

**ROCK RIVER WATERSHED GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
FOUR RIVERS SANITATION AUTHORITY
MAY 11, 2022**

Greg Cassaro called the Rock River Watershed Group to order at 9:59AM. The meeting was held in the Board Room at the Graceffa Administration Building, 3501 Kishwaukee Street, Rockford, Illinois. The meeting was open for in-person attendance by both Board and non-voting members.

Attendees responded to roll call.

Board members present: Greg Cassaro, FRSA; Jeff Reininger, South Beloit; Dan Barber, Rockton; Adam Lanning, Rochelle; Anne George, Woodstock; Nick Steiner as proxy for Brent Anderson, Belvidere; Matt Trotter, Rock Falls; Sean Von Bergen, Winnebago County; Jim Grant, Harvard; Jim Mangum, Marengo.

Also in attendance was Ed Fitzgerald of FRSA and Pat Kelsey of Fehr-Graham.

Cassaro opened the floor for discussion of last month's meeting minutes.

Cassaro asked that a motion be made to approve the minutes.

Barber made the motion.

Lanning seconded.

Cassaro called for a vote.

All AYES were declared.

Minutes from last month's meeting are approved.

Cassaro turned the floor over to Barber for the Treasurer's Report. Barber notified the Group that the account balance sits at \$185,892.16. There are three outstanding checks still to be cashed in so the account balance will soon change. Barber has recently received dues from Rochelle, Harvard, and Rock Falls. Cassaro reminded the Group members to work on getting their dues in, as they're required by June 1. Cassaro noted that the FRSA dues will go in front of the FRSA board at the end of the month and the check will be issued a few days later, to be turned in to Barber by the 1st.

Cassaro asked that a motion be made to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Reininger made the motion.

Von Bergen seconded.

Cassaro called for a vote.

All AYES were declared.

Treasurer's Report is approved.

Moving on to Old Business, Cassaro informed the Group that there has not been any update from the IEPA as to the Group's tax-exempt application status. The last correspondence from the

IEPA stated that they received the application and it should be approved up to 90 days from receipt. Kelsey responded that Xylem has not provided a ship date for the Sonde sampling units so the RRWG has a little time still to get the tax exemption in order. Cassaro stated that once the tax exemption certificate has been received, copies of it will be provided to everyone.

Additionally in Old Business, a master contact list was emailed out to the members of the RRWG as well as paper copies provided during the meeting. If any amendments are needed, contact Overman. The last item in Old Business pertains to the engineering service agreement between RRWG and Fehr-Graham. Cassaro and Fitzgerald have reviewed this document and approved of it, providing their signatures to Fehr-Graham. Kelsey will provide an electronic copy of the finalized document to each member.

As part of Reports of Committees, Kelsey provided the Group an overview of the phone conference with the IEPA. A positive outcome came from the call in that the IEPA would accept 2024 for the completion date for the NARPs in all current members of the RRWG. The agencies with a 2023 due date will have to prepare an amendment to each permit and submit that individually. Kelsey is currently working with the IEPA on the language this amendment needs to adhere to and will provide this information to the necessary agencies. Kelsey did note that this effort would not delay the work for sampling and the process will be ready to begin at the start of July, pending the probe delivery from Xylem. Lanning asked if the subcommittee should start meeting to discuss the sampling process. Kelsey agreed, though clarified by saying the subcommittee shouldn't need to start meeting until towards the end of summer once the sampling data starts coming in. Kelsey also informed the Group that he's been in communication with ISU on getting student help as interns. He has interviewed two students who would make effective interns for the sampling and the field work. There is no formal agreement in place as of yet but the RRWG will be able to utilize this student labor.

For the RRWG website, Overman updated the Group that the website is about complete. Christensen and Overman will be conferencing with the website vendor on Friday to make a few small changes and discuss the website launch. The RRWG will be informed when the website is live but an additional demonstration will not be necessary.

Action items for next meeting include the submittal of dues by each member. Christensen and Overman will finalize the RRWG website and aim to provide a launch date by the next meeting. Fehr-Graham will provide a little more definitive direction on the river sampling. Kelsey added that this is pending on the delivery of the Sonde sampling units. Cassaro is hoping to provide the tax exemption ID info to members; he will attempt to persuade the IEPA to move the RRWG application to the top of the pile.

With no further discussion, the Group will next meet on **Wednesday, June 8th at 10:00AM.**

Cassaro asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Barber made the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 10:21AM.