, soil erosion, pet waste, automotive detergents, etc. These sources would be considered relatively constant in spring, summer and fall. Since our study showed no reduction in P from street cleaning in spring or summer we can conclude street cleaning is not an effective way to reduce P from non-organic sources. In fall, the amount of organic

detritus increases significantly, as do concentrations of P. Removal of that detritus showed significant reductions of P in runoff.

Stephen McCracken asked about nitrogen. Selbig responded that we did see an increase in N during the spring, and to a lesser degree, fall. He attributed this to fertilizer application which generally occurs during this period of time. Fertilizer contains N but not P since Dane County has a ban on P for commercial fertilizers. If there wasn't a ban, he would have expected to see an increase in P as well as N. Others make the argument that fertilizer would not contribute to N and P in runoff since there's little runoff from lawns in the first place; this data suggests otherwise. Another argument is that microbial activity in street gutters consumes N in leaves and therefore decreases the overall N concentration in runoff. Selbig disagrees with this as the residency time of leaves in gutters seems too short to allow that to be a factor.

Robert Lewis asked whether the pH of rain fall had any contribution to p load. Selbig responded he would certainly expected pH to drop in runoff with contact with high acidity from leaf bud, but they didn't see that; it stayed relatively neutral. As water moves across a street surface, there are enough carbonites to neutralize water. They did not measure the pH of rainfall itself.

Larry Cox mentioned that in Madison, the runoff drains into lakes which are sinks for p. In Illinois streams, it wouldn't cause excess algae growth. P removal would address the Gulf of Mexico or in between. How would removing p in the fall eliminate excess summer algal growth?

Selbig replied that is a valid question. Madison Sanitary District is responsible for that. They are required to reduce effluent by X amount and could spend millions in capital improvement costs and distribute into the landscape (Chain of Lakes, Rock River, etc.); there are serious p concerns in the Great Lakes. P that enters a stream may not be so high, but it ends up going somewhere. A larger concern was to address TMDL requirements to minimize the impact to area lakes, which are a popular source of recreation. This was a concern for the sewage district. There was a small amount reduction, but the cost was high.

Tom Price asked about the method used to remove leaves. Selbig answered that leaf blowers were used, which are a little over the top for many municipalities. However they were trying to exaggerate the preparation work as a kind of sensitivity analysis. Timing is very important; they removed debris as close to start of storm event as possible.

Stephen McCracken noted that the study was not trying to create standard municipal operations. An objective was to verify how impactful the practice could be, could the loading be reduced? If practices were conducted at the overkill level and only removed 10%, then it would not be worth the effort. If the impact was substantial then the level of effort could be dialed back with the knowledge that a significant impact was possible.

Another question was how realistic the timing was before an event if the City was implementing leaf collection 7 days a week. Selbig replied that there were weekly collections

in the test basins to get just the leaf piles. They followed with HE street sweeper. Blowers are easier; they don't expect municipalities to incorporate this as it is costly and logistically impossible. The point is to determine the maximum potential for leaf collection on p removal. This year, they will go back to the normal frequency for cleaning streets and not use blowers and expect less than 80% removal. City entertained the idea of using a massive blower. They would have to buy a couple; \$100K is a small expense in the overall cost projections to meet TMDL requirements.

Rob Swanson inquired whether there have been any studies on streets without curb and gutter. Selbig responded negatively and added that is a really great point – all were similar, all curb and gutter and storm sewers. What does it mean if streets are not curbed? What are all the factors that contribute to reductions? What do most people do in terms of leaf collection, primary interests and hot spots? Residential area with tree canopy got the most attention – no tree canopy, not as much attention. City of Madison is working with them through 2017. This could be added on to the scope. Questions answered depends upon how much folks are willing to pay.

- 3. Cold Weather Chloride Toxicity** - It is possible that chloride toxicity may vary with water temperature and the temperature associated life cycles of aquatic taxa. If this was the case, then it is possible that a seasonal chloride standard would make sense in Illinois waterways. Such a standard would both protect aquatic life (warm weather) and reduce legal exposure on winter storm releases of chlorides (cold weather). The presentation will outline how such a standard might be investigated, what the process includes and how it would it be promulgated.

Presenter: Jim Huff, P.E., Huff & Huff, Inc.

Stephen McCracken asked if US and Illinois EPAs are on board. Jim Huff replied that a detailed work plan for comments was sent to US and Illinois EPAs. A water effects ratio for US EPA is about \$10K per study. After comments, he got a 10 page response for a \$100K study. The fear is they will demand a huge scope expansion – so you'll need more money. In Illinois the Pollution Control Board makes rules and regulations, Illinois EPA takes enforcement. Illinois PCB has a different structure than other states. They are the ones that would need to be convinced.

Jim Knudsen asked whether there is anything that considers rainfall (drought higher concentration) and dilution. Does the study take this into account? Huff referenced winter. We probably didn't have a violation last winter. With high snow events, winter application rates increase. US EPA allows a violation every three years. We would need to discuss this. In a terrible storm event, public safety trumps environmental impacts.

Stephen McCracken added that the standard is concentration-based and is biologically driven. It is not based on feasibility rather the biological response. Huff stated that in Illinois anyone can propose a statewide standard. Hopefully with Illinois and US EPAs' approvals.

Jim Knudsen stated that municipalities shouldn't be paying for the study, it should be the state; however, there is little confidence the state would give EPA money to do a study. Huff replied affirmatively that the state has no money. They have talked to US EPA but they are happy with the toxicity database they already have. There may be others who are interested - Where's the Salt Institute? This would cover the entire US. Huff was working in the Chicago area on a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) 8 years ago and it is still not there.

Antonio Quintanilla asked if the study considers seasonal effects. Huff replied that the primary focus is winter. Illinois and US EPAs will use whatever data is out there. Not toxicity testing, just how to structure.

Antonio Quintanilla asked for clarification that the summer is chronic not acute. Huff responded usually correct.

Stephen McCracken stated that if winter toxicity concentrations were higher it may well be that summer concentration were lower. Under this scenario, summer toxicity concentrations are important because they impact biodiversity at a critical time. Stephen said he was supportive of the analysis but everyone should be aware that summer limits may also fall and this could potentially impact plants. For example West Chicago effluent is over 200 mg/L. While expressing support it should be kept in mind that it's a two way street; you don't want to trade one set of problems for another. The advantage here is this would better fit reality.

On that vein Larry Cox asked why we couldn't look at only winter or only summer. We can't say we are science driven then ignore summer standards. If we use all the best winter BMPs, can we meet the number that comes from the study? Then what do we do, site specific?

Huff responded that if the study lent empirical data to the hypothesis the acute could be 1000 mg/L in colder temperatures. Can we get to 1000 mg/L with BMPs? If the chronic level is 600-700 mg/L, what about a third of the year with a terrible storm; it allows biology to come back.

Jim Knudsen asked what kind of commitment is being sought. Huff replied that he just needs an email to know if you're on board. Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) rates vary; Huff & Huff rates versus rates for municipalities. Jim said Huff & Huff would be internalizing some of the costs. Jim Knudsen requested a synopsis with the scope and deliverables to take to his board. Huff replied the hand outs are available on the back table.

Stephen McCracken added that Region 5 noted other ions play a role such as sulfates and hardness that may need to be taken into account. .

Jennifer Hammer reminded attendees that moving forward doesn't change what we're doing; we still need less chloride in the stream whether we aim to meet one target or another.

Jim Knudsen mentioned EPA would drive or provide the best scientific information. Jim Huff added that Citgo objected to the new docket – we want a decision. They got 3 years to figure out what they want to do.

