

**ROCK RIVER WATERSHED GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
FOUR RIVERS SANITATION AUTHORITY
JANUARY 11, 2023**

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; Brent Anderson, Belvidere; Matt Trotter, Rock Falls; Michael Christensen, FRSA; Sean Von Bergen, Winnebago County; Cory Bradshaw, Sterling; Jim Grant, Harvard; Rob Lamz, Marengo.

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

Cassaro opened the floor for discussion of last meeting's 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 meeting are approved.

Cassaro turned the floor over to Barber for the Treasurer's Report. Barber informed the Group that the current account balance, excluding one recently received invoice from Fehr-Graham in need of approval, is \$431,775.58. The Group received an invoice from Fehr-Graham for the amount of \$416.50.

Cassaro asked that a motion be made to approve payment of the invoice.

Anderson made the motion.

Christensen seconded.

Cassaro called for a vote.

All AYES were declared.

Payment of outstanding Fehr-Graham invoice is approved.

Barber also updated the Group that he has been in contact with Siepert on the Group's upcoming tax filing requirements and everything is on track to be completed on time.

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 brought up Hampshire's previous request for sampling data sharing. At the previous meeting, the Group was informed that Hampshire would be going about their NARP alone but would welcome data sharing with the RRWG. Cassaro has not heard anything more from Hampshire. Kelsey responded that due to an unforeseen office complication, the consulting firm for the Hampshire POTW is currently behind in its paperwork and the RRWG likely won't be hearing from them for a while. Cassaro informed the Group that the potential collaboration with Hampshire will be tabled for now until they reach back out.

Also in Old Business is the matter of the NARP deadline extensions. None of the entities that requested an extension have received a response back from the IEPA. Kelsey agreed to make a couple of inquiry calls into the IEPA to get a status update, but recommended that each POTW also call their own permit representative to give the IEPA a nudge.

Lastly, the discussion covered the annual progress report stipulation that is present in only some of the Group members' permits. These have been taken care of with the help of Kelsey and Fehr-Graham.

With no New Business to speak on, the Group moved to Committees and Officers Reports. Fehr-Graham is on track to provide a modeling update at the next meeting, tentatively planned for March. Fehr-Graham also provided the RRWG a contract amendment #1 as Pace Analytical raised the cost of their services and Fehr-Graham had to recalculate their costs accordingly. This price hike will affect sampling set to begin in the summer. The total price change from Fehr-Graham will be \$40,283.

Additionally, Lanning proposed members of the RRWG collaborate together in the NPDES permit renewal process. Kelsey has a compiled list of NPDES permit expiration dates; the list will be distributed among the members for review.

Action items for next meeting include the dispersal of NPDES permit expiration dates. Fitzgerald and members of the Group are to review the contract amendment provided by Fehr-Graham and send out any questions they may have to the entire Group. The Group needs to have its questions answered by next meeting and be prepared to pursue the next step in approval of the amendment.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:25AM.