

**WILL COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
302 N. CHICAGO ST.
JOLIET, IL 60432**

MARCH 10, 2015

County Board Room	Regular Meeting	1:30 PM
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1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

Randall Jessen called the roll. Eleven members were present. A quorum was declared. Rahat Bari arrived at 1:38 PM.

Members Present

District 1:

District 2:

District 3: Jonathan Dykstra, Municipal Representative

District 4: Tom Pawlowicz, Municipal Representative

District 5: Randall Jessen, Municipal Representative

District 6:

District 7: Gordon McCluskey, Municipal Representative

District 8:

District 9: Norm Likar, County Representative, Ken Carroll, Municipal Representative

District 10: Joe Hadamik, County Rep, Dist 10; Scott Gapsevich, Municipal Rep

District 11: Rahat Bari, Municipal Representative

District 12: Tom Weigel, County Rep; Scott Killinger, Municipal Representative

District 13: Mark Ferry, County Representative

Members Absent: Robert Howard, County Representative, Dist 1, DJ Kruzal, Municipal Representative, District 1; James Moustis, County Representative., Dist. 2; Reed Bible, County Representative, Dist. 5; Paul Buss, County Representative, Dist. 6; Marsha DeVivo, County Representative, Dist. 7; Phillip Petrakos, County Representative, Dist. 8; Mark Troyanowski, County Representative, Dist. 11

Others Present:

David Dubois, Will County Land Use Department Staff

Natalie Kubik, Will County Land Use Department Staff

Dawn Tomczak, Will County Land Use Department Staff

Pat Cline, Will County Land Use Department Staff

Jim Song, Will County Land Use Department Staff

Matt Guzman, Will County State's Attorney's Office

Erskine Klyce, Advisory Member, Naperville

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jonathan Dykstra led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone introduced themselves.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The regular meeting minutes of the February 10, 2015 Will County Stormwater Management Planning Committee were presented for review and approval.

There were no comments or corrections.

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the February 10, 2015 Will County Stormwater Management Planning Committee as presented.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Norm Likar

SECONDER: Ken Carroll

AYES: Dykstra, Pawlowicz, Jessen, McCluskey, Likar, Carroll, Hadamik, Gapsevich, Bari, Weigel, Killinger and Ferry.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Stormwater correspondence provided by email

Dawn Tomczak stated she sent email correspondence to everyone that included the 2015 meeting dates, the email addresses that will get you directly to the Water Resource Ordinance and the Will County Stormwater Management Ordinance, the thank-you letter from Crest Hill thanking us for the money we gave them for their completed project, 2015 approved budget, correspondence from the 2015 project budget request and the Stormwater project list which contains 63 items.

b. History information handouts

Dawn Tomczak handed out booklets of the history of the Stormwater Committee that were compiled from information provided by Erskine Klyce.

c. Floodplain map status

At the last meeting there was some talk about the status of the floodplain maps. Dawn said she emailed a short history of the map status to the members. At present the floodplain map information distribution for the Land Use Department is using the FEMA Firm Maps from 1995 with a scattering of updated maps that were approved in 1999, 2000 and 2003 throughout the County.

The Department has the draft hard copies of the DFIRMS in the office but they cannot be used until they become the official approved copies from FEMA. Once the official DFIRMS are approved they will perfectly sync with our present GIS maps. Information will then be distributed to the public. The DFIRMS will still contain Zone A floodplains which will still require studies. Zone AE floodplains will be more accurate and widespread but the site specific data will still be the most reliable information.

Communication with FEMA has disclosed that the issue with Joliet has been resolved and that upon the approval of these FEMA DFIRM maps, public hearings need to take place and it is estimated that these approved maps will be available to use within the year.

Scott said regarding b. several members expressed interest in learning the history of the committee but with all the presentations scheduled they would not be doing that today. He suggested the members read the booklets and they would have Erskine give a presentation in the future.

There were no questions or comments regarding any of the correspondence.

