

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Union / Virgil Ditches & East Branch of the Kishwaukee River Watershed Steering Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

UNION /VIRGIL DITCHES & EAST BRANCH OF THE KISHWAUKEE RIVER WATERSHED STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 5, 2014

The Union /Virgil Ditches & East Branch of the Kishwaukee River Watershed Steering Committee (WSC) met on February 5, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in the DeKalb County Administration Building, in Sycamore, Illinois. In attendance were Committee members Paul Miller, Anita Zurbrugg, Dean Johnson, Nathan Schwartz, and Adam Orton (for Committee member Brian Gregory). Also in attendance were Deanna Doohaluk (Hey & Associates via conference call), Jack Bennett, and Rebecca Von Drasek.

- 1. Roll Call** – *Karen Miller, Roger Steimel, Donna Prain, and Jeremy Lin were noted absent.*
- 2. Approval of Agenda** – *Ms. Zurbrugg moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, and the motion carried unanimously.*
- 3. Approval of Minutes** -- *Mr. Schwartz moved to approve the minutes from January 8, 2014, seconded by Ms. Zurbrugg, and the motion carried unanimously.*
- 4. Status of Modeling**

Ms. Doohaluk reported that she was finalizing the PLOAD data review. The Committee briefly discussed the results with Ms. Doohaluk.

Mr. Schwartz asked if the results were characteristic of the agricultural nature of the watershed. Ms. Doohaluk noted that the levels were not surprising nor unexpected.

Mr. Miller asked if the results would lend themselves to recommendations in water quality improvements. Ms. Doohaluk noted that the results would indicate a need for general best management practices, but not a particular, specific project or program.

Ms. Doohaluk anticipated including the modeling data within the inventory portion of the Watershed Plan.

5. Report on Stream/Detention Basin Data

The presenters were absent. Ms. Zurbrugg offered to contact them to determine if they could attend the March meeting.

6. Outreach Status

Ms. Zurbrugg questioned if the Committee future steps would include additional applications to IEPA for implementation or planning grants. The Committee suggested that the future projects

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for which the grants would be sought could include an education booklet, the Sycamore Park District wetland project, continuing the Sycamore School District stream studies and other possible projects. The Committee committed to creating a project list at the March meeting.

Ms. Doohaluk agreed to contact the State Agencies to determine what types of grants they are looking to fund.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee decided to invite the Park District and the DeKalb County Community Foundation Land Use Committee members to attend the March Meeting to discuss future projects and grant applications.

The Outreach Subcommittee had met and scheduled a March 20 meeting at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau to discuss Best Management Practices training, farm programs available under the new Farm Bill, and a brief overview of the Watershed Plan.

Ms. Zurbrugg explained the Subcommittee's Bus Tour of the Watershed will be repeated in April or early May on a Saturday morning, and would include a tour of Sycamore's wastewater treatment plant. The Committee thought May 17th or May 24th would be possible dates.

Ms. Zurbrugg also highlighted that the Elected and Appointed presentation prospective dates were evening meetings on April 24 or April 22, 2014. Ms. Zurbrugg agreed to contact the IEPA state representative to confirm she can present on either of those dates and to determine a meeting location.

Jack Bennett, DeKalb County Farmland Foundation, thanked the Committee for recognizing his attendance and he requested future updates on the Committee's progress.

7. Next Meeting -- The Steering Committee will next meet on March 12, 2014 at 3:00 pm in the Conference Room East.

8. Adjournment -- *Mr. Schwartz motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Orton, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Johnson
Chairman, DeKalb County Union Ditch/Virgil Ditch Watershed Steering Committee

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