



## DRWW Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda

08/15/2024 01:30 pm – 03:30 pm

University of Saint Mary of the Lake (USML), Conference Center Meeting Hall  
1000 E. Maple Avenue, Mundelein, IL 60060

### Discussion and Possible Approval of the Following:

#### 1. Introductions, Announcements, and Roll Call

Paul Kendzior, DRWW President, called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm and started introductions.

##### a. Roll Call

Anna Niedzinski, DRWW coordinator, performed roll call. 20 members were in attendance representing 23 DRWW members: **Paul Kendzior**, DRWW President, Village of Libertyville; **Higinio Jasso**, City of Waukegan; **Jim Bland**, EPS, Inc.; **Rishab Mahajan**, Geosyntec, Inc.; **Mike Warner**, Gewalt Hamilton Associates; **Paul Lindemann**, Lake County Division of Transportation; **Gary Glowacki**, Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD); **Joel Sensenig**, Lake County Public Works; **Anna Niedzinski**, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC); **Jonathan Happ**, Libertyville Township; **Chuck Bodden**, North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD) ; **Chris Johnson**, Sierra Club; **Andrea Larson**, Village of Buffalo Grove; **Ben Metzler**, Village of Green Oaks; **Nick Leach**, Village of Gurnee; **Michael Talbett**, Village of Kildeer; **Wally Dittrich**, Village of Lincolnshire; **Mike Turner**, Village of Lindenhurst; **Tom Morthorst**, Village of Third Lake; and **Karolina Cho**, Gewalt Hamilton Associates, representing Ela and Fremont Townships and the Villages of Long Grove and Riverwoods. A general membership quorum was present via a roll call vote.

#### 2. Public Comment

Mary Eggert from Lake County Lake Lovers (LCLL) informed the membership about World Cleanup Day on September 20, 2024. LCLL is looking for local projects to promote and volunteer.

#### 3. \*\*Approve 02/15/24 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as presented by Joel Sensenig, Lake County Public Works, seconded by Nick Leach, Village of Gurnee. The motion passed with a unanimous consensus vote.

#### 4. DRWW Business

##### a. DRWW Financials:

##### i. \*\*Ratify DRWW Revenue & Expenditures

Motion to approve revenue and expenditures and ratify invoices as presented by Michael Talbett, Village of Kildeer, seconded by Paul Lindemann, Lake County Division of Transportation. The motion passed 22-0-1 via roll call vote.

##### ii. DRWW Budget Review

Niedzinski presented the FY2024 budget. There were no comments or questions on this agenda item.

##### b. Committee Updates

##### i. Executive Board

Paul Kendzior, DRWW President, provided an update on Executive Board actions. The DRWW submitted the Nutrient Assessment and Reduction Plan (NARP) and are reviewing the NARP implementation plan. The May Newsletter has been posted to the DRWW website. The DRWW is sponsoring in-person and virtual deicing workshops with the Salt Smart Collaborative. One in-person workshop will be hosted at the Lake County Central Permit Facility in Libertyville, IL on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

\* = DRWW Action Item

\*\* = Live Demonstration (weather permitting) will occur right after the conclusion of the meeting

**ii. Monitoring/Water Quality Improvements Committee**

Rob Flood, Monitoring Committee Chair, provided an update on Monitoring Committee activities. The Illinois EPA has received comments from the Illinois Sierra Club pertaining to the DRWW NARP, which the Monitoring Committee is reviewing. The Monitoring Committee is reviewing the monitoring data received for the 2024 sampling year and discussing the NARP implementation plan.

**iii. Lakes Committee**

Alana Bartolai, Lakes Committee Chair, provided an update on Lake Committee activities. The Lakes Committee is reviewing sections of the NARP Implementation planned that were referred to the Lakes Committee from the Monitoring Committee. After reviewing practices for leaf sweeping the Lakes Committee will be drafting and sending out a survey to the DRWW membership to collect information on local leaf collection practices and consolidating phosphorous materials.

**c. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**d. New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

**5. Guest Speakers**

**a. Natural Solutions Tool Presentation - Greater Chicago Watershed Alliance**

*Amy Heldman, Planning & GIS Specialist, Friends of the Chicago River*

Amy Heldman presented the Natural Solutions Tool (NST) that the Greater Chicago Watershed Alliance launched in March 2022 in partnership with the Trust for Public Land. Heldman gave an overview of the development of this data visualization tool and noted that partners can use the information in their grant applications. One of the primary goals of the tool is to recognize stormwater issues in the context of other multi-benefits – social, environmental, economic, diversity, etc. The tool is built upon five modeling objectives: healthy, equitable, biodiverse, protected, and connected. Friends of the Chicago River (FOCR) performed the first update of the tool during Winter 2023. Heldman performed a live demo of the tool, highlighted the basic features as well as the new updates to the NST.

