



Annual Membership Meeting

January 25, 2024

Minutes

Presentation slides available at <https://ldpwatersheds.org/about-us/lower-des-plaines-watershed-group/meetings-minutes/>

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approve November 30, 2023 Meeting Minutes *Motion to approve November 30, 2023 meeting minutes as presented made by Zach Brown, seconded by Ed Dolezal. Motion carried.*
- Elections: 2024 Slate of Officers and Member-at-Large
 - President – Allison Swisher, City of Joliet
 - Vice President – Ed Dolezal, Village of Channahon
 - Secretary/Treasurer - Keith McKeen, Village of New Lenox
 - Member at Large – Zachary Brown, Village of Frankfort
 - Member at Large – Dustin Gallagher, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
 - Member at Large - Pete Grossi, Village of Lockport

Motion to approve the 2024 Slate of officers and Member-at-Large as presented made by Chris Drey, seconded by Kathy Lai. Motion carried.

- Review & Approve Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annual Budget – There are minor increases in dues this year to cover estimated increased costs for the Bioassessment program and a slightly higher than planned increase in the staffing contract to reflect an update in the billing rates from The Conservation Foundation.
Jennifer reviewed the proposed budget and provided detail for increases in bioassessment costs related to MBI increases and in staffing contract increases related to revised billing rates by TCF. Motion to approve the FY2024-2025 budget as presented made by Chris Drey, seconded by Zach Brown. Motion carried.
- Authorize Executive Board to finalize and execute the 2024-2025 Staffing Contract with The Conservation Foundation – See attached draft contract. Updated to reflect current dates and total staffing amount of \$138,000 as presented in the budget. This amount covers 1.475 FTE spread across six staff. The last page has a draft list of tasks that will be finalized at the February board meeting.
Jennifer reviewed updates to the TCF staffing contract which included dates and overall cost, the board will review and finalize Attachment A – detailed task list at the February board meeting. Motion to authorize the executive board to finalize The Conservation Foundation staffing contract, not to exceed \$138,000 as presented in the budget, made by Chris Drey, seconded by Zach Brown. Motion carried.

- Meeting Dates In-Person *Member Meetings are shifting from bi-monthly to quarterly on April 25, July 25 and October 24. This is in part to make room for more smaller working meetings on NARP related items.*
- NARP Update *The NARP was submitted to IEPA on behalf of all Agency Members that operate treatment plants in the watershed, on December 22, 2023. The document is also posted at <https://ldpwatersheds.org/about-us/lower-des-plaines-watershed-group/our-work/narp/> Jennifer provided a summary of the implementation items included in Sections 6 & 7 in the NARP, outlining tasks to be completed in 2024 and tasks over the next 5 years for the mainstem plants.*
- Chloride TLWQS Reminders *Reminders about keeping up with documentation throughout the winter season and that the annual report would be due on June 1, 2024 to allow time for the Workgroup Status Report to be completed by July 1, 2024.*
- Review of 2023 Outreach Materials – *A summary of all of the outreach materials and opportunities was provided – all materials can be found online at <https://ldpwatersheds.org/outreach/>*
- Winter & Spring Outreach Materials *Winter materials were shared in November with a focus on safety messages. Spring materials will continue focus on water conservation, wastewater treatment plant series and watershed ecology and will be available by mid-February.*
- 2024 Quarterly Membership Meetings – 10 AM - In Person at Village of Romeoville Public Works Facility:
 - April 25
 - July 25
 - October 24
- Chicago Area Waterways Chloride Workgroup Meetings
 - March 20 – 1PM - Village of Niles Village Hall 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles
 - June 19 – 1PM Location TBD