No matter how we run the calculations, we can't meet 500 mg/l with storms and we still need to decrease summer values.

Larry Cox asked if the estimated \$100K funds to administer all this is sufficient. Huff replied that he is confident \$100K will be sufficient and anything over that sum will be Jim Huff's responsibility. Huff added that the consortium is what would provide him clout for all that he is representing. Larry Cox noted the municipalities are targeted to provide funding but not the Salt Institute.

Steve Zehner asked whether municipalities outside the DRSCW's program area have been approached. Huff replied affirmatively: the Hickory Creek Watershed Planning Group, DuPage County Mayors and Managers and anyone he has entry with. He is expanding industrial contacts, making slow but steady progress.

Lake and McHenry Counties could also be approached. Larry Cox stated the municipal league should be interested.

4. NPDES Permit Special Conditions (Old Business)

- The first report to the Illinois EPA on our special conditions (http://drscw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/DRSCW-NPDES-SC-Report_1-March-31-2016.pdf) was made on the 30th of March.
- Elmhurst Special Conditions Permit Issuance Update
- MWRD-GC Permit Condition Update
May be locked down by next meeting
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition Permit Condition Update- Group met with Illinois EPA on the 14th of April. A follow-up document is being prepared.
LDRWC boundary begins at the confluence of the East and West Branch DuPage River. Most plants already have P removal. Expand DRSCW Special Conditions to get funding to remove downstream causes of impairment, notably the low head dam in Shorewood and the upstream channel form. Illinois EPA met with them and Sanjay Sofat seemed more optimistic than he was with DRSCW discussions. Illinois EPA asked for a letter providing arguments for why LDRWC should get the same special conditions. Arguments include: same watershed, same water quality standard, fish migration, downstream impacts; the same arguments the DRSCW made. Sanjay Sofat asked why there are two groups instead of one. If we have the same conditions and improvements are made, there may be some logic to combining the LDRWC and the DRSCW.

5. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

- IGIG grant program - *No news.*

6. Projects Committee (New Business)

- Oak Meadows Update (Special Conditions Project 1) – The MOU with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County (FPDDC) was signed and the first installment paid.
- Fawell Dam Update (Special Conditions Project)

The project is moving forward and addressing some modeling issues. FEQ modeling has been problematic. A move to the HEC RAS model may resolve the modeling conundrum.

- Fullersburg Woods concept plan development – Projects Committee will develop and issue an RFP for this item. Contract not to exceed figure will be \$15K.

This is in all POTW permit special conditions so we have to complete and we need to keep the project moving. An RFP will be announced to get concepts and what it entails. Stephen McCracken requested the release of up to \$15K for the projects committee to draw up a contract.

Steve Zehner made a motion to release up to \$15K to the projects committee; Shirley Burger seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- PAHs & Coal Tar Sealants (CTS) Update

New publications are coming out from other groups (not USGS) that support the conclusions of the USGS study.

- Ammonia – N Standards Development

- IPS Tool Update - A contract and scope of work were agreed on for this project.

Contractor is Midwest Biodiversity Institute (MBI). The total project is \$110,436.85. DRSCW has \$55,000 budgeted and a signed agreement with the Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition (LDRWC) to pay the remaining invoices up to a total of \$55,000. Stephen McCracken stated the IPS contract is a little over the budgeted amount. The Board will review the scope before we sign the contract. Requesting authorization for the Board to sign up to \$110,436.85. DRSCW holds the contract with MBI and has an executed MOU with LDRWC.

Larry Cox made a motion to authorize the Board to sign this contract with MBI; seconded by Jennifer Hammer. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)

- Contract and scope for the 2016 biological and habitat assessment of Salt Creek has been drawn up with the contractor, Midwest Biodiversity Institute (MBI). The quote totals \$143,005.58 and includes three reference sites and an additional site at the Oak Meadows location that will score macroinvertebrates and QHEI. The 2016 budget allocates \$144,250 for this line item. Seeking permission to proceed.

Nick Menninga made a motion to proceed with the MBI contract; seconded by Karen Daulton Lange. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Zehner added that it would be good to open a day to observe MBI doing their assessments as we have in the past.

- Contract and scope for the 2016 chemical assessment of Salt Creek has been drawn up with the contractor, Suburban Laboratories (SLI). The cost is \$ 78,902.60. The 2016 budget allocates \$78,020 for this line item. Seeking permission to proceed.

Larry Cox made a motion to approve the contract with SLI; seconded by Jennifer Hammer; motion carried unanimously.

- A contract and scope for 2016 chemical assessment of three reference sites. The 2016 budget allocates \$7,700 for this item. Seeking permission to proceed up to a total of \$7,700.

There will be discussion about which streams will be used as reference reaches. Chemical testing outside our watersheds, in areas that meet CWA goals, is critical information for IPS tool. This is for chemistry data.

Steve Zehner made a motion to allow the Board to sign a contract up to the budgeted amount (may cost more); Shirley Burger seconded; motion carried unanimously.

- Resource Managers Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment Update

Nutrient roundtable: We need to answer questions about the NIP such as what we need to know about washoff P N; trading for plants; schedules and type of information necessary to move to scope and contract phase. In next 6-8 weeks we will send information out for a workshop.

8. Chloride Reduction Committee (Old Business)

- 2015-2016 Questionnaires have been sent out.
- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway - Working on proposals from Bensenville, Wood Dale and Elmhurst.
- Chloride Trends Analysis Update
We will take a look at loadings over the last decade and try to answer whether our activities are having an impact in comparison to other waterways. Summer and winter data – draft plots will be presented to the chloride committee and the analysis will be finalized after QA/QC check.
- Chloride Workshops (Parking Lots & Sidewalks, September 22, 2016; Public Roads, September 29, 2016)
- CAWS and Des Plaines River Chloride Variance Update
Antonio Quintanilla reported they are working on the variance and added that Jim Huff's study is interesting.

Tony is retiring at the end of May. Stephen McCracken thanked Tony for his service and expertise while serving on the DRSCW Board. We wish him the best and thanks.

Able Haile provided a TMDL update. Progress into Stage 3 TMDL. Requested DO data from Stephen McCracken and the Des Plaines office. They are asking workgroups for target load reduction strategies and had a conference call with some members. Discussion is focused on which data to use in the study.

Stephen McCracken added that north of WB north of MWRD Hanover Park, we need help with continuous DO and water quality grab data. We will provide the number of samples and a cost estimate. Two locations for DO and demand/nutrients. This is voluntary and not reimbursable. However the integrity of the model is dependent on having quality data.

Tom Minarik noted that MWRD has a site at Springinsguth Road for water chemistry on the first Monday of the month when there is enough flow. The DRSCW did not have a location in mind and will coordinate with MWRD.

9. Watershed Permitting Update (Old Business)

10. Update on TMDL Development for the DuPage River/Salt Creek (Old Business)

- TMDL Division's Request for QUAL 2K data gathering on northern West Branch during July 2016.

11. Watershed Committee Updates – West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek

- Lower Salt Creek 319 Watershed Plan
Holly Hudson stated there is agreement on the watershed boundary. She plans to use DuPage County portions and obtain more from Cook County. Work will be on the resource inventory (soils, land use, natural resources, etc.) and regular stakeholder meetings, a steering committee and general public meetings will be held quarterly. This will all get moving along in near future.