**7. REPORT OF OFFICERS, SUBCOMMITTEES, STATE'S ATTORNEY
AND/OR STAFF**

Scott asked Matt Guzman if he had anything for State's Attorney's Report. He did not.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Scott told the committee staff has three projects that we might be interested in and the Army Corps of Engineers has a possible study we might be interested in.

Scott said at the conclusion of the presentations they are going to want to get a consensus on which of these projects they are interested in doing or not. Then on April 14th they will bring the resolutions to finalize that.

The committee heard presentations from the sponsors of the projects.

a. FY2015 Budget Request (5 Project List)

Scott said they talked about this a meeting or two ago and all these projects are half a million dollars or a million dollars. He skipped over this because most of them are out of the Committee's scope.

At one point staff was encouraging the committee to go for bigger projects last year but that never came to pass so those are overcome by events.

b. Report of the Stormwater Project List (63 project requests)

Scott said the current project list was made in 2009 and needs to be updated. We need to figure out which ones are still viable and which ones are done. They have talked about putting together a subcommittee. Since staff is still working on a solution to the chief subdivision engineer position they decided to defer making any kind of decision on that today.

c. 2015 Budget Balance sheet

Jim Song stated based on the budget the County Board approved for the Stormwater Committee they have \$160,000.00 available for this year. According to a past resolution the Committee has to pay the U.S.G.S. Service for water gages \$10,950.00 for this year. They also need to pay the Hickory Creek Watershed Group \$5,000.00. We also need to pay Lower DuPage Watershed Group \$21,171.00. The remaining balance after these three payments are made will be \$122,879.00 left to use for this year.

Scott said Ken asked about the DuPage Watershed Group at the last meeting and that is accounted for. Scott is the liaison for the Hickory Creek Group and that is accounted for. The stream gages they talked about are accounted for. That leaves the committee with about \$122,000.00 they can spend on projects.

Gordon asked are the gages Scott is referring to the DuPage, Shorewood and Naperville or are they the ones in the packet; 5 or 6 ?

Jim said we are talking about the seven (7) water gages installed by U.S.G.S. We have two resolutions. The first one is just for this provision. The second resolution passed by the County Board last October covers maintenance on all seven gages. In other words, we aren't installing new ones.

Ken asked what budget the amounts will come out of.

Jim said last year's budget and \$10,000 + comes out of this year's budget.

Joe asked why is it taken out of our budget when all the municipalities along the river are gaining from that.

Scott said because that is the agreement we made and the County funds it through our budget. That is the way the County Board chose to fund that agreement.

Jonathan said when the committee had their discussions on that everyone was in support of the rain gage network on behalf of the citizens of the County. It wasn't that we eliminated the towns; we were doing this for the citizenry and everyone was behind that.

d. Submitted Project Proposals

(1) DuPage River Flood Feasibility Study (Army Corps of Engineers)

Imad Samara, Project Manager and David Bucaro, Chief of Plan Coordination from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers introduced themselves.

Mr. Samara stated they are coming here now because they have received the authority and appropriation to do this project.

David Bucaro is a Hydraulic Engineer and a Planner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District. He has been there for about fifteen years. They have been trying to budget for a new start feasibility study over the past six to seven years to look at flood problems within the DuPage River Watershed. There has been a moratorium on start feasibility studies.

Former Representative Judy Biggert was instrumental in getting the Corps involved. This past year President Obama included ten new start feasibility studies nationwide. DuPage River received one of the ten. This is a great opportunity for this region. It is the only new start feasibility study they have within their division which encompasses about nine states.

The Corps of Engineers has a new planning process called "Smart Planning," which was instituted by Congress to reduce the time it takes their agency to make a decision on recommending a flood project and to reduce the cost of such a study. They are limited to a 3 million dollar limit on feasibility studies and a 3 year time frame to get an agency recommendation.

They have had two meetings with Illinois D.N.R., DuPage County and Will County. Jim and Scott attended their meeting in Bolingbrook. They have \$300,000.00 identified for fiscal year 2015. In order to do a feasibility study they need a non-federal sponsor to cost share. Fifty percent would be borne by the federal government and fifty percent would be borne by the non-federal sponsors.