Questions:

1. Does the NST require an ArcGIS subscription? No, it does not. The NST is free to use.
2. Does the NST show Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) locations, discharges, and historical discharges? Currently the NST does not show information on CSO's. The FOCR is committed to performing annual updates. If data is available it can be added to a future update.
3. Who is paying to maintain the NST? The Trust for Public Land maintains the NST. The funding for maintaining the site is through grants.
4. Are there any plans to expand the tool? The FOCR is looking for an opportunity to expand the NST into Lake County, IL and are currently looking for partners.
5. Is the NST useful in finding high- and low-quality areas? It can do both, balancing between need and opportunity. FOCR is looking for more data to include to help users find more opportunities.
6. Where is the water quality data coming from, are you using data from USGS or EPA? The NST tools uses data from CMAP, NOAA and FEMA, but the tool is looking to expand in a future update. The tool does not have super robust spatial water quality data. Some current layers contribute to water quality.
7. Can the tool show location of industrial areas, owners, and types of industry? Yes, the tool has the query data function, where you can specify the land use types and types of industry.
8. Any success stories to share? The FOCR has a couple examples. There are no projects built yet. CMAP has used the tool to cross reference parcels, the Chicago Tribune has used the NST, and schools have used it too. UIC's Department of Urban Development has been having their students use the tool. The FOCR has trouble tracking use cases since it is a free resource.

**PDHs are self-reporting.** If attendees want to apply DRWW meetings towards their professional license, keep the certificate, agenda, and minutes with sign-in sheets. Acceptance of these materials for credit is at the discretion of the licensing authority.

**MS4 Program BMP fulfillment.** If attendees want to apply DRWW meetings and education towards their MS4 Program BMP Measurable Goals, keep the certificate, agenda and minutes with sign-in sheets. Acceptance of these materials for MS4 program credit is at the discretion of the Illinois EPA.

**b. Introducing Erosia: Sediment Runoff and Discharge Detection with AI**

*Kaiden Simon, Founder, and Brendan Galvin, Head of Outreach*

Kaiden Simon and Brendan Galvin presented on a computer program they designed to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality. Erosia is a lightweight computer software, which has an automated erosion estimation and visual management practice effectiveness simulation making it more user friendly to identify beneficial best management practices. The software has a 0.35-meter spatial resolution using satellite imagery which updates every 6 days, there is no manual data collection needed, all the data is in databases that Erosia uses. The user interface for Erosia is presented visually allowing the user to quickly identify at risk areas, evaluate discharge risks, and easily track sources of poor water quality to better allocate scarce resources, which can reduce labor costs, speed up the compliance process, and save money. Simon and Galvin are hoping the software will act as the initial catalyst to start projects, not just for big municipalities but also for the public to use and that the tool can help with MS4 enforcement, projects in need for grant funding, and watershed plan development. The methods used in Erosia were tested and evaluated by Dr. Jerald Fifield. Simon and Galvin performed a live demonstration of the Erosia program.

Questions:

1. Where are the sediment discharge numbers coming from? An equation, that can be emailed after the presentation.
2. Is Erosia proactive or reactive measure? Erosia is designed to be proactive approach to a project.
3. What school are you from? Simon and Galvin are both high school students. Simon designed the program himself, with guidance from the USDA and Dr. Fifield to follow industry standards.
4. Can Erosia be used for nitrogen or phosphorus estimates? Currently Erosia is unable to perform that function, the program can be customized for the individual client. Since Erosia is a new product Simon is looking for additional features to add.
5. Do you have any references for any projects you have worked on formally? Simon and Galvin worked with Dr. Fifield on a highway project in Idaho. They compared the results that Erosia generated, with traditional erosion prediction software, to the observed erosion. Erosia predicted an erosion discharge that was not predicted using the traditional software that was observed.
6. How much does the software cost? Currently Erosia is free, Simon and Galvin can get you started using the program. Erosia is at a point right now that Simon and Galvin want to get development and feedback on their program.

**c. \*\*Removal of Carp to Reduce Nutrient Enrichment in Impaired Lakes in Lake County**

*Gerard Urbanozo, Senior Water Quality Specialist, James Fitzgerald, Water Quality Specialist, and Nick Psimaras, Temporary Water Quality Technician, Lake County Health Department (LCHD) – Ecological Health Services*

Gerard Urbanozo, James Fitzgerald, and Nick Psimaras provided an overview of the invasive Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) removal project that LCHD piloted. In 2018 LCHD and LCFPD applied for a 319 Grant through SMC to fund the project to remove carp to reduce nutrient pollution in eight (8) lakes in the Des Plaines River (DPR) watershed. Common carp reduce water quality through nutrient loading, sediment resuspension, and damaging native plant communities which sequester nutrients. LCHD removed carp using an electrofishing boat between 2021-2022 to remove many carp at Hastings Lake, McDonald Lake, Des Plaines Lake, Slough Lake, Crooked Lake, St. Mary's Lake, Big Bear Lake, and Little Bear Lake. After removal of the carp the LCHD performed water quality assessments five (5) times a year measuring Secchi depth, total suspended solids (TSS), and total (TP). Psimaras presented a summary of the findings, so far with removal of the carp Secchi depths have increased, while the values for TSS and TP have been decreasing. The LCHD will be monitoring the lakes for ten (10) years as part of the grant agreement.

