

**DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup**  
**Via Zoom Webinar**  
**June 24, 2020**  
**9:00-11:00 AM**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes**

Attachment 1.

**Registration for this webinar at**

**[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_A25K5x9pSQ-NNsUKPSmjhA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_A25K5x9pSQ-NNsUKPSmjhA)**

*President Gorman called the meeting to order at 9:03am.*

1. **Approval of April 29, 2020 meeting minutes** (Attachment 1). *L. Cox made a motion to approve the minutes. D. Streicher seconded the motion. With one (1) abstention, the motion passed unanimously.*
  
2. **Presentation: Restore Salt Creek**  
Public outreach to inform the proposal to modify the Graue Mill dam has started. The project is fundamental to meeting long term use support goals in Salt Creek. The presentation will revisit how the dam was selected by both the DRSCW's TMDL alternative plan and its aquatic life priority assessments, details on the proposed project design, and schedule of the Public Outreach activities planned over the next few months.  
**Presenter: Stephen McCracken and Deanna Doohaluk (TCF)**
  
3. **NPDES Permit Special Conditions**
  - **NPDES Permits and Reporting** -- No update at this time.
  
  - **2020 Permit Negotiations** – Draft permit language and a proposed future project list have been developed from the updated IPS outputs, and have been shared with the negotiations team. The draft language and project list have also been shared with our EAG partners. A dialogue on the proposal is on-going. IEPA has agreed to temporarily postpone issuing the permits while the conversation is conducted. If the EAG's agree to the proposition to the draft language, a Special Condition Permit Holders meeting will be scheduled to discuss the details of the proposed permit condition language.
  
4. **Physical Project Update (ongoing)**
  - **Oak Meadows** – Post project biological sampling for 2019 is complete. Project area will be sampled in 2021 as part of the Salt Creek bioassessment.
  
  - **Fawell Dam Modification**
    - On May 22, 2020 Dr. Boyd Kynard from BK Riverfish presented a concept plan to install a BK Riverfish fish ladder system to the Project Committee. Staff, V3, and BK Riverfish are working through some design constraints (including modification of the downstream riffle, location of ladder entrance and exit, floodgate mobility, hydraulic impact, bollards, maintenance considerations, etc.) needed to finalize the concept plan. The draft implementation plan will be shared with DC SWM for their input and approval on the project.
    - The Project Consultants are also drafting the necessary permit documentation for IDNR-OWR, USACE, and DuPage County.

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- If DC SWM approves the installation of the BK Fish ladder in Fawell Dam, a MOU for the maintenance/ownership of the ladder will need to be drafted and signed by the DRSCW and DC. Requests for examples of such documents have been made to various members.
- **Graue Mill Dam**
  - **Project Schedule** – Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the project has been delayed. Details on the various tasks are provided below.
  - **Survey/WOTUS** – All fieldwork is completed (bathymetric and topographic survey, sediment sampling, and wetland delineation). DC SWM Wetland Boundary Assessment was held on June 3, 2020. AECOM has also submitted a proposed plan for additional sediment sampling to define the extent of the contamination. This request is under staff review.
  - **Master Plan** – Updated rendering based on comments from staff, the FPDDC and DRSCW Project Committee has been provided by AECOM.
  - **Open Houses** – Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the Open Houses have been moved to a virtual format and will be held via Zoom on July 7, 2020 at 7pm and July 9, 2020 at 11am. Aileron will facilitate the virtual open houses.
    - Advertising for the Open Houses began the week of June 8, 2020 and all materials including Open House registration will be posted on RestoreSaltCreek.org. Advertising will include email communications with DRSCW members and friends; all stakeholder contacts received during and since the initial survey process; a Press Release (1-2 weeks prior to the meetings) coordinated through Aileron; and a public notice in the Daily Herald.
    - Following the Virtual Open Houses, a comment period on the project will be open for approximately 30-days through August 7, 2020. Comments will be submitted electronically provided a survey/google form accessed via RestoreSaltCreek.org
    - Deliverables from the Open Houses will include 1) comment log; 2) FAQ/C and response to questions and comments; and 3) a document describing how comments will be incorporated into the final Master Plan.
  - **Partner Outreach**
    - Staff has been holding/scheduling informational meetings on the project with stakeholders including the Graue Mill and Museum (June 10, 2020), Fullersburg Historical Foundation (via Dr. Tata), Elmhurst News and Current Events Facebook Group (June 12, 2020), and Sierra Club River Prairie Group (June 16, 2020) prior to the “official” Open Houses. Staff is also reaching out to other stakeholder groups to discuss scheduling informational meetings. Staff is considering a presentation to DuPage County Mayors and Managers.
    - A conference call with the Village of Oak Brook was held on June 1, 2020 at their request to discuss the proposed project and public comment process.