Illinois D.N.R. and DuPage County are both on board with partnering with the Corps of Engineers on this study. The Illinois D.N.R. has offered to contribute fifty percent of that non-federal match. There have been some discussions that DuPage County and Will

County could potentially take the other fifty percent and split that. That breaks down to fifty percent federal, twenty-five percent state, and then twelve and a half percent DuPage and Will County.

Bucaro said in the end we would be leveraging almost ninety percent of other people's dollars to get an engineering analysis to address the flood problems. The Corps would be willing to accept cash or work in kind for that cost sharing effort. They would be asking for about \$75,000.00 from Will County in cash or work in kind in order to leverage against that federal share.

Gordon McCluskey asked if the results of the 1996 flood study differ from those of April 2013 and was the County able to provide anything to assist with that type of a comparison?

Mr. Bucaro said they have not done a comparison between 1996 and 2013. The last time they studied this watershed was 1982. Constructing a historic record would be part of this feasibility study.

Tom Weigel stated that would be most of the Committee's budget. He said they could ask the County Board if they would be willing to fund it.

Imar said the Corps wants to do this project but they must have a signed agreement before they can use any of this money. They would partner with the State, DuPage and Will County if we choose to participate.

Mr. Bucaro stated after the study is completed the implementation of any of the recommendations from the study would be federally funded by 65% but the benefits must outweigh the costs.

Tom Weigel suggested that they go to the County Board Executive Committee. This is beyond the scope of this committee's budget.

David said the Executive Committee meets the first and second Thursdays of each month. They can work with the Department and Mr. Weigel to facilitate that.

(2) Wheatland Township

Bill Alstrom, the Wheatland Township Highway Commissioner addressed the Committee. He introduced Kevin Martinich, their Crew Leader. They have a couple of industrial areas within Wheatland Township that unfortunately over the period of thirty-four years for Clow Creek and forty-three years for Wheatland Township were just not regulated correctly.

Mr. Alstrom presented Google Earth pictures from last year of Clow Creek Industrial Park and 2002 that demonstrate that some landowners have blacktopped or graveled

over their lots. Some of the pictures show blacktopped lots where there should be retention ponds and semi trailers where the water should be going into.

Wheatland Township Road District started a project last year at Clow Creek. They started to dig about 2,000 feet of ditches leading to what was going to be a project to replace cross culvert going back to a retention pond.

Mr. Alstrom said he and Kevin were out looking at it and noticed it is going to be a little more involved than what they thought. There are Com-Ed power poles and drainage areas that need to be widened and improved. In looking at the back of these properties some of the property owners have filled them in.

They contacted their engineer who came out last week and gave them a proposal for both Clow Creek and the Wheatland Industrial Park for an engineering study to tell them how to do it right. They want to do it once and do it right. It will cost \$23,000.00. They are here to ask the Committee for fifty percent of that. The study will tell them how to move the water correctly to the correct spots without having to tear up some of these people's properties even though they have easement rights in most of these places.

Tom Pawlowicz asked is this the same area as Schoger Drive?

Mr. Alstrom said Schoger Drive is going to be the Wheatland Industrial Park.

Tom Pawlowicz asked if any enforcement has been done regarding these people that have covered over half of their lot.

Mr. Alstrom said unfortunately not.

Tom Weigel asked Mr. Alstrom, after the study is completed, if he had any idea what it would cost to fix the problems.

Mr. Alstrom said no. That would be what the engineering study would address. He said fortunately they would be able to do most of the work in house themselves. They do hire an excavation contractor that comes out with a Gradall. They have been using him in Wheatland Township for years. A week for him if you use him for 5 days comes to about \$8,000.00 a week. Most of the work they would do themselves.

Joe Hadamik asked if there has been significant flooding in this Industrial Park where businesses have not been able to open or function.

Kevin Martinich said when there is a 100 year flood, that seems to be once or twice a year now, both industrial areas flood out so there are issues with closures.

