

**Fox River Study Group  
Board of Directors Meeting via  
Conference Call 9:30 am Oct 17,  
2024**

**Start:** The meeting began at 9:30 am with self-introductions

**In Attendance**

**Board Members:**

Brian Witkowski, City of Aurora	Cindy Skrukrud, Sierra Club	Karen
Clementi, Fox Metro		
Rob Linke, Kane County	Debra Ness, City of Elgin	Tim Wilson,
City of St Charles		

**Others:**

Alyse Olson, FREP,  
Leonard Dane, Hey and Associates,  
Billie Jean Anthony, City of Crystal Lake,  
Debra Ness, City of Elgin  
Dean Farr, Izaak Walton League  
Lindsay Muth, Trotter and Associates  
Naren Patel, Fehr Graham  
Jan Mangers, Valley of the Fox Sierra Club Group  
Kat Gerds, Kane DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District  
Zac Bonesz, City of Batavia  
Phil Cotter, Village of East Dundee  
Steven Polaskey, Fox Metro WRD  
Jeniece Neville, Engineering Enterprises, Inc  
Holly Hudson, CMAP  
Andrea Pracht, HR Green  
Alyssa Robinson, WCG, Bob Morris  
Mike Pubentz, City of Elgin  
Mary Beth Falsey, DuPage County Stormwater Management  
Karolina Cho, Gewalt Hamilton Associates representing Hainesville, Lake Barrington,  
Fox Lake, Antioch Township (Lake County),  
Anna Kootstra, Village of Wauconda  
Mark Bowman, Village of Barrington

**Minutes** – Approval of Minutes from the Sept 26, 2024 meeting have been pushed to the next meeting.

**Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee** – Karen Clementi presented the Treasurer report, there has been some ongoing back fees that will be cleared up in the coming month. FRSG CD is coming up for renewal, a future conversation on statues and the next steps. Provided a short update on balances as of 09/30/2024:

Old Second National Bank \$448,700.00  
BMO Harris checking \$2,922.59  
BMO Harris savings \$217,842.21

There were no bills to approve this month. All annual dues have been received except for Elgin. A conversation about Elgin Dues payment is expected near the end of the year.

Cindy made a motion to approve the September Treasures report Brian second, the motion was approved unanimously.

**Annual Meeting** – Rob provided an update on the annual meeting. Venue - Thursday Oct 31st 9 am The Centre in Elgin (set up 8:30 am, presentations at 10 am) Presentations - FRSG Chair, USACE Dams, USGS Fox & IL rivers activities, Trotter & Associates on Batavia WWTP Upgrades, KCFPD Carpenter Dam removal Refreshments - Tim to coordinate

Cindy provided a link to RSVP for meeting and to request a table:  
<https://forms.gle/L7fVdASjXggNvDTD6>

Mike Pubentz, offered to provide a update on the Elgin's effort on the dam study including the next steps.

Kat from Kane / DuPage asks if there are social media notices so they can help promote the event. Cindy will be uploading some information on the face book page that can be used by others to promote or share.

Holly Hudson asked if vendors with tables could setup earlier, the Elgin team will try to be there by 7:30 am. Quick conversation continued about the presenters need to send the presentation ahead of schedule.

**NPDES FRSG Special Condition Committee** – Karen discussion about how the IEPA suggested if the individual study groups have a concern with the submitted the comments. The group will discuss a FRSG response.

- Dean Farr suggested the IEPA had a wonderful idea that is great but will cost resources

**Modeling/Monitoring Committee** – Cindy discussed the renewal of the annual State water survey contract and trends report the team. Cindy is requesting a motion to move forward. Brian and Rob suggested we don't need to take board action until the final contracts and cost are obtained. Cindy, Provided the IEPA link to the date due date of November 15<sup>th</sup>, if anyone want to add to the FRSG data that will be submitted.

Rob discussed work on the RFP for the post dam removal water quality study

**Communications Committee** – Brian discusses website updates

**Chair's Report** – Rob provided updates on several items

Rob shared some information on the Dam Removal including some photos. Rob discussed the removal process, most of the concrete has been removed, including some interesting notes of the old construction boulder, timbers, sand reinforcement pins. Showed some photos of the upstream sediment and over bank area.