12. Business Items (New Business)

- Membership Dues 2016-2017
- Accounts Update – (Attachment 2)
- Watershed Partnership MOU
Tuesday, May 3rd the Board approved the partnership MOU. There will be a ceremony on May 25th at 2:00 PM at the Maple Meadows Golf Course. The river restoration work is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day and the golf course work is underway.
- Comments on the draft 2016 Integrated Report were sent to Illinois EPA
(<http://drscw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/DRSCW-2016-IR-Comments-Final-03.11.2016.pdf>)
- New FTE
New advertisement – looking for 3-5 years environmental engineering and GIS proficiency.
- Other Business

13. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage (Old Business)

- A newsletter was released that features articles on permit special conditions, Oak Meadows, chloride reduction and the new MS4 permit. Thanks to Rob Swanson (DuPage County SWM), Scott Weber (Village of Hanover Park), Ed Stevenson (FPDDC) and Lindsay Birt (Huff & Huff) for contributing.
- March 8th – FPDDC Board of Commissioners and Staff: Introduction to the DRSCW, Stephen McCracken.
- April 7th – Northwest Indiana Urban Waters Partnership: How the DRSCW prioritized and funded its watershed priorities, Stephen McCracken.
- April 19th – Urban Stormwater Committee Meeting: at the invitation of Illinois EPA DRSCW and DuPage County Stormwater SWM both participated in this group.

- May – Possible event at Oak Meadows Golf Course to mark the signing of the Watershed Partnership MOU. Would include DuPage County SWM, the FPDDC, MWRD-GC and the DRSCW.
- May 18th and 19th – APWA Conference in Schaumburg: Chloride reduction efforts in Cook and DuPage County, Antonio Quintanilla, MWRD-GC and Stephen McCracken.
- June 7th – Chicago Wildernesses Confluence 2016: Toward a More Vibrant H2O Future: How the DRSCW prioritized and funded its watershed priorities, Stephen McCracken.

14. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- June 29, 2016
- August 31, 2016
- October 26, 2016
- December 14, 2016
- February 22, 2017
- April 26, 2017

Nick Menninga made a motion to close the meeting; seconded by Steve Zehner. Motion carried unanimously.

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
Lombard Village Hall
June 22, 2016
9:00 – 11:00 AM**

1. Approval of April 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Dave Gorman pointed out that Jim Knudsen's name is misspelled on the first page of the minutes. Larry Cox made a motion to approve the minutes, acknowledging the misspelling on Jim Knudsen's name will be corrected; Shirley Burger seconded; motion carried unanimously.

2. Meet the Hickory Creek Watershed Planning Group

Hickory Creek Watershed Management Planning Group (HCWPG) and its members are collaboratively working with regulators to reduce pollution in stormwater runoff; not only WWTPs discharges themselves, but through collective efforts to demonstrate a positive impact on the overall water quality of the watershed. Thirteen municipalities are incorporated within Hickory Creek watershed, in which 12 are MS4s and eight (8) are active members of the watershed group. MS4 communities who are active members of HCWPG have the advantage to document their involvement in HCWPG's activities to meet MS4 permit requirements.

Presenter: Dr. Lindsay Birt, Assistant Project Manager/Project Engineer II, Huff & Huff, a subsidiary of GZA, and watershed coordinator for HCWPG.

Stephen McCracken asked whether they planned to track BMPs. Lindsay Birt responded they will do some tracking for their 319 application for BMPs moving forward. Not necessarily for specific BMPs already identified. They plan to work with Will County for tracking in the future.

Stephen McCracken continued that the MS4 permit calls for examining the 303(d) list and for sampling for any causes listed there. As an impairment may be identified in some reaches but not others McCracken wanted to know if the HCWPG planned to monitor across the board or match sampling to listed impaired reaches only. Lindsay Birt responded that her task is to examine the options and develop a recommendation. This still needed to be reviewed but HCWPG will probably choose the former approach. They would like to have sample consistency – and this option seems favorable. Each municipality will have to pass the recommendation through their board for approval to evaluate costs. Some thought was to sample there and everywhere else to compare impaired and not impaired. The question is, would this be feasible? HCWPG's monitoring program is volunteer based and they would have to train public works personnel. Lindsay will put forward a recommendation to HCWPG steering committee.

Dave Gorman asked whether all the volunteers are from municipalities. Lindsay Birt replied that all the volunteer monitors are from municipalities and trained based on the QAPP. Illinois American Water provided data for 2 stations in Hickory Creek.

Holly Hudson asked for clarification on whether the 319 BMPs referenced in the presentation are newly constructed and being monitored for performance. Lindsay Birt replied negatively. The BMPs are planned for in the 319 application – they are still waiting to find out if they will receive a 319 grant. It is their intent moving forward to schedule for monitoring BMPs – identify location, design, installation and vegetation, which is not usually included in grant applications. They are trying to be strategic in planning for how to monitor in the end. It's a different mindset. It may be that other

future permits might require this. At the federal level it's already happening, i.e. Great Lakes initiatives are already doing that (tracking) and it's important for watershed groups as well. Tracking should not be an afterthought.

Larry Cox asked about the volunteer work and the group's level of funding. Lindsay Birt responded that they have a tight budget. Total budget membership increased in the last couple of years from \$5K to \$7K per municipality. The total budget absorbs all costs for monitoring and watershed coordination salary. These costs are about what a municipality would pay for monitoring under the new MS4.

Larry Cox inquired whether the monitoring would be site specific or watershed wide. Lindsay Birt replied that each municipality would have to monitor at 1 -2 locations but the watershed would pay for 1-2 in the watershed. She added that this is not the case for municipalities in multiple watersheds. The HCWPG might want to do site specific so they can evaluate performance for future BMP implementation.

Larry Cox asked about the role of POTWs discharging in the watershed. Birt stated they are very active. POTWs provide volunteers to monitor, assistance for the Bio-Blitz, meeting attendance, participating in the chloride variance, etc. HCWPG absorbs part of the monitoring program – it also just happens to be part of the new MS4 permit requirement.

Larry Cox noted there are no TMDLs in their watershed and asked about the process for a third party TMDL. Lindsay Birt responded that they have already submitted a memo to Illinois EPA and will have discussions this year to develop it within the next few years. Yes, the leader would be HCWPG.

3. Plans to Meet New ILR-40 Stormwater Requirements.

The new ILR 40 contains a number of new requirements for monitoring, training and education. DuPage County Stormwater Management and the DRSCW have reviewed existing activities in the area and identified what areas are currently addressed and where activities need to be added in order to reach compliance across the DuPage County and the DRSCW area.

Presenters: Robert Swanson, and Mary Beth Falsey, DuPage County Stormwater Management, Stephen McCracken, TCF/DRSCW

Andrea Cline asked whether they planned to monitor across the watershed? Rob Swanson stated they plan to sample do specific MS4 sampling at pre-existing sites, which spatially represent the main stem for a total of 7 sites; they did add one at Addison Creek and at the headwaters (SC15) to add organics and metals. Rob Swanson calculates they will have 2 cycles of wet weather monitoring for each permit cycle (permit is 5 years plus years to reissue).

Bill Blecke inquired how MS4s would report the monitoring. DuPage County Stormwater Management will provide a single report that covers monitoring. Some communities will complete individual reports. The regional permit reports include all partners in the cover letter. The annual report will also cover analysis of current BMPs and results of the monitoring section.

Larry Cox asked how DRSCW member communities in Cook County will benefit from these monitoring activities. Stephen McCracken stated the annual NPDES activities report the DRSCW generates for members will include this document and graphs which Cook County members can add to their report.