Mr. Alstrom said one of the businesses they have in the Wheatland Industrial Park is for a student and they run about 300 buses out of there for 204. There are times when there

is flooding and they can't get past. In a real heavy rain sometimes you have to try and get 300 buses in a route they aren't used to going so that can become problematic.

(3) Plainfield Township Sunnyland Subdivision

Ron Pullman, Community Development Director for Will County was present on behalf of Plainfield Township. The County applied for Federal IKE Disaster grant funds a few years ago and was awarded \$750,000.00. A project was embarked upon to resolve some longstanding flooding issues in Sunnyland Subdivision.

There are some 280 homeowners in the subdivision. The Township also applied for close to a half a million dollars worth of grant funds through the Community Development Block Grant Program. They have put 1.1 million dollars into this project. They hired an engineer to do an assessment of the project. The assessment was much greater than the grant funds available. They embarked on the project because they had to find a solution.

The first phase of the project is done. They were so effective in spending the \$750,000.00 they received from the State of Illinois that the State gave them another \$470,000.00 over and above the \$750,000.00. That was money allocated to other communities that couldn't be used or used fast enough. The project was just finished but some problems have been uncovered. There are still some areas in the subdivision that are receiving storm water.

The engineer was asked to take a second look at it. He has determined there are two areas that still have some concerns and estimates it will take about \$370,000.00 to correct the problem.

The Township is applying for block grant money in this cycle but believes there will be a shortfall in the amount of funding needed. Mr. Pullman does not know what that shortfall will be. He estimates it may be anywhere from \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00. Mr. Pullman said any consideration possible would be appreciated. The preliminary engineering has been done. Between now and the summer they hope to get this project embarked.

Scott asked Ron what would happen if the Committee gave him \$30,000.00 and he didn't get the block grant.

Ron said they are going to do this project regardless. This project has received County Board approval in two consecutive years. They have stockpiled \$400,000.00 waiting for the estimate for the roadwork to begin. Part of the money they have allocated is earmarked for the roadwork. Mr. Pullman believes they will still fall short and said any alternate funding they can get would be appreciated.

Mr. Pullman stated the County makes grant money available every year but there is a lot of competition for that funding. The Township is going to apply for some of that money but chances are they won't get enough to address all the problems that are left.

Norm asked how they can be sure the money they contribute will be used for storm water and not for roads.

Ron said money has been set aside for roads and any money being requested from the committee is for storm water improvements. A portion of it would be ready to go this year.

Jim Song asked if the construction is started this year would it be completed by the end of this fiscal year in order for any invoices to be paid.

Ron assured the Committee that a portion of it would be started and completed this year but they would work with the Committee to meet their goals.

(4) City of Lockport

Amy Wagner who is the Director of Engineering for the City of Lockport spoke to the Committee. They have a storm sewer construction project planned for this summer to reduce street flooding on Third Street. She started with the City of Lockport in 2006. Since then there have been several flood events where storm water has backed up on Third Street and overtopped the curb making it almost impossible for cars to get down the street.

The reason this happens is because there is a small creek that runs along Illinois 7 that eventually dumps into Milling Creek a little bit further west from Third Street. There is a choke point where the smaller creek dumps into Milling Creek. During a high intensity storm water backs up in the little creek and the outfalls from the storm sewer that comes off of Third Street go under water. The storm sewer doesn't work anymore.

The project is planned for this summer to bypass that creek. They are constructing new storm sewer down Summit Street south to 7th Street and then west to Illinois Route 7 to tie into storm sewer that dumps into Milling Creek further down to bypass the choke point and bypass the creek.

The city estimates this project will cost about \$400,000.00. The City of Lockport passed their first multi-year capital improvement program this year. It includes several storm water, storm sewer and stream stabilization projects that are scheduled to occur over the next few years. Anything the Stormwater Committee could provide would be appreciated.

Scott said they wouldn't take action on any of these today but they want to give staff some direction on what way they want to go on this.