The forest preserve is discussing with FRSG and others to help clean up the garbage. The forest preserve continues to work on the mussel's relocation. Most of the species included pimple back and giant. Forest preserve is working on the old abutment on the West side of the river, they found some structural issues. Forest preserve will be at the annual meeting to provide a nice update. Overall, the project is on schedule.

Tom Price – Question on the full width of the dam, he was wonder on the final profile if there will be a god profile during low flows to make sure the water depth in the center will allow use of small canoe or kayak. Rob provided some information elevations downstream the DNR has control of the final design, several conversations about the site access and head cut. Currently several of these questions have been discussed with the DNR at this time.

Tom Price – also talked about the sell points of the project was the improved the paddling environment. He asked if there was some consideration, in the channeling in helping the flows, or just letting the river. Rob provided some feedback on it will take some time it will also be study in the future on how the dam was removed.

Rob provided a update on USACE Fox R. Connectivity Study - USACE to give update at 10/31/24 FRSG Annual Meeting. Army Corp, is moving forward they received a payment from the state

### **Upcoming events/other updates:**

FREP Noon Network: Wed. Nov 13 from Noon-1:30 pm. A Vision for FREP into the Next 30 Years. Garfield Farm Museum, Garfield Rd (just north of Rt 38 east of La Fox Rd), Campton Hills, IL For more info: <https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/meetings-news>

Links to videos/slides of past events- (find most in our [FRSG videos folder](#))

- Dr. Andrew Margenot April 18, 2024 presentation on his UIUC lab's work on streambank erosion and historic soil resampling effort (see also factsheet on Centennial soil project in the folder) [Sheet for listing potential streambank erosion sites](#)
- ISWS Trends Report- presented by Elias Getahun and Atticus Zavelle, [Link to Trends Report folder](#) Feb. 29, 2024
- Great Lakes to Gulf Observatory Nov. 30, 2023 webinar presented by Laura Kammin and Jong Sung Lee is available at [https://lewisclark.zoom.us/rec/share/JmJV\\_4gPWLxFFc2UtcSqiMo5Up6p6f9egCTfLnI0MOzUn2hOmaSsTR2MlfiBi3Ws.2Ygo-7xWakkYcbYg](https://lewisclark.zoom.us/rec/share/JmJV_4gPWLxFFc2UtcSqiMo5Up6p6f9egCTfLnI0MOzUn2hOmaSsTR2MlfiBi3Ws.2Ygo-7xWakkYcbYg). Passcode: 89S=e#f7
- April 10 – FREP Noon Network – Fishes of the Fox River presented by Tristan Widloe,

IDNR's Region 2 Streams Biologist. Slides available at:

<https://foxriverecosystem.org/fox/presentations>

- 2024 Midwest Beaver Summit videos:  
<https://www.illinoisbeaveralliance.org/2024-midwest-beaver-summit>
- Mohammed Haque & Bartlett Durand May 23, 2024 presentation: "Developing a Nutrient Trading Pilot Program in the Fox River Watershed"
- March 2024 Fox River Summit [See agenda here](#). Videos are at Southeast Fox River Partnership YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@benlikesjazz>; videos of 2023 Summit are also found here. Videos and slides from prior years can be found at <https://www.southeastfoxriver.org/foxriversummit>
- "Total Maximum Daily Loads for Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids in the Fox Illinois River Basin" (FOXIL TMDL). Project website:  
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/TMDLs/FOXIL> Includes Project Update Webinar- Sept 25, 2024, Informational Webinar - Oct. 31, 2023 & Project Introduction Webinar - Feb. 15, 2023
- [McHenry County 2024 Water Forum YouTube](#)

**Next regular meeting:** Thurs. Nov 21 at 9:30 am virtual

**Annual Meeting:** Thurs. Oct. 31 9 am at The Centre in Elgin

**END:** Brian moved, and Karen seconded the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Wilson, Assistant Secretary