Larry Cox noted the samples have already been collected and wanted to know who collected them. Stephen McCracken replied the DRSCW contract with SLI included floating days to sample wet weather or deal with other unforeseen events. A couple weeks ago, the conditions seemed right, Rob Swanson checked the flow gages, and the Demand/Nutrient/Metals/Organic parameters were all collected. The sediment sample will capture the rest. The permit stated sediment should be collected within 24 hours of a storm; which is normally collected during dry periods. The wet weather samples are within the budgeted amount at no extra cost.

Larry Cox asked whether the 2 wet weather organics sites will continue into the future. This year these additional tests will not affect the budget – there are always some sites that cannot be sampled (i.e. dry). We may need to add organics testing at the sites there permanently going forward if the 48 hours protocol is not refined..

Tom Minarik inquired whether there was a defined number of wet weather events specified. Rob Swanson replied that the original draft specified quarterly sampling and they received lots of comments. The final permit just states that you have to monitor, and does not provide a frequency.

Larry Cox asked if they had to submit a plan or just have a plan and if a summary will be provided so everyone knows their plan moving forward. Rob Swanson stated that DuPage County Stormwater Management is developing a larger regional permit monitoring program for which they will provide a description. Stephen McCracken added that it will be included in the annual NPDES report sent to members. All the sample sites in GIS and we can produce maps quickly.

Andrea Cline noted that a series of other possibilities are presented in the permit, including a watershed wide monitoring program – why did you choose wet weather? Rob Swanson noted that all options are presented as part of wet weather, “must be within 48 hours” (including sediment). Andrea Cline stated the interpretation should be clarified and the DRWW plans to discuss with Illinois EPA. The DRWW is planning to fulfill requirements with their watershed ambient monitoring program which would not guarantee samples 48 hours after a suitable storm. Stephen McCracken stated that for this year, until clarification is provided, the County and DRSCW wanted to be safe and meet requirements as they are stated in the permit. Stephen McCracken agrees that the last sentence “within 48-hours” appears to be a remnant of last revision and needs to be clarified moving forward.

Larry Cox added that the DRSCW discusses wet weather and we need to begin looking to see how much impact it has. This is a low cost option to see what’s happening. Stephen McCracken concurred that it is an easy way to make sure we’re covered no matter how IEPA interpreted the permits language.

Lindsay Birt asked for clarification that the sampling frequency would capture a single wet weather event at all 7 locations for spatial understanding. Stephen McCracken responded affirmatively. In addition it addresses impairments that could lead to the design a small scale study. He added that we are tweaking the program to meet requirements. Within 48 hours means we can relax and not chase storms. It doesn’t say every year or quarter, etc.

Mary Beth Falsey provided additional information on the qualifying local program for NPDES compliance.

Dennis Streicher asked whether each MS4 still have their own permits. Mary Beth Falsey replied, yes, although DuPage County Stormwater Management is proposing a watershed permit. Illinois EPA seems more open to this option. Seeing workgroups like DRSCW, they see they can work with single group for stormwater.

Abel Haile stated that they've had discussion with US EPA regarding watershed workgroups and have been looking at other states such as MN, IN and some west coast states to get ideas. They are working on a proposal. The main issue is that all communities with individual permits have to be in agreement to be involved.

Andrea Cline asked for clarification whether some can opt out of a watershed workgroup. Abel responded affirmatively, and that those that opt out would have to report for their own municipal permit. Haile noted those opting out would not benefit from the expertise/resources from group.

Lindsay Birt asked whether DuPage County has communities in multiple watersheds. Mary Beth Falsey responded affirmatively, i.e. Des Plaines, Salt Creek, Fox River, West Branch. Their focus is on the three watersheds central in DuPage County. However, they are cognizant that communities with boundaries additionally located in the Fox and Des Plaines watersheds will still have to consider activities in the other watersheds. Discussions will occur with both Kane County and MWRD – is there something developed and some bits we participate in. They are starting conversations with communities whose majority is within DuPage County. Any municipalities with dual watersheds would have to participate in both.

4. NPDES Permit Special Conditions (Old Business)

- Remaining POTW Permits (Elmhurst, Wheaton Sanitary District & Wood Dale) Special Conditions Update.

Four plants are still in permit process. WSD has submitted comments and their permit is getting ready for review. Stephen McCracken noted that some permits had multiple reaches listed. For example, Elmhurst's permit contained segments all the way to and including the Des Plaines. Permits historically listed only the section of stream to which they discharged. This was included in WSD's initial permit to which they provided comments and it was removed. Elmhurst will submit similar comments and we will notify Wood Dale of this as well.

- MWRD-GC Permit Special Condition Update.
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition Permit Condition Update.

Jennifer Hammer stated that plants in LDRWC are the downstream condition for the DRSCW, especially for offensive conditions. The full DuPage watershed would participate in the NIP. They are working with Illinois EPA and they've had some early discussions Sierra Club and Prairie Rivers Network. Naperville is the only plant on the lower DuPage without a P limit (including P limits due to expansion). The majority of restoration project funding would come from Naperville, following the same calculations as the DRSCW. Other LDRWC plants would follow the same calculation as Bensenville and Itasca to participate in other studies.

Stephen McCracken added that the DRSCW board supports the LDRWC getting the special condition. The section of the Lower DuPage is the driver for p limits for plants in the West Branch DuPage River and to a lesser extent, the East Branch DuPage River (some are individually listed for nuisance algae). It is still the driver for 1mg/l in WB plants. The NIP extends into LDRWC to provide assistance to implement and as the NIP relates to water quality

based effluent limits; we don't want that simply based. We want physical restoration activities to alleviate macrophyte. If successful, Naperville would pay for a dam removal and significant restoration that would directly address this.

Mike Ott asked whether any permits have been reopened. Jennifer Hammer replied that Minooka's permit includes a note that if the special condition is approved, they will be inserted into permits.

Stephen McCracken is encouraged by discussions thus far and noted that it seems optimistic.

5. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

- IGIG grant program. *No update.*

6. Projects Committee (Old Business)

- Oak Meadows Update (Special Conditions Project 1).
Hope to get the coffer dam out in the next couple of weeks. Bio monitoring started his week. Hope to monitor this July and if not, then this September. Flow should be restored in the next couple of weeks.
- Fawell Dam Update (Special Conditions Project).
Modeling concern was that the FEQ model wouldn't compute the conceptual designs. V3 and DuPage County Stormwater Management have been working on the issue and believe they found a solution by importing into HEC RAS. This is good news because the permit will be based on the FEQ model.
- Fullersburg Woods Concept Plan Development.
We need to have a concept plan to develop a scope. Project committee will meet in next several weeks. Will address how to communicate engineering already done with the public, in a conceptual manner. Dennis Streicher noted that we do not expect elected officials to take a position before election.

Gorman stated that clarification for those who are not aware, Fullersburg, AKA Graue Mill Dam can see him after the meeting. This is a very important project.

Larry Cox added that this concept plan in the permit due at the end of this year to help keep progress moving on this project, even in light of elections.

- PAHs & Coal Tar Sealants (CTS). *No update.*
- IPS Tool Development. *No update.*

7. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)

- Resource Managers Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment. *No update.*
- DO monitoring started in June.
Sondes are in place. Additional sampling for DO will occur this year.
- The regularly scheduled membership meeting on August 31, 2016 will follow a modified format allowing it to host the kick-off meeting for our Nutrient Implementation Plan (NIP). All members are requested to attend.
Different format 10-15 minute business meeting then discuss NIP. We'll provide a mailing before the meeting with permit language and other considerations. We encourage all to participate – we

have a schedule to get a good NIP set for use beyond the permit. Bring your consultant, participate and share ideas.

