

*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**  
(September 18, 2014)

The DeKalb County Stormwater Management Planning Committee (SMPC) met on September 18, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in the DeKalb County Administration Building, Conference Room East, in Sycamore, Illinois. In attendance were Committee members Norm Beeh, John Laskowski, Paul Miller, Roger Steimel, Paul Stoddard, Pat Vary, Tom Thomas, Donna Prain and County Engineer Nathan Schwartz. Also in attendance were Anita Zurbrugg and Dan Templin from the DeKalb County Community Foundation and Planning and Zoning Department staff Rebecca Von Drasek.

1. **Roll Call** -- *Mr. Miller noted that Committee members Derek Hiland, Bill Lorence, Joel Maurer, and Joe Misurelli were absent.*
2. **Approval of Agenda** – *Mr. Beeh moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Vary, and the motion carried unanimously.*
3. **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Miller acknowledged Mr. Joel Maurer’s request that the August 28, 2014 minutes be amended to include his inquiry as to if the proposed wetland creation was to be centralized on a Kane County owned property near Virgil or spread throughout the Watershed.

Ms. Vary also noted a few typographical errors within the minutes.

*Mr. Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2014 meeting as amended, seconded by Mr. Steimel, and the motion carried unanimously.*

**4. East Branch South Branch of the Kishwaukee River Watershed Plan Recommendation**

DeKalb County was awarded, on November 16, 2012, a Section 319 grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to undertake a watershed study. The watershed under consideration is the headwaters of the East Branch of the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River. DeKalb County partnered with the DeKalb County Community Foundation to create the watershed plan. Hey & Associates, along with Baxter Woodman, were selected as the engineers for the project December, 2012. The watershed plan is intended to provide a more area-specific approach to stormwater management and water quality within the study area.

Mr. Miller explained that the draft Union/Virgil Ditches and East Branch Kishwaukee River Watershed Plan is now complete and that the IEPA has approved the Plan. Mr. Miller informed the Committee that following the IEPA approval the Watershed Steering Committee voted on September 10, 2014 to recommend adoption to all of the jurisdictions within the watershed. He asked the Committee Members for their comments regarding the Plan.

Ms. Vary inquired about the H&H model used within the Plan. She also wanted to know what ought to be prioritized as projects for the Committee to consider.

Mr. Miller observed that the Plan action items which he felt would be cost efficient and could make a measurable impact were the encouragement of riparian buffer strips and an effort to increase the number and quality of wetlands within the watershed.

Ms. Vary note that permeable pavers could become a Best Management Practice for a future parking lot. Mr. Miller noted that a future County or City project could incorporate the practices suggested within the Plan.

Mr. Steimel asked Mr. Schwartz what the differences would be in cost to install a permeable parking lot versus a standard parking lot. Mr. Schwartz observed the permeable parking lots are more expensive to install than conventional designs. He added that other Best Management Practices, such as curb cuts and sloping drainage into medians, may not add significantly to cost but can result in a decrease of runoff.

The Committee noted a few local permeable parking lots at the Kane County Cougars stadium and the Morton arboretum.

Mr. Laskowski also noted that the maintenance of any design should be considered when considering the cost of features.

The Committee also considered that the Best Management Practices would not be required of existing developments but future developments and retrofitting of facilities would be asked to consider incorporating such practices within their design.

Ms. Prain emphasized that the practices would be encouraged but not required with adoption of this Plan.

Ms. Vary reiterated her request that formal outreach regarding the Plan's Best Management Practices be a priority.

Mr. Steimel complimented the Steering Committee on the cooperative approach Mr. Miller had

alluded to noting that the current plan had met with the Drainage District representatives and was continuing to attempt to work with the agricultural community. He stressed that he had heard horror stories from other agricultural counties where environmental interests are at odds with agricultural practices. He concluded noting that the agricultural community must have a means to move the water so that crops can reach their potential.

*Ms. Vary moved to recommend adoption of the East Branch of the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River (including the Union and Virgil Ditch Systems) Watershed-Based Plan, seconded by Ms. Prain, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Laskowski questioned the impact of the Plan on jurisdictions outside of the Watershed and adoption by other jurisdictions. Mr. Miller responded that he hoped that the adoption of the Plan would follow the County's continuing efforts to cooperate with the municipalities. The Committee also discussed the impact of adopting the Plan on areas within the County but outside of the Watershed.

Mr. Thomas encouraged representatives to stress that this is a "plan" and that actual future implementation will be guided by the "plan".

The Committee briefly discussed what the adoption of the Plan will mean for the jurisdictions within the watershed. The Committee emphasized their intention for the Plan to aid jurisdictions in seeking grant opportunities for projects identified within the Plan.

Mr. Miller outlined the Watershed Steering Committee Members adoption strategy. He asked the Committee Members to assist with this strategy.

Ms. Prain and Ms. Zurbrugg would be contacting Cortland and Maple Park.

Mr. Miller agreed to follow-up with Ms. Miller the Kane County representative on the Steering Committee.

Mr. Steimel was volunteered for contacting the Drainage District representatives, Mr. Steimel agreed to do so following harvest.

Mr. Laskowski and Mr. Hiland were to be the point persons for adoption at the City of DeKalb.

Mr. Miller stated his intention to see the adoption of the Plan in these communities before 2015.

## **5. Wetlands Map Refinement**

The Stormwater Management Planning Committee, in June of 2013, decided to undertake a project to refine and improve the boundaries of wetlands depicted on the County's GIS maps. The project would adjust those boundaries to better match the soils and contour information with the County's maps. In December of 2013 the DeKalb County Community Foundation awarded a grant to DeKalb County for \$4,000 to pay NIU students to conduct the wetlands refinement. At the August 28, 2014 Committee meeting the students requested a final completion date of mid-October.

Ms. Von Drasek displayed the new layer of wetlands on the DeKalb County GIS maps for the Committee's review.

The Committee briefly discussed the mailing which will be sent to property owners following the incorporation of the wetland layers into the GIS system.

Mr. Miller assured the Committee that once the work was completed, Members would be encouraged to review the layer on the County's GIS system.

6. **Next Meeting** – The Committee will next meet at 3:00 p.m. on January 29, 2015 in the Conference Room East.
7. **Adjournment** -- *Mr. Stoddard motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Thomas, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

---

Paul R. Miller, AICP  
Chairman, DeKalb County Stormwater Management Planning Committee

RGV:rgv C:\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\4AM9Y300\September 2014.wpd

*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.*