



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 18, 2024

10AM

Location: Plainfield Public Works Facility

Slides of meeting presentation are available at <https://ldpwatersheds.org/about-us/lower-dupage-river-watershed-coalition/meetings-minutes/>

- 1. Approve** Meeting Minutes from November 16, 2023 meeting. *Motion to approve 11-16-23 meeting minutes as presented made by Deanna Doohaluk, seconded by Joe Slevnik, motion carried.*
- 2. Executive Board Elections:** *Motion to approve the 2024 slate of officers and members-at-large as presented made by Andrew Hawkins, seconded by Deanna Doohaluk, motion carried.*
 - 2024 Slate of Officers**
 - President – Doug Kissel, Village of Plainfield
 - Vice President – Nick Gornick, City of Joliet
 - Treasurer/Secretary – Joe Slevnik, City of Naperville
 - 2024 Slate of Members-at-Large**
 - Andrew Hawkins, Forest Preserve District of Will County
 - Deanna Doohaluk, The Conservation Foundation
 - Randy Jessen, Will County Stormwater Committee
 - Ryan Anderson, Village of Minooka
- 3. Discussion - Approve FY2024-2025 Annual Budget** – See attached budget. This is the third year of the four-year budget. The budget cycle shifted to a four-year cycle as our bioassessment program shifts to a four-year cycle. Minor adjustments of note are an increase in the estimate for the MBI portion of the next bioassessment, this is based on increases seen in other contracts from adjacent watershed groups. Second is a slightly higher increase in the staffing contract which reflects an update of billing rates from The Conservation Foundation. A reduction in the Phase 2 NARP line was also made as future costs will be determined through new special conditions in future permit renewals. Overall the increase in dues was less than 1% over 2023, but less than dues in 2022. *Jennifer presented the budget that was shared in the meeting packet with members and discussed the minor increases in the administration and monitoring budget line items and the decreases in the NARP round 2 and Project Analysis lines (discussion on NARP funding needs included below in NARP update). Approval of dues and budget were done in two motions. Motion to approve the FY2024-2025 Agency Dues as presented made by Deanna Doohaluk, second by Randy Jessen, motion carried. Motion to approve the FY2024-2025 Annual Budget made by Deanna Doohaluk, seconded by Kevin Fricke, motion carried.*
- 4. Approve:** 2024-2025 Staffing Contract with The Conservation Foundation – updated to reflect staffing costs in FY2024-2025 budget – see attached with highlighted changes. *The annual staffing contract was updated with FY2024-2025 dates and total amount as set in the newly approved budget of \$88,731.76. Motion to approve the updated FY2024-2025 Staffing Contract with The Conservation Foundation as presented made by Joe Slevnik, seconded by Andrew Hawkins, motion carried with one abstention by Deanna Doohaluk.*
- 5. Update – DuPage River Restoration Project in Plainfield** *Army Corps and Illinois DNR permits have been submitted and are under review. Hey is working on an estimated cost update. MOA with Village of Plainfield to be presented and approved at the February 5th Village Board Meeting –*

Jennifer and Tim Pollowy (Hey) will provide a short presentation. The total amount in the agreement is \$2,250,000 as approved at the November 2023 membership meeting. There may be an additional ~\$200,000 that could be added to the agreement prior to the Village letting a contract. The board held this amount back as a contingency until permits are in hand. Jennifer will work with project partners on an outreach plan for the project.

6. **Update – NIP/NARP** *The final DuPage River – Salt Creek NIP was submitted to the Illinois EPA on behalf of all DRSCW and LDRWC permitted dischargers on December 28, 2023. The report is posted to the <https://ldpwatersheds.org/about-us/lower-dupage-river-watershed-coalition/our-work/narp/> - scroll to the bottom (text on this page still needs to be updated). Albert Ettinger has already provided initial comments and has forwarded our report on to USEPA Region 5 staff. Stephen will reach out to both IEPA and USEPA staff offering to setup a meeting to discuss any questions. In particular with IEPA Stephen will be discussing how recommendations of the NARP will be incorporated into 9 DRSCW permits that are up for renewal in early 2024. Staff is anticipating that assistance from attorney Fred Andes will be needed in crafting/negotiating permit terms related to NARP implementation. Depending on how the plan is received and comments from others are addressed, it may be necessary to run additional modeling scenarios to assist in negotiations and keeping as close to what was presented in the NARP. If funds are needed (shared cost with DRSCW) funds from both the NARP round 2 (\$19,000) and what is currently in the Project Analysis line (\$20,000) should more than cover costs for this coming FY. As there is more clarity on how the NARP will be accepted and implemented, future funding needs should be developed as part of next year's budgeting process.*
7. **2023 Review** – *In addition to updates related to the restoration project and the NARP, staff completed a successful audit and filed taxes and the MS4 activities report was completed in March 2023. A summary of seasonal outreach materials and topics was shared.*
8. **Education & Outreach:**
 - a. Winter – focus on winter deicing practices and winter safety. Blog posts and newsletter articles and social media post are now available on-line.
 - b. Spring – The topics for spring include water conservation and treatment plants
 - c. Pet Waste Campaign – on going
9. **Organization Updates:**
 - a. Membership Update –
 - b. Treasurer's Report –
10. **Calendar**
 - a. February 28th – DRSCW Annual Membership Meeting 9AM in Lombard
 - b. **Lower DuPage Watershed Coalition 2024 Member Meeting Schedule:**
 - March 21
 - May 16
 - July 18
 - September 19
 - November 21