Dennis Streicher stated this is part of the permit special condition and is due 2023.

Stephen McCracken noted this is an opportunity to take all analysis and data, IPS tool and monitoring and fold it into one. Water quality based effluent limits – these can be part but can't be only thing in there or we're back to solely focusing on POTW concentration limits. If you are interested call Nick or Stephen.

- USGS Phosphorus Study – Bill Selbig presenting the findings of an evaluation of leaf collection as a means to reduce nutrient loads from urban basins at the DRSCW's April meeting. The Executive Board recommends providing \$2500 to USGS for support of the ongoing research. *Stephen McCracken noted this could be included as part of NIP and that funding would come from the special condition NIP line item.*

Larry Cox made a motion to approve this expenditure, Steve Zehner seconded the motion, all voted in favor; none opposed.

8. Chloride Reduction Committee (New Business)

- 2015-2016 Deicing Questionnaires – we have not yet received responses from all agency members.
These are important and hit both POTW and MS4 NPDES permit requirements. Please see Tara Neff if you are not sure whether your agency submitted a completed survey. Tara Neff has been in contact with all members that have not yet submitted their questionnaire.
- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway - Proposals from Bensenville and Wood Dale have been submitted.
These have been submitted to the Illinois Tollway and we hope to have an application from Elmhurst soon.

Larry Cox asked the dollar amount much in terms of the Tollway funding is applied. Stephen McCracken responded that on average, each community applied for approximately \$150K from the Tollway. For example, a municipality may purchase a new truck and the Tollway funds would be used to outfit the truck with improved deicing equipment. Stephen McCracken added that only certain villages are eligible. We also have a consultant working on the project.

- The possibility of a level of service workshop is being explored with DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference and the Salt Institute.

The plan is to discuss with Mayors and Managers their role in chloride reduction. DMMC is eager to help execute a workshop. The format is being discussed (breakfast meeting?). The Salt Institute's, Dr. Wilf Nixon of the Salt Institute will participate and the institute pick up his costs. Levels of service includes evaluating policies, i.e. how much time is necessary to clear at what level. We are not preaching change, but how to think about decisions. If public works makes a change the mayor/manager can provide residents with an informed answer that supports the public works deicing program policy.

Dave Gorman provided an example: If it's 3AM do you need bare pavement or can it wait until the next shift? Stephen McCracken added that this is a discussion DMMC has already having internally.

- A draft trends analysis has been submitted and is being reviewed by the chloride committee. *Draft – there were a couple reviews and the report was reissued. Stephen McCracken is reviewing the final. This will be included in next year's Special Conditions report to IEPA and USEAP.*
- Chloride Workshops (Parking Lots & Sidewalks, September 22, 2016; Public Roads, September 29, 2016).
- Chloride Toxicity Study – Jim Huff presented a proposal to DRSCW members at the April meeting. He is requesting support to begin a process that would result in report that may start the process of supporting seasonal chloride standards. The Executive Board recommends supporting this investigation in the amount of \$2500.00.

The study will add to the body of literature and is not being presented in challenging way. This might help US EPA with discussions and we know this single study is not enough to change the standard.

Dennis Streicher made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$2500 for the analysis of seasonal chloride toxicity; Bill Blecke seconded the motion; all voted in favor; none opposed.

- CAWS and Des Plaines River Chloride Variance Update. *No update*

9. Watershed Permitting Update (Old Business)

10. Update on TMDL Development for the DuPage River/Salt Creek (Old Business)

- Illinois EPA's TMDL Division has requested assistance with data gathering for the QUAL 2K model on the northern segment of the West Branch DuPage River. If the proposal is accepted the monitoring would occur in two phases (calibration and validation) July/August. The Executive Board recommends supporting this initiative, not to exceed \$4000.00 and approximately twenty-four hours of staff time.

Low flow conditions will be monitored all at the same time. We will provide staff and use our DO probe. Money will come from NIP line item. QUAL2K is one of the models we would have to do. \$4K includes 1K buffer.

Dennis Streicher inquired wither the arrangement with Illinois EPA as 50-50. Stephen McCracken responded affirmatively, Illinois EPA is monitoring the second site. Also, Tom Minarik noted where MWRD does sampling we may be able to add that to the data set.

Larry Cox made a motion to approve the TMDL monitoring expenditure; seconded by Nick Menninga. All voted in favor; none opposed.

11. Watershed Committee Updates – West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek

- Lower Salt Creek 319 Watershed Plan update. *Holly Hudson provided an update. They will begin reviews of plans and utilize the US EPA Water Quality Scorecard throughout the watershed with regard to water quality and aquatic life*

to plan for these protections. Also DuPage County Stormwater Management will hold another detention basin assessment workshop. There are gaps that need to be address. Water Resource Inventory is underway

CMAA is seeking to hire a water resource planner – this position will work on the Lower Salt Creek Watershed Plan.

Larry Cox inquired whether communities are notified of deficiencies identified in the comprehensive plan reviews (i.e. sent letters). Holly Hudson replied that the results of the reviews are included in Watershed Based Plan and are available for communities to reference the next time they plan to make updates. Additionally, some communities may not have a comprehensive land use plan, but they may have other plans to reference such as a Green Infrastructure Plan.

12. Business Items (New Business)

- Welcome Sergio Serafino, MWRD-GC. *Looking forward to planning and participating.*
- Membership Dues 2016-2017 (Attachment 2).
- Financial Report Summary – (Attachment 3). The Executive Board has reviewed the first monthly DRSCW financial report, prepared by Tara Neff and Larry Cox. The first report contains three months, March/April/May, but future reports will cover one month. The report includes:
 - Revenues and expenses for each budget line item by month, year to date and total annual budget amount (financial report summary).
 - Dues and assessments received, by member.
 - Bank statements, including the reconciliation detail for the Itasca checking account, to allow independent verification of the account balances shown on the last page of the financial report.

The intent of the report is to increase Executive Board knowledge and oversight of financial activities in a concise report. From June 2016 forward, the Executive Board will review and approve the financial reports for the preceding two months at each scheduled Executive Board meeting and provide the financial report summary to members.

This report is warranted due to growth and is not the result to any recommendations provided by the auditor.

- Agreement with the Conservation Foundation (Attachment 4).
Agreement with The Conservation Foundation for the provision of staffing services to the Workgroup will expire on 6/30/16. The attached renewal agreement for the period from 07/01/16 through 06/30/17 has been approved by the Executive Board and is recommended for approval by the Workgroup. The Workgroup is currently paying \$11,210.82 to TCF at the beginning of each month in personnel and overhead costs. The amount in the new contract will be \$12,463.60 per month.

Dave Gorman stated that the Board recommended this increase after reviewing comparable rates. This brings salaries closer to fair/ within reason to comparable rates and is in line with the budget that was approved at the annual meeting

Steve Zehner made a motion to approve the new contract with TCF; Bill Blecke seconded; all voted in favor; none opposed; Jennifer Hammer abstained from this vote.

Dan Lobbes added that the agreement includes the option to add 1 FTE in an addendum.

- New FTE. Has been advertised on several career and water resource-focused sites and will be open until mid-day on July 11, 2016.
- Other Business.

13. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage (Old Business)

- May 2, 2016 – Audubon Society. “Watershed Management in the Upper DuPage and Salt Creek”, Stephen McCracken, TCF/DRSCW.
- May 19, 2016 – APWA. “Chloride Management in the Upper DuPage and Salt Creek”, Stephen McCracken, TCF/DRSCW.
- May 25, 2016 – Watershed Partnership Signing at Oak Meadows. Dave Gorman spoke on how we gain efficiencies by collaborating.
DuPage County Stormwater Management organized this event and it was well executed.
- May 26, 2016 – DuPage Advisory Council. “Watershed Management in the Upper DuPage and Salt Creek”, Stephen McCracken, TCF/DRSCW.
- June 7, 2016 – Chicago Wilderness Confluence. “Rethinking Implementation of the Clean Water Act” Stephen McCracken, TCF/DRSCW.

14. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- August 31, 2016
- October 26, 2016
- December 14, 2016
- February 22, 2017
- April 26, 2017
- June 28, 2017

Dave Gorman encouraged members to inform Tara Neff if other employees should be added to the DRSCW’s mailing list. Gorman added that staff and board members will eat lunch at The Patio and everyone is welcome to attend for more discussion/networking.

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
Lombard Village Hall
August 31, 2016
9:00 – 11:00 AM**

1. Approval of June 22, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Nick Menninga made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.

2. NPDES Permit Special Conditions (Old Business)

- Remaining POTW Permits (Elmhurst, Wheaton & Wood Dale)/ Special Conditions Update.
- MWRD-GC Permit Special Condition Update.
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition Permit Condition Update.

3. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

- IGIG grant program.

4. Projects Committee (Old Business)

- Oak Meadows Update (Special Conditions Project 1).
A site visit with the Village of Wood Dale was cancelled. The project looks good and we plan to hold the DRSCW's October meeting at Oak Meadows.
- Fawell Dam Update (Special Conditions Project).
- Fullersburg Woods Concept Plan Development.
The Projects Committee will meet to discuss this plan in the next couple of weeks.
- PAHs & Coal Tar Sealants (CTS) - U.S. EPA is proposing that federally-regulated industrial facilities not be eligible for coverage under EPA's industrial stormwater general permit if they apply or reapply coal tar pavement sealants.
The coal tar industry has approached the DRSCW to meet a number of times. Cindy Skrukrud noted that the information EPA included on CTS is a big first step in the regulatory process.
- IPS Tool Development - Contract signed by both parties.
This is project also had a direct relationship to the Nutrient Implementation Plan (NIP).

5. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)

- Resource Manager's Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment.
- DO Monitoring.
- Salt Creek Bioassessment – First pass complete, second scheduled for late September.
- Reference Sites – Sampling began in August. Three locations will be monitored, two on Aux Sable and one on Prairie Creek.
- USGS Phosphorus Study – Board is reviewing an agreement to fund research in the amount of \$2500 to USGS to support ongoing research.

6. Chloride Reduction Committee (New Business)

- 2015-2016 Deicing Questionnaires – Thank you! We received responses from almost all agency members.
- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway - Proposals from Bensenville and Wood Dale have been submitted to the Tollway and agreement should be in place as early as Thanksgiving.
- The level of service workshop provided by Wilf Nixon, Salt Institute, has been scheduled with DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference for September 26th from 8:00 – 10:00 AM at Village Hall in Oak Brook. Mayor Weisner, City of Aurora, and Phil Modaff, Village of Carol Stream,

are included on the agenda (find the registration link here:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ed2o52jgd1e7d341&oseq=&c=&ch=>).

- A draft trends analysis has been submitted and is being reviewed by the chloride committee.
- Chloride Workshops (Parking Lots & Sidewalks, September 22, 2016; Public Roads, September 27, 2016 – **PLEASE NOTE THE REVISED DATE FOR PUBLIC ROADS**).
- Chloride Toxicity Study – The DRSCW is supporting the study to the amount of \$2500.00.
- CAWS and Des Plaines River Chloride Variance Update.

7. Watershed Permitting Update (Old Business)

8. Update on TMDL Development for the DuPage River/Salt Creek (Old Business)

Illinois EPA's TMDL Division requested assistance gathering data for the QUAL 2K model on the West Branch DuPage River. Monitoring under low-flow conditions was conducted in July/August at two locations on Spring Brook North (West Branch DuPage River) in Wheaton. The second site, in Hanover Park, is yet to be completed. Work has been delayed due to weather.

9. Watershed Committee Updates – West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek

- Lower Salt Creek 319 Watershed Plan update.

10. Business Items (New Business)

- Membership Dues 2016-2017 (Attachment 2). Welcome to three new members: City of Aurora, Village of Western Springs, and Ruekert & Mielke Inc.
- Financial Report – (Attachment 3).
- New FTE. Twenty-six candidates expressed interest in this posting. The selection process is proceeding.
- Other Business.

11. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage (Old Business)

- September 26, 2016 – Levels of Service Workshop with DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference at Oak Brook Village Hall.
- November 2, 2016 – Chicago Wilderness Conference - FRSG, DRSCW & Hickory Creek Forming and running Watershed Planning Groups.
- *July 26, 2016 - Stephen McCracken and Larry Cox participated in a Vital Lands webinar and provided a presentation, "Funding Stream Restoration Projects through Uncommon Partnerships" with Dan Lobbes.*

12. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- ***October 26, 2016 at Oak Meadows***
- December 14, 2016
- February 22, 2017
- April 26, 2017
- June 28, 2017
- August 30, 2017
- October 25, 2017

13. Nutrient Implementation Plan – Kick-off Meeting (attachment 4)

The DRSCW's Special Condition calls for development of a Nutrient Implementation Plan (NIP). The plan will be a framework, built around other deliverables in the special condition, notably the QUAL 2K model development, the non-point source model development and the nutrient trading

study. The plan must identify and prioritize algae and DO impaired areas, then allocate ameliorative activities accordingly. The special condition text related to the NIP is supplied in Attachment 4.

Following the abbreviated business meeting, attendees participated in the NIP kick-off meeting.

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
Maple Meadows Golf Club
Wood Dale, IL
October 26, 2016
9:00 – 11:00 AM**

1. Approval of August 31, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Nick Menninga made a motion to approve the August 31, 2016 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.

2. Winter Level of Service in Carol Stream

During a snow or ice event, achieving an adequate level of service in a cost effective manner can be a daunting task. When and where should you plow? How much salt is too much or too little? Are you using the right materials? Faced with supply and environmental pressures Carol Stream has rationalized its level of service during the last few years. Learn how Village staff came up with a successful level of service strategy and communicated it to its citizens and elected officials.

Presenter: Phil Modaff, Director of Public Works, Village of Carol Stream

The Village of Carol Stream does not specify time goals for roads to be clear. After operators work 15 hours, they are sent home to sleep for 6 hours. Carol Stream plows cul de sacs unless accumulation is less than ½ inch. Cul de sacs are addressed last because they are difficult to plow and speeds are low, no salt is applied. Their budget includes almost \$250,000 for the use of contractors. Carol Stream offers training for subcontractors and almost a full day of training for their operators (roads, water/sewer, mechanics) which includes equipment calibration. Carol Stream does not compare their snow fighting operations to neighboring communities; however, their residents compare current operations to past practices.

3. NPDES Permit Special Conditions (Old Business)

- Remaining POTW Permits (Elmhurst, Wheaton & Wood Dale)/ Special Conditions Update.
- MWRD-GC Permit Special Condition Update.
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition Permit Condition Update. - The Naperville POTW Permit has been publicly posted.

4. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

- IGIG grant program.

