

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 11, 2015

The Union /Virgil Ditches & East Branch of the Kishwaukee River Watershed Steering Committee (WSC) met on February 11, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room East of the DeKalb County Administration Building, in Sycamore, Illinois. In attendance were Committee members Dean Johnson, Nathan Schwartz, Roger Steimel, Anita Zurbrugg, Brian Gregory, and Paul Miller. Also in attendance were Kane County staff Rob Linke and DeKalb County staff Rebecca Von Drasek.

- 1. Roll Call** – *Jeremy Lin, Karen Miller, and Donna Prain were noted absent.*
- 2. Approval of Agenda** – The Committee members requested two additions to the agenda, a brief update on Evergreen Village mitigation project, and Sycamore Park District’s proposal for sustainable improvements to the golf course.

Mr. Gregory moved to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, and the motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Approval of Minutes** – *Ms. Zurbrugg moved to approve the minutes from November 13, 2014, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and the motion carried unanimously.*

4. Status of Adoption of Watershed Plan by Regulatory Agencies

The Committee briefly discussed the adoption of the Watershed Plan by the remaining drainage districts and municipalities. Mr. Miller agreed to follow up and confirm Kane County would be reaching out to the municipalities. Mr. Steimel reported that the Virgil #3 District has been asked to approve the Plan.

5. Status of Implementation

Mr. Johnson reported that the grant requests for the utility terrain vehicle and a drill to allow the Soil Water Conservation District to assist property owners with installing filter strips along waterways had been approved by the DeKalb County Community Foundation. He noted that the request for funding the creation of a watershed web site and a host for the site for three years had also been funded.

The Committee congratulated Mr. Johnson and members indicated that they were pleased that these mechanisms for implementation had received financial support.

Mr. Miller suggested that areas where filter strips are installed could be tracked, possibly as a layer in the GIS to demonstrate the progress made following the adoption of the watershed plan.

The Committee also observed the value in identifying a property within the watershed as a demonstration plot to encourage other property owners to participate.

6. Evergreen Village Status Update

Mr. Miller reported that the residents had moved out of the mobile home park prior to the beginning of 2015, and that the County is working toward demolition all structures by May of 2015.

The Committee briefly discussed possible future wetland projects on the property. Mr. Miller observed that the grant requires the property to be left in open space, which can include passive recreation, and noted that portions of the property are in a conservation easement.

7. Sycamore Park District

The Committee briefly discussed two different project proposals for the Sycamore Park District brought to the attention of the DeKalb County Community Foundation. Ms. Zurbrugg reported that the first is for wetland enhancements on the golf course, and the second for a wetland installation in the floodplain on Park District property on Airport Road.

The Committee agreed to invite Mr. Gible to the March Committee meeting to further discuss the Steering Committee's support for these improvements.

8. Next Meeting -- The Steering Committee will next meet on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 3:00 pm in the Conference Room East.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

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