Questions:

1. What do you do with the carp? In the grant originally, the carp were to go into a dumpster. For the fish caught at the lakes on LCFPD properties the carp are used to fertilize plants. At St. Mary's Lake the USML has a compost pile where the carp are added.
2. Does electroshocking harm the local fish? The shock stuns local fish but they are left in the water to recover. Also, shocking stops when the air temperature gets higher than 80 degrees Fahrenheit to reduce the stress on the fish.
3. Do you think the carp in lakes come in from the DPR? Some carp are swimming upstream to enter the lakes.

**PDHs are self-reporting.** If attendees want to apply DRWW meetings towards their professional license, keep the certificate, agenda, and minutes with sign-in sheets. Acceptance of these materials for credit is at the discretion of the licensing authority.

**MS4 Program BMP fulfillment.** If attendees want to apply DRWW meetings and education towards their MS4 Program BMP Measurable Goals, keep the certificate, agenda and minutes with sign-in sheets. Acceptance of these materials for MS4 program credit is at the discretion of the Illinois EPA.

4. Have you done a mark and recapture study? Initially the LCHD did not perform a mark and recapture study, but LCHD performed one in 2024. LCHD would like to know at what point that the vegetation begins to recover.
5. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) uses fish toxins, has LCHD thought of using it? The method is pricy, also only the Illinois DNR can perform that method. The method is effective.
6. Has LCHD thought of doing a study for poison? In Illinois there was one study where Illinois DNR trained the carp to eat pellets, the method was not cost effective.
7. Have any interesting species of fish been found? In St. Mary's Lake LCHD has found a muskie and pirate perch.
8. Where is Des Plaines Lake? It is right under DPR, due to the close connection to of the lake to the DPR, it is a good way to monitor the concentration of carp in the river.
9. Are the carp going to come back to those lakes? During the monitoring period LCHD goes out to remove carp. Given enough effort the numbers of carp will go down to a significant amount where the carp population won't rebound.

After the meeting Fitzgerald, Psimaras, and Nick Huber (LCFPD) gave a live electrofishing carp removal demonstration on St. Mary's Lake after the conclusion of the meeting.

## 6. Watershed Updates & Announcements

### a. SMC FY2025 Countywide Request for Project Proposals

Niedzinski announced that SMC opened the FY2025 Countywide Request for Project Proposals of SMC's WMB grant. Proposals will be accepted until September 13, 2024. The contact for projects in the DPR is Joseph Jozefowski.

### b. 2024 Deicing Workshop & Lake County Calibration Event

Bartolai announced that in 2024 there will be 2 virtual workshops and an in-person deicing workshop hosted at the Lake County Central Permit Facility, Libertyville September 24, 2024. Registration will be opening soon. Lake County will be hosting a Calibration Day at Lake County Division of Transportation where municipalities can get their trucks calibrated for the upcoming season.

### c. 2024 SMC HOA Workshop and Vendor Expo

Niedzinski announced that SMC will host a Homeowners Association (HOA) Workshop and Vendor Expo for all Lake County HOA's at the Lake County Central Permit Facility, Libertyville on September 14, 2024, from 4:30pm-8:30pm. The event will be hybrid, and in-person space will be limited so register. Registration is open on the SMC website.

## 7. Member Remarks

There were no member remarks.

## 8. Next General Membership Meeting: February 20, 2025 1:30pm

## 9. Adjournment

Chuck Bodden motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tom Morthorst. The motioned passed unanimously. Kendzior adjourned the meeting at 3:38pm.

**PDHs are self-reporting.** If attendees want to apply DRWW meetings towards their professional license, keep the certificate, agenda, and minutes with sign-in sheets. Acceptance of these materials for credit is at the discretion of the licensing authority.

**MS4 Program BMP fulfillment.** If attendees want to apply DRWW meetings and education towards their MS4 Program BMP Measurable Goals, keep the certificate, agenda and minutes with sign-in sheets. Acceptance of these materials for MS4 program credit is at the discretion of the Illinois EPA.