5. Projects Committee (Old Business)

- Oak Meadows Update (Special Conditions Project 1).
- Fawell Dam Update (Special Conditions Project). Projects committee is moving into the design and permitting phase. Requesting \$200,000 be made available to the committee to bring this project to its construction phase. Scopes will be reviewed at the meeting on the 3rd of November.
Sue Baert made a motion to make \$200,000 available to the projects committee for the Fawell Dam Project; seconded by Rick Federighi; all voted in favor; none opposed.
- Fullersburg Woods Concept Plan Development – Project team is reviewing RFQs received from companies with social outreach and opinion surveying experience to advise on this framework. Meeting on the 3rd of November to review them.
- IPS Tool Development – Kick off meeting will be scheduled in next few months. The Lower DuPage Coalition will also be involved in the development and subsequent meetings (funding 50% of costs).

6. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)

- DO monitoring. Finished for 2016.
- Chloride Monitoring – Starting in December, hope to add Naperville.
- Salt Creek Bioassessment – First and second passes completed. Sediment monitoring began in October; plan to conclude during first week of November.
- USGS Phosphorus Study – Agreement still to be signed.
- Resource Manager's Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment.

7. Chloride Reduction Committee (New Business)

- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway - Proposals from Bensenville and Wood Dale have been submitted to the Tollway and agreement should be in place as early as Thanksgiving.
- The level of service workshop was held with DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference on September 26th from 8:00 – 10:00 AM at Village Hall in Oak Brook. Mayor Weisner, City of Aurora, was not able to attend. Wilf Nixon, Salt Institute, Phil Modaff, Village of Carol Stream, and Stephen McCracken, DRSCW provided presentations.
- A draft trends analysis is being reviewed by the chloride committee.
- Two well-attended chloride reduction workshops were held at DuPage County DOT (Parking Lots & Sidewalks, September 22, 2016; Public Roads, September 27, 2016). Thank you to John Kawka and his staff for their support in hosting the event.
- Chloride Toxicity Study – The DRSCW is supporting the study in the amount of \$2500.00. First report from the consortium has been issued.
- CAWS and Des Plaines River Watershed chloride variance update.

8. Watershed Permitting Update (Old Business)

9. Update on TMDL Development for the DuPage River/Salt Creek (Old Business)

This item is in support of Illinois EPA's TMDL Division to develop QUAL 2K models on the West Branch DuPage River and its tributary Spring Brook. Monitoring was completed in August at two locations on Spring Brook North (West Branch DuPage River) in Wheaton and in September at one location in Schaumburg. Data has been shared with the Illinois EPA and contractor. Thanks to Villa Park (Salt Creek) and Glenbard (East Branch DuPage River) for supplying CSO flow data to contractor.

10. Watershed Committee Updates – West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek

- Lower Salt Creek 319 Watershed Plan update- We are placing the 2016 QHEI data into GIS format and will fill in any blanks. Data will be sent to CMAP for inclusion in the watershed inventory section of the plan.

11. Business Items (New Business)

- Membership Dues 2016-2017 (Attachment 2).
- Financial Report – (Attachment 3).
- New FTE. The Conservation Foundation is pleased to announce Deanna Doohaluk began on October 17th to fulfill the 1 FTE DRSCW vacancy. The contract addendum to the Conservation Foundation Contract (signed June 28th 2016) can be found as Attachment 4.
Welcome Deanna! Nick Menninga made a motion to approve the contract addendum with The Conservation Foundation; seconded by Dennis Streicher; motion carried unanimously.
- Board Appointment – Rob Swanson, DuPage County, accepted a position with MWRD-GC. His departure leaves the DRSCW Board Secretary/Treasurer position vacant. DRSCW bylaws state (Article 6; Section 6), “Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Board until a successor is duly elected at the next Annual Meeting.” Rick Federighi, Village of Addison, current Member-At-Large, was appointed Secretary/Treasurer; Mary Beth Falsey, DuPage County, was appointed by the Board as a Member-At-Large.
Thank you Rick and Mary Beth for accepting new roles with the DRSCW.
- Other Business.

12. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage

- September 14, 2016 – Beyond the Basics Stormwater Best Management Practices Conference: Safety Stripes and Other Winter Deicing Techniques. Stephen McCracken, and John Kawka.
- September 26, 2016 – Levels of Service Workshop with DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference at Oak Brook Village Hall.
- September 22, 2016 – Parking Lots & Sidewalks Deicing Workshop at DuPage County DOT.
- September 27, 2016 – Public Roads Deicing Workshop at DuPage County DOT.
- October 4, 2016 – Public Roads Deicing Workshop at Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park, Joliet, IL.
- October 17th, 2016 – Participated in Chicago Wilderness's Healthy Waters Workgroup.
- November 2, 2016 – Chicago Wilderness Conference - FRSG, DRSCW & Hickory Creek: Forming and Managing Watershed Planning Groups.
- November 5, 2016 – Wheaton College, "Winter Snow & Ice Maintenance BMPs: The impact of salt."
- November 7-9, 2016 – South Suburban College Winter Preparedness Snow & Ice Conference, "Winter Snow & Ice Maintenance BMPs: The impact of salt."
- November 15, 2016 – Wisconsin Section of the Central States Environment Association Webinar, "Adaptive Implementation, Biodiversity, and TMDLs."
- Winter newsletter is under development.

13. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| • December 14, 2016 | February 22, 2017 | April 26, 2017 |
| June 28, 2017 | August 30, 2017 | October 25, 2017 |

14. Tour of Oak Meadows Restoration Project – Interfluve, ERA and DRSCW

A short presentation was provided by the DRSCW, ERA and Inter-Fluve followed by a walking tour. The business meeting concluded at 9:40 AM and participants prepared for the Oak Meadows project site tour. Thanks to the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County and Inter-Fluve for assisting with the tour.

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
Lombard Village Hall
December 14, 2016
9:00 – 11:00 AM**

1. Approval of October 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Attachment 1)

Nick Menninga made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Sue Baert; motion carried unanimously.

2. Qcritical: Incorporating the Critical Discharge for Stream Erosion into Stormwater

Management. Managing stormwater to prevent excess stream erosion (i.e. “hydromodification”) has become one of the latest challenges of the stormwater profession. Associated compliance costs have increased by as much as 3-fold in some jurisdictions and it is uncertain whether implementation of one-size-fits-all approaches will achieve the desired goal. Policies such as the full retention (i.e. no discharge) of the first 1” of rainfall may be over control in some streams and insufficient to prevent erosion in others. Using data from across the globe, this presentation will show how the critical flow for streambed erosion ($Q_{critical}$) varies by several orders of magnitude across hydrogeomorphic settings. It underscores why policies that intend to protect streams from erosion should be calibrated to the geomorphic resistance of the streams they actually intend to protect. Hawley will conclude with a case study that covers the development of a regional value for $Q_{critical}$ and how it has been successfully incorporated into an MS4’s stormwater management program.

Presenter: “Bob” Robert J. Hawley, Ph.D., P.E., Principal Scientist at Sustainable Streams and a Part-Time Instructor at the University of Kentucky.

Questions following the presentation focused on learning from reference reach data over multiple years, understanding which flows matter and how to incorporate that data into practical strategies at the watershed scale.

The applicability and methods to determine Q_c for our local streams was discussed. Does the DRSCW want to propose a pilot watershed program to investigate Q_c and if so, how would we select a target basin?

