

**ROCK RIVER WATERSHED GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
FOUR RIVERS SANITATION AUTHORITY
AUGUST 23, 2023**

Greg Cassaro called the Rock River Watershed Group to order at 10:01AM. 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; Michael Christensen, FRSA; Adam Lanning, Rochelle; Anne George, Woodstock; Brent Anderson, Belvidere; Matt Trotter, Rock Falls; Dan Barber, Rockton; Sean Von Bergen, Winnebago County; Cory Bradshaw, Sterling; Jim Grant, Harvard.

Also in attendance was Ed Fitzgerald of FRSA, Brian Valleskey of Geosyntec, and Pat Kelsey of Fehr-Graham.

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.
Anderson seconded.
Cassaro called for a vote.
All AYE's were declared.
Minutes from last meeting are approved.

Cassaro turned the floor over to Christensen for the Treasurer's Report. Christensen informed the Group that there is one outstanding invoice to be paid to Fehr-Graham for services in the amount of \$45,885.44.

Cassaro asked that a motion be made to approve payment of the invoice.
Anderson made the motion.
Lanning seconded.
Cassaro called for a vote.
All AYE's were declared.
Payment of outstanding Fehr-Graham invoice is approved.

Christensen and Cassaro will get a check signed and issued to Fehr-Graham.
Cassaro asked that a motion be made to approve the Treasurer's Report.
Barber made the motion.
Cassaro seconded.
Cassaro called for a vote.

All AYEs were declared.
Treasurer's Report is approved.

Moving on to Old Business, Cassaro reminded Valleskey of his task to submit data requests for each entity's 2023 discharge data. Valleskey agreed to have a request sent out before the next meeting.

Moving into Reports of Committees, Kelsey first informed the Group about one of the Sonde units being destroyed or stolen. In order to keep pulling data from this location, Fehr-Graham found another unit to use as a loaner. Fehr-Graham has decided to move this unit into a safer location with less foot traffic to prevent the unit from being tampered with. The lease cost for this Sonde is \$1700 per month, or the Group could look to purchasing a new unit altogether. The Group decided to stick with the loaner which will be leased for the months of July, August, and September. The cost associated with renting this Sonde unit will not be billed against the RRWG.

The events with the destroyed Sonde units led to a discussion of insurance coverage for the RRWG and their affiliated equipment. Cassaro noted that should a more serious circumstance occur where damage or injury should happen to a member of the public, the RRWG could have an uphill battle combating the liability. Fitzgerald responded that the only insurance coverage the RRWG relies on is Fehr-Graham's. The argument for this being while the RRWG may own the Sonde units, members of the Group were not in control of their distribution since their river positions were picked and implemented by Fehr-Graham. Kelsey stated that since the Group owns the Sondes, they may want to look into at least a minimal coverage to protect the investment of the purchase. Valleskey has a copy of the insurance policy a similar group has utilized and will send it over for review. Lanning agreed to look it over along with an internal staff member that is experienced in insurance matters.

Kelsey then provided the Group an extensive presentation on the data collected from the Sonde units thus far and how weather variables have impacted the data. Fortunately, the weather has been hotter and dryer than previous summers, which has yielded favorable conditions. The engineering firms will continue to collect data from the Sonde and requested that because of the late August meeting, they would like the next meeting to take place either late September or early October. This would give the firms time to collect the data, confirm data validity, and meet with their teams to discuss before presenting to the RRWG.

Action items for next meeting include the continuation of data pulling for the 2023 discharge report. A specific request will be sent out by Valleskey. Valleskey will also pull a copy of an insurance policy that may benefit the RRWG for review.

With no further discussion, the Group will next meet on **Wednesday, October 11th at 10:00AM**. The subcommittee will meet on **Wednesday, October 11th at 9:30AM**.
The meeting adjourned at 10:48AM.