**DRWW August 15, 2024 Roll Call Sheet**

Organization	Voting Member	Number of Votes	Roll Call	Vote Count	FY24 REV-EXP	Vote Count
Applied Technologies, Inc.		2		0		0
Christopher Burke		2		0		0
City of Lake Forest		4		0		0
City of Park City		4		0		0
City of Waukegan	Higinio Jasso	4	Y	4	Y	4
City of Zion		4		0		0
Ela Township	Karolina Cho	4	Y	4	ABSTAIN	0
EPS, Inc.	Jim Bland	2	Y	2	Y	2
Fehr Graham Engineering		2		0		0
Fremont Township	Karoline Cho	4	Y	4	Y	4
Geosyntec	Rishab Mahajan	2	Y	2	Y	2
Gewalt Hamilton	Mike Warner	2	Y	2	Y	2
Hey & Associates		2		0		0
IDOT		4		0		0
Integrated Lakes Management (ILM)		2		0		0
Lake County & Lake County DOT (1 member)	Paul Lindemann	6	Y	6	Y	6
Lake County Forest Preserve	Gary Glowacki	4	Y	4	Y	4
Lake County Public Works	Joel Sensenig	16	Y	16	Y	16
Lake County SMC	Anna Niedzinski	2	Y	2	Y	2
Libertyville Township	Jonathan Happ	4	Y	4	Y	4
North Shore Water Reclamation District	Chuck Bodden	20	Y	20	Y	20
Sierra Club	Chris Johnson	2	Y	2	Y	2
Vernon Hills Park District		2		0		0
Vernon Township		4		0		0
Village of Buffalo Grove	Andrea Larson	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Deer Park		4		0		0
Village of Deerfield		4		0		0
Village of Grayslake		4		0		0
Village of Green Oaks	Ben Metzler	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Gurnee	Nick Leach	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Kildeer	Michael Talbett	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Lake Zurich		4		0		0
Village of Libertyville	Paul Kendzior	6	Y	6	Y	6
Village of Lincolnshire	Wally Dittrich	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Lindenhurst	Mike Turner	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Long Grove	Karolina Cho	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Old Mill Creek		2		0		0
Village of Riverwoods	Karolina Cho	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Round Lake Beach		4		0		0
Village of Round Lake Park		4		0		0
Village of Third Lake	Tom Morthorst	4	Y	4	Y	4
Village of Vernon Hills		4		0		0
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>176</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>110</b>

## August 15, 2024 Meeting Attendees

Name	Organization
Alana Bartolai	Lake County Health Department
Amy Heldman	Friends of the Chicago River
Andrea Larson	Village of Buffalo Grove
Anna Niedzinski	Lake County SMC
Ashley Strelcheck	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
Becky Sawle	Lake County Lake Lovers
Ben Metzler	Village of Green Oaks; Clark Dietz
Brendan Galvin	Erosia (attended virtually)
Cecilia Anderson	Village of Lincolnshire
Chris Johnson	Sierra Club
Chuck Bodden	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Don Wilson	Self
Gary Glowacki	Lake County Forest Preserve
Gerard Urbanozo	Lake County Health Department
Higinio Jasso	City of Waukegan
James Fitzgerald	Lake County Health Department
Jasmin Ealom	Lake County Health Department
Jim Bland	EPS, Inc.
Jimmy Canning	Strand Associates
Joanna Colletti	GRAEF
Joel Sensenig	Lake County Public Works
Jonathan Happ	Libertyville Township
Kaiden Simon	Erosia (attended virtually)
Karolina Cho	Gewalt Hamilton Associates; and representing Antioch, Avon, Ela, and Fremont Townships and the Villages of Long Grove, Prospect Heights, Riverwoods, and Wadsworth
Leonard Dane	Hey and Associates, Inc.
Linda Tilton	Sierra Club
Mark Bueftner	DPRT
Marty Neal	Libertyville Township Highway Department
Mary Eggert	Lake County Lake Lovers
Michael Talbett	Village of Kildeer
Michael Turner	Village of Lindenhurst
Michael Warner	Gewalt Hamilton Associates; and representing Antioch, Avon, Ela, and Fremont Townships and the Villages of Long Grove, Prospect Heights, Riverwoods, and Wadsworth
Nick Huber	Lake County Forest Preserve District
Nick Leach	Village of Gurnee
Nick Psimaras	Lake County Health Department
Nick Stepina	Village of Green Oaks; Clark Dietz
Paul Kendzior	Village of Libertyville
Paul Lindemann	Lake County & Lake County DOT (1 member)
Rishab Mahajan	Geosyntec
Rob Flood	North Shore Water Reclamation District
Steve Tilton	Sierra Club
Tom Morthorst	Village of Third Lake
Wally Dittrich	Village of Lincolnshire