Gordon suggested the Corps and Sunnyland projects be identified for the Executive Committee so they have figures in front of them.

Ken suggested the committee fund a portion of the projects. Ken asked if the committee might be able to fund engineering this year for projects that might be done next year.

Scott said they tried to find projects they could actually do this year. Scott said their preference is to try and do something brick and mortar this year if it's available.

Erskine said it seems they have way too many projects with a very limited amount of money. It might be helpful if they had a professional consultant on board that they could delegate some of these things to and get them done versus spending money on individual projects.

Scott said there is money in their budget in a different line item for consulting services. That is \$85,600.00. Scott said he was talking with staff before this meeting.

Staff said they have been unsuccessful in recruiting a subdivision engineer thus far and are exploring different options to manage the situation.

Jonathan Dykstra said time is of the essence. These have to be constructed and done by December 1ST so we can complete the payout paperwork. Three of the four submitted today are shovel ready that fit that criteria. The study one looks like there is an opportunity at the County level.

Jonathan said he sees no problem with splitting the money with these three in an appropriate way. He agrees with Erskine that it would help to have a consultant on board since we don't have staff to give us a proper evaluation of the cost benefit for the project.

Rahat is in favor of a cost benefit evaluation that might indicate how many people may be helped. The committee should be looking at the big picture.

Randy said he liked that thought.

Scott asked Jonathan to make a motion directing staff to put together funding resolutions for April 14th to fund these three projects; not the Army Corps one, and come up with some appropriate amount of money for each one that staff recommends.

Joe pointed out the Committee might be overlooking the golden goose by not funding a portion of the Corps project in view of the fact our portion to implement the plan would be 35% and the Feds would pay 65%.

Scott said he doesn't think we're overlooking them we're just suggesting they go a different way.

David Dubois said he just spoke to both members of the Corps and there are several different funding options over the course of the next three years and we just have to find the right combination of sources.

Motion to direct staff to come up with an appropriation per each of these three projects in an amount out of our available budget.

Scott Killinger asked if anyone had any comments on the motion.

Erskine asked each (Wheatland, Plainfield and Lockport) of the three to provide a statement on the specific flooding benefit that their project is going to have so the committee has some way of determining the impact of their project.

Ron said they have the number of households and that is how the block grant program evaluates their benefit, too. They assess the impact that the project has on the households. They have the numbers available for this project. Ron said he could provide the model for Jim to use.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Jonathan Dykstra

SECONDER: Mark Ferry

AYES: Dykstra, Pawlowicz, Jessen, McCluskey, Likar, Carroll, Hadamik, Gapsevich, Bari, Weigel, Killinger and Ferry.

The motion was approved unanimously.

e. Rain Gage Agreement

Jim Song stated a Joint Funding Agreement between the United States Geological Survey and the Will County Stormwater Management Planning Committee was approved for rain gages last September. The agreement approved allows for a total expenditure of \$63,550.00 to be provided by Will County over 3 years.

Jim said he could prepare an invoice for May.

Scott said Jim can make arrangements to have it paid. He doesn't need to bring it back since the agreement was approved by the Committee last September and by the County Board last October.

f. Sub-committee information

Dawn said at the last meeting it was requested that a sub-committee be put together for the new projects. Since we already had this meeting and have decided which projects we want to do maybe a sub-committee could be formed next meeting once these projects are approved.

Scott said he has been waiting until the County hires a subdivision engineer. We may be bringing in a consultant. Maybe we can talk about that next month.

Gordon said in the past since 1996 we have used the firm of Christopher Burke and Associates. They have worked with the County, are familiar with the County and are present at most of the meetings without being under contract. He asked that they be seriously considered for a contract extension or renewal.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scott said he attended a meeting on Friday with the Army Corps of Engineers.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 14th.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Tom Pawlowicz

SECONDER: Joe Hadamik

AYES: Dykstra, Pawlowicz, Jessen, McCluskey, Likar, Carroll, Hadamik, Gapsevich, Bari, Weigel, Killinger and Ferry.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

