

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Stormwater Management Planning Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

(February 13, 2020)

The DeKalb County Stormwater Management Planning Committee (SMPC) met on February 13, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the DeKalb County Administrative Building, Conference Room – East, in Sycamore, Illinois. In attendance were Committee Members: Mark Bushnell, Rich Gentile, Zac Gill, Nathan Schwartz, Derek Hiland, Dean Johnson, Paul Stoddard, and Pat Vary. Also in attendance was Committee Staff: Marcellus Anderson.

- 1. Roll Call** – Mr. Hiland noted that Committee members Mr. Bunge, Mr. Horak, Mr. Emerson, and Mrs. Prain were absent. Ms. Vary arrived shortly after the meeting began.
- 2. Approval of Agenda** - *Mr. Gill moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, and the motion carried unanimously.*
- 3. Approval of Minutes** -

Mr. Hiland informed the Committee that he had learned that everyone had not received the agenda prior to the meeting and thus had not had a chance to review the attached minutes from the September 12, 2019 meeting. Therefore, approval of those minutes would wait until the Committee's next meeting.

4. Update on IEPA 319 Grant Application

Mr. Johnson distributed a memo detailing the status of the Upper South Branch Kishwaukee River Watershed Steering Committee. He informed the Committee that the Watershed Committee and Applied Ecological Services (AES) had facilitated a Watershed Goals and Mission Planning workshop on February 5, 2020, and described the topics and methodology used in the workshop. He noted that approximately fifty (50) people attended the workshop, and that the workshop went really well.

Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that Watershed Committee member Donna Prain was stepping down from the Committee because she was moving out of state. He informed the Committee that he wanted to recommend that Anita Zurbrugg be appointed to fill her position.

Mr. Johnson noted that the Watershed Plan was expected to be completed by the end of the year, and that the next Watershed Committee meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2020, in the DeKalb County Administrative Building, Conference Room – East, at 3:00 pm.

Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that in his talks with the DeKalb County Community Foundation, it was noted that the current watershed plan was more than half done, and the question raised as to when do we want to start the next one. He then distributed a map depicting the priority watersheds located within DeKalb County and the years that they be given priority funding. Mr. Johnson noted that the applications are typically due around August 1st, for the projects in the following year. He asked the Committee if they felt it made sense, with the current project nearing completion, to seek funding for a project beginning in 2021. He explained that the EPA sets up priority funding for watersheds, and that if the IEPA 319 grant application for that watershed is in a year that it is selected as a priority, then it gets a couple of more points in its favor. He then described the watersheds depicted, and asked the Committee which one would they would like to do next. He did note that the City of Sandwich is doing a watershed plan for the Little Rock Creek, and asked the Committee whether it would make sense to consider completing the Big Rock Creek watershed to coincide with the work the City is doing with the Little Rock Creek. Or, whether it would make more sense to continue working on the remaining watersheds along the South Branch Kishwaukee River. The Committee then discussed the merits of both areas, which also included a more detailed look at the 319 grants and how they could be used. The Committee finalized the discussion by coming to a general consensus that the South Branch Kishwaukee River – Coon Creek Watershed would be the subject of the next watershed plan.

5. Committee Membership Terms

Mr. Hiland informed the Committee that terms for six (6) of the Committee members would be expiring at the end of June. He noted that letters regarding this would be soon be going out. The Committee had a general discussion about the term lengths, and who could serve as potential replacements.

Mr. Hiland noted that Ms. Prain had submitted her formal resignation letter, and that Ms. Zurbrugg had been recommended as her replacement. Mr. Schwartz voiced his support of her recommendation.

Mr. Schwartz moved to recommend to the County Board Chair that Ms. Zurbrugg be appointed to fill Ms. Prain's vacant position on the Stormwater Committee, seconded by Mr. Bushnell, and was carried unanimously.

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Mr. Stoddard moved to appoint Ms. Zurbrugg to fill Ms. Prain's position on the Watershed Steering Committee, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, and was carried unanimously.

6. Next Meeting / 2020 Tentative Meeting Schedule

Mr. Hiland noted that the Committee's next scheduled meeting (the second quarter meeting) would be on May 14th, at 2pm.

The Committee also tentatively scheduled their third quarter meeting for August 13th and the fourth quarter meeting for November 12th.

7. Adjournment - Mr. Schwartz moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Vary, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Hiland
Chairman, DeKalb County Stormwater Management Planning Committee

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