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- Meetings with the Mayor of Elmhurst and FPDDC Commissioner Martha Murphy will be rescheduled to occur prior to the Open Houses. A meeting with FPPDC Commissioner Tim Whelan has occurred.
  - Press communication both prior to, during, and after the Open Houses will be coordinated through Aileron.
  - Project website is live at RestoreSaltCreek.org. Staff is also working on additional outreach materials including fliers, fact sheets, eblasts, and social media posts. These materials will be shared with the Membership via email.
  - **News Articles** – No update at this time.
  - **Pre-project Monitoring** - MBI completed pre-project biological and physical habitat sampling in September 2019. A second round of pre-project biological and physical habitat sampling is scheduled for Summer 2020.
  - **Budget Amendment** – *J. Hammer made a motion for a budget amendment to move \$6,500 from the Special Condition Contingency funds to the Fullersburg Woods Outreach project for the video filming/editing contract with Sikich (\$6000) and for Zoom webinar hosting (\$500). The motion was seconded by D. Streicher. The motion passed unanimously.*
- **Spring Brook Phase II** – The MOU between the DRSCW and FPDDC has been signed by both parties and the funds have been transferred to the FPDDC.

**5. Physical Project Update (not yet started)**

- **Lower East Branch** – Project scoping will begin in early 2020 once the 2019 fish data is available.
- **Lower West Branch** – No update at this time.

**6. Nutrient Implementation Plan (NIP)**

- **NSAC Update** – No update.
- **Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy (NLRS)** – No update at this time.
- **Trading Analysis**  
Point Source (PS) to PS Trading – No update at this time.

Stream Crediting Trading – The next step needed is to host a meeting between the Trading Consultant Team, MBI staff (Yoder and Rankin), and DRSCW staff. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the team is strategizing the best way to host this meeting. The overwhelming consensus is it would be best done in person but with travel restrictions, this may be impossible in the short term.

Current (MWRD) Nutrient Trading Effort (INTI) – Current has suspended their trading initiative.

USEPA National Water Quality Trading Policy – No update at this time.

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- IWEA NARP Workshop – As the IWPC conference was canceled due to the COVID-19 shelter in place order, the next NARP workshop will be rescheduled.
  - **Related to Nutrient Trading** – As they are completed, please submit PDOPs and FSs to DRSCW staff.
  - **QUAL Model Update**
    - Data Collection is ongoing. Focus is now on obtaining watershed specific information for Salt Creek (FEQ model, water quality data, etc.).
    - Model set-up is ongoing for the East Branch DuPage River. Work on the calibration of the East Branch model is scheduled for June 2020.
  - **Non-Point Source Washoff Model**
    - **Leaf litter Study** – Staff is developing a work proposal for this project and hopes to present it to the Project Committee in June 2020. This will include review of the leaf litter questionnaire sent out by County Stormwater.
      - V3 has offered pro-bono GIS services to support the leaf litter study. Staff are working with them to adapt data in the IPS data base to this purpose. Thanks to V3.
    - **Other Related Work** – Staff is investigating the use of the IPS for determining NPS impacts to headwater and non-effluent dominated streams.
  - **Expanded DO Monitoring Program** – The program will continue in the West Branch DuPage River watershed in 2020.
  - **IPS Model Update**
    - The update IPS methodology and Peer Review was presented to the Project Committee on May 15, 2020. A recording on the presentation is available on the DRSCW YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ueg38jsj-gE&feature=youtu.be>
      - Written materials for both the IPS Update and Peer Review are still in development and will be shared with the Project Committee when complete.
    - A summary of the IPS Tool was prepared for our EAG partners. This includes a list of next generation priority projects (see discussion on 2020 Negotiations in Item 3 of this agenda for more information).
7. **Springfield Regulatory and Legislative Updates** – Stephen and Deanna will schedule a visit to the IEPA for Summer 2020 once the COVID-19 situation stabilizes.

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**Non-Permit Activities**

**8. Bioassessment Plan**

- Salt Creek Bioassessment – Staff has received the Final Salt Creek 2013/2016 report from MBI and is conducting a final review. Staff has identified a few requested changes that still need to be made but have told MBI to focus on the IPS final draft. Once the final report is reviewed and accepted, it will be posted on the DRSCW website and final payment will be made.
- East Branch Bioassessment – MBI is working on completing the 2019 DRAFT Bioassessment report.
- West Branch bioassessment – Scheduled for 2020.
  - Chemical sampling began around May 15, 2020.

- 9. Upper Salt Creek 319 Watershed Plan** – The Section 319 (h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Financial Assistance Program for 2021 grants is now open. The deadline is August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020.

**10. Monitoring**

- The FY19/20 DRSCW Summary of MS4 Related Activities (including all 2019 monitoring) was provided to all members on May 8, 2020.
- Fecal coliform sampling will be conducted on the West Branch DuPage River in 2020 (MS4 program support).
- Conductivity monitoring began in early December 2019 and is complete.
- Continuous DO monitoring was started in mid-May 2020. Thank you to DC SWM and PWS for your support on this effort.
- The plastics samples will be collected in summer 2020.

**11. Chlorides**

- The 2020 chloride workshops are tentatively scheduled for October 8, 2020 for Parking Lots and Sidewalks and October 14 & 15, 2020 for Municipal Roads. These may become virtual conferences.
- Tollway Offset – A final draft of the Elmhurst application is finally ready and is being reviewed by staff at Elmhurst prior to submittal to the Tollway. *Staff is also working with Bensenville and Wooddale to assess the chloride reductions that have been made under their implementation of their Tollway Offset grants.*
- SB2138 (liability for contractors) – No update at this time.
- Sensible Salting Committee – No update at this time.
- TLWQS for Chlorides – A proposal for an area wide monitoring program is being developed.
- ILR00 and Chlorides – No update at this time.
- BMP and Loading Study – Continuous chloride data has been organized by watershed and season, and water quality loadings have been calculated for the study period. QAQC

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has been carried out on the calculations. The loadings are currently being regressed against possible explanatory variables. This analysis will provide an indication of the effectiveness of the DRSCW's chloride education and reduction efforts.

- Street Sweeping Data – This study was halted due to shelter-in-place and will be moved to next Spring.

**12. Other Activities**

- Website – We are updating the website and database portal.
- Coal Tar Sealants Update – No update at this time.
- ACOE DuPage River Feasibility Study – No update at this time.
- Newsletter—The Summer 2020 newsletter is underdevelopment.
- Utility Management – No update at this time.

**13. Business Items (new business)**

- **Invoice Summary– April 1, 2020 to June 11, 2020**

<b>Vendor/Project</b>	<b>Invoice Number</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>	<b>Status</b>
AECOM - Fullersburg Woods Dam	200033702	22,368.47	Paid
AECOM - Fullersburg Woods Dam	2000353862	28,349.27	Paid
Aileron - Fullersburg Woods Dam	Per Contract	8000.00	Paid
AJ Gallagher - Directors & Officers Insurance	N/A	1000.00	Paid
FPD DuPage County - Spring Brook Creek Pmt	N/A	160,000.00	Paid
HACH - Probe Maintenance Agreements	N/A	22,056.15	Paid
Hartford - Crime Insurance	N/A	506.00	Paid
Lauterbach & Amen - Audit (partial pmt)	2019-20	4950.00	Paid
Liberty Mutual - General Liability Insurance	N/A	250.00	Paid
MBI - East Branch DR 2019 Bio Assessment	1736	3688.15	Paid
MBI - East Branch DR 2019 Bio Assessment	1770	24,911.51	Pending
Microbac Labs - Chloride Sampling	LA0B00696	120.00	Paid
Microbac Labs - Chloride Sampling	LA0C00260	100.00	Paid
Tetra Tech - Phosphorus Trading	51587883	13,408.00	Paid
Tetra Tech - QUAL2kw	51590579	13,982.50	Paid
V3 - Fawell	220469	1219.39	Paid
V3 - Fawell	320283	5191.09	Pending
V3 - Fawell	420275	457.27	Pending

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- **Financial reports through May 31, 2020** (Attachment 2).
- **Membership Dues Payments Update (through June 11, 2020)** (Attachment 3).
  - Agency Membership dues and Special Condition assessment invoices were sent in early June. Associate Membership dues invoices will be sent in the next few weeks.
  - Staff will prepare a 5-minute video highlighting the mission and work of the DRSCW that could be shared with Member Agency elected officials. The purpose of this video will be to educate elected officials on the benefits of DRSCW membership.
- **Insurance Update** – The annual insurance policies for General Liability, Crime, and Directors & Officers have been renewed. Following staff’s consultation with Dino Gavanis (Itasca insurance agent & Village Trustee), the following additions have been made to the Hartford Crime policy: \$250,000 for Depositors Forgery, \$25,000 for Computer Systems Restoration, \$25,000 for Identity Recovery, \$15,000 for Deception Fraud, \$15,000 for Virtual Currency and \$50,000 for Counterfeit Currency. The premium for this additional coverage is \$76.
- **Annual Audit** – The annual audit has been completed by Lauterbach & Amen and reviewed by staff and Larry Cox. Once the audit report has been finalized, it will be sent to the full Executive Board for review and approval.
- **Contract Renewal with The Conservation Foundation (TCF)** – *L. Cox made a motion to approve the 2020-21 contract with TCF. The motion was seconded by S. Baert. With one (1) abstention, the motion passed unanimously.*
- **Vacant Executive Board Position** – With the retirement of Nick Menninga (Downers Grove Sanitary District) in March 2020, there was a vacancy on the Board. President Gorman asked Amy Underwood (Downers Grove Sanitary District) to fill the position. She accepted and the Board voted their approval at the June 11 Executive Board meeting to have her fill the vacant seat.

**14. DRSCW Calendar, Presentations and Press Coverage**

- TMDLs – Thinking Beyond Permit Limits, River Rally (virtual conference), May 2020 (D. Doohaluk)
- IPS model - Project ID and NARP development, Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group, 5/14/2020 (S. McCracken)

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**15. Workgroup Meeting Schedules**

August 26, 2020 from 9AM-11AM  
October 28, 2020 from 9AM-11AM  
December 9, 2020 from 9AM-11AM  
February 24, 2021 from 9AM-11AM  
April 28, 2021 from 9AM-11AM

*S. Baert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 am. R. Salerno seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously.*