As part of the discussion on whether a Q_c study should be conducted in the DRSCW study area, participants discussed how knowing Q_c would affect local policies and how these Q_c flows would be obtained. One idea for flow reduction strategies/BMPs could include modifying outlet structures on existing detention/retention areas. It was noted that additional field surveys would be required as programs like the Lower Salt Creek Watershed Plan’s (under development with CMAP) detention basin inventory is focused on physical characteristics (sideslope vegetation, bank conditions, etc) and not the outlet structure.

Smart hardware (i.e. OPTI) might help us reach goals. Current analysis lacks flow data. DuPage County and MWRD both collect data so we may not have to start from nothing and we should investigate other programs (i.e. California).

3. Stormwater DO. At past meetings, we discussed the utility of moving some of our DO monitoring into stormwater driven systems. During the summer of 2016, we monitored three sites in support of TMDL development. The data gathered at these sites may provide some insight into how these systems behave compared to wastewater dominated systems.

Presenter: Stephen McCracken, Director of Watershed Protection, The Conservation Foundation.

Discussion following the presentation focused on how flow and non-point source loadings impact DO and algae. The DRSCW will consider the amount of resources to allocate to studying stormwater inputs. Stephen will investigate whether biology is good at sites consistently above the DO standard.

4. NPDES Permit Special Conditions (Old Business)

- Wheaton Sanitary District's permit has been issued. We are waiting for Elmhurst's permit to go to public comment. The Wood Dale south permit comment period ended October 31, 2016; the north permit has yet to enter the public comment period.
- Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition Permit Condition Update – The City of Naperville's public review period was October 21st – November 21st.
Jennifer Hammer - Naperville has not yet been issued their final permit.
- MWRD-GC Permit Special Condition Update.
Conversations with MWRD-GC continue moving forward.

5. Funding update (SB2081) (Old Business)

- IGIG grant program.

6. Projects Committee (Old Business)

- **Oak Meadows Update (Special Conditions Project).**
- **Fawell Dam Update (Special Conditions Project)** – A new scope was developed to design and bid the dam modification. Projects committee signed an agreement with V3 to move into the design and permitting phase. A second scope is under development to identify potential channel enhancements to be implemented adaptively post dam modification.
- **Fullersburg Woods Concept Plan Development (Special Conditions Project)** – After receiving 2 responses to our RFQ, Bluestem Communications was selected to create an outreach to strategy. A draft document, outlining the strategy to solicit stakeholder responses in relation to options for dam modification will be supplied to the projects committee next week.
- **Trading RFQ** – The trading RFQ was emailed to all DRSCW members and affiliates on 11/07/2016. The RFQ was also sent to other individuals, organizations, and companies that have been involved in the development of trading programs across the US. The RFQ was picked up and posted by the national bid posting site – SplashLink. The date for companies to provide their notice of intent to submit qualifications was 11/23/2016 and the following companies submitted their notification: TetraTech, The Rand Corporation, LimnoTech, Geosyntec, Arcadis/Troutman Sanders, Ruekert-Mielke, and Strand Associates, Inc. SOQs are due on December 15, 2016. Special thanks for posting the RFQ on your websites and forwarding to your consultants.
The projects committee is tackling the permit special condition for trading in Illinois. It is an exciting time and your participation on the committee is encouraged. We anticipate inviting a short list of primes to submit RFPs in March.
- **IPS Tool Development** – Kick off meeting will be scheduled in next few months. The Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition will be involved as they are funding 50% of costs.
We will re-run the tool to include the LDRWC data and to identify causal relationships between stressors and IBIs.
- **DRSCW Website Update** – The website was updated to include a page for DRSCW's RFQs and RFPs.

7. Monitoring Committee (Old Business)

- Salt Creek basin monitoring - finished for 2016.
- 2014 East Branch DuPage River Technical Report – under review.
- Winter chloride/conductivity monitoring – probes deployed at 4 sites.

- USGS Phosphorus Study – finalizing an agreement.
Leaf litter study ties to the NPS study in the POTW permit condition.
- Resource Manager’s Guide to Aquatic Bioassessment – under review.

8. Chloride Reduction Committee (New Business)

- Resolution of Appreciation – Presented to John Kawka, former Manager of Highway Operations at DuPage County Division of Transportation, to recognize his contributions to our chloride reduction program.
Dave Gorman presented John Kawka with a Resolution of Appreciation for his work with the chloride reduction program since 2004. Stephen McCracken expressed his appreciation for John’s participation and commented that the first year the two chloride reduction workshops maybe had 80 participants and now attendance averages around 300 – people actually call before they are advertised to find out when the workshops will be held.
- Chloride Offset Program with the Illinois Tollway – No new information since last meeting.
- CAWS and Des Plaines River Chloride Variance – No new information since last meeting.

9. Watershed Permitting Update (Old Business)

10. TMDL Development for the DuPage River/Salt Creek (Old Business)

- No new information since last meeting.

11. Watershed Committee Updates – West Branch, East Branch and Salt Creek

- **Lower Salt Creek 319 Plan** – Stream characteristic data obtained via the QHEI including channelization, bank stability and riparian area condition is being utilized to prepare the Stream Inventory portion of the 319 Plan. Once existing data is incorporated into GIS, additional field assessments may need to be conducted to fill in any data gaps. All data will be incorporated into GIS to give an overview of the stream characteristics for all waters in the watershed.
Deanna Doohaluk will develop the stream assessment map GIS layers to help show project development in the plan.
- **Modeling** – On December 12th, CMAP hosted a one-day training on modeling for interested parties conducting watershed plans. In response to a request made by DuPage County, Deanna Doohaluk reviewed with DuPage County staff the pros and cons of the most commonly used models for estimating pollutant load reductions in watershed plans.

12. Business Items (New Business)

- Membership Dues 2016-2017 (Attachment 2).
- Financial Report – (Attachment 3).
A payment not noted in the table of payments will be made to The Verdict Restaurant for catering at both the roads and parking lots and sidewalks chloride reduction workshops (\$2425).
- Other Business.

13. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage

- Participated in Illinois EPA’s Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy’s (NLRS) Urban Stormwater Working Group (USWG) conference calls and data gathering (Deanna Doohaluk, Stephen McCracken).
- Worked with Glendale Heights on sensible salting (and MS4 compliance) (Stephen McCracken).
- Participated in Chicago Wilderness’s Heathy Waters Workgroup (Stephen McCracken).
- Continued to talk with the Tollway about offset program. They hope to get three agreements in place by early December (Stephen McCracken).

- November 2, 2016 – Chicago Wilderness Conference, FRSG, DRSCW & Hickory Creek “Forming and Running Watershed Planning Groups” (Stephen McCracken).
- November 7-8, 2016 – South Suburban College “Chloride Management in Northeastern Illinois and the environmental impacts of salt” (delivered 5 presentations, all travel expenses and one day of time will be reimbursed) (Stephen McCracken).
- November 11th, 2016 – Orland Park’s Public Works Department. “Chloride Management in Northeastern Illinois and the environmental impacts of salt” (Stephen McCracken).
- November 12, 2016 – Wheaton College Grounds staff, “Chloride Management in Northeastern Illinois and the environmental impacts of salt” (Stephen McCracken).
- November 15, 2016 – Wisconsin Section of the Central States Environment Association Webinar, “Adaptive Implementation, Biodiversity, and TMDLs” (Stephen McCracken).

14. Workgroup Meeting Schedule

- February 22, 2017
- April 26, 2017
- June 28, 2017
- August 30, 2017
- October 25, 2017
- December 13, 2017

Dave Gorman thanked members for their participation and wished them happy holidays. Meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM.