



# Chicago Area Waterways

## CHLORIDE WORKGROUP

### Microsoft Teams Meeting March 15, 2023, 1:00PM Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened by John Schaefer, President, at 1:00pm

- Welcome and Introductions
  
- Approval of December 2022 Meeting Minutes
  - Motion to approve by Edgar Cano (City of Evanston), Second by John Schaefer (Village of Homewood)
  - Poll launched in meeting, Motion Passed
  
- Reminder to submit PMP to the Workgroup and IEPA
  - Shared reminders for specific deadlines related to the TLWQS as part of the slides.
  - See the slides for the specific reminders
  
- Final Feedback on Annual Report Template
  - All members need to use the Annual Report Template provided by the workgroup for their annual report for the TLWQS. This is to create consistency across all the permittees, make the workgroup's job of completing the workgroup status report and re-evaluation easier, and hopefully make our reporting easier on IEPA staff.
    - If you are using a consultant, please share this with them and share the templates with them as well
  - Hanna shared the annual report template with the group and talked through the report template so that everyone had a chance to see it and ask any questions.
    - The instructions will be sent as a PDF, the template will be provided as a blank word document and a spreadsheet with tabs that need to be completed.
  - Submit your annual report to IEPA as a PDF and submit to the workgroup as a word document and spreadsheet.
  - The workgroup will host a working session for the Annual Report to give everyone an opportunity to ask questions and get answers.
  - As you are working on the annual report, if there are questions about the Annual Reporting, please reach out to Hanna



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- Outreach Opportunity – Salt Smart Exhibit for Libraries, Municipal Centers, Community Centers
  - Salt Smart collaborated with four public libraries (Elgin, Aurora, Schaumburg, and Joliet) and the Northwest Water Planning Alliance to develop a “Salt Smart and You” exhibit geared towards the general public. The exhibit can be set up at your local libraries, municipal centers, community centers, or other places in your community (like schools etc).
  - One of the Salt Smart PSA videos can also be included as part of the exhibit or Salt Smart cups can be handed out. The workgroup can choose to also make those pieces available too.
  - The exhibit includes 8 double sided panels, with English on one side and Spanish on the other side. We have the original files developed by the libraries and can customize them if we choose to – like adding our workgroup logo to the panels.
  - The workgroup will be purchasing a set of the 8 panels and the current estimated cost is at \$330 per panel. Hanna will be getting quotes and will have the quote ready for approval at the June Workgroup meeting.
  - Hanna will create a reservation system once we have exhibit and the workgroup will figure out to best share the panels around as communities want to use them in the future.
  - There was a question about what was included – the stands, a carrying bag, the panels, and the panels had a lifetime warranty for repairs. Hanna plans to ask for these things as part of the quote for the cost of the panels.
  
- Training
  - Illinois Salt Conference/Symposium
    - The workgroup will be working with other watershed groups to host a Salt Conference to discuss local success and experiences related to winter operations and salt. We are gearing this towards decision makers. The conference is tentatively set for September and we will share more information as it becomes available on date/time/location. Hoping to include a variety of topics, including innovative/up and coming techniques local communities are using. We are looking for presentations for local communities.
  - Training Resources from the Workgroup
    - Continuing with the Fall Deicing Workshops – these will very likely be virtual again for those who want to attend for annual training. Classes will



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- be available for roads and parking lots/sidewalks. Save the dates will be sent out as soon as we have the dates nailed down.
- The workgroup will share a check list for annual training with all members so that if you choose to do internal annual training for your organization you can make sure your training covers the topics needed to be covered.
  - Hanna will be reaching out to NIPSTA to get connected with their staff to talk about sharing this training resource with the workgroup.
  - We are developing curated lists of resources on SaltSmart.org and will be linking to these resources on the workgroup website. Hanna shared the website with the workgroup and examples of what kind of resources are posted. If anyone has resources they want to share for our lists, please reach out to Hanna.
- “Why” Video
    - The workgroup is developing a “Why Chlorides” video that can be shared during Annual Training. We want to include some environmental information but also information that are important for all staff to know – following the snow/ice plan, importance of documentation, good housekeeping etc.
    - We want to feature as many voices from across the watershed as possible. We hope to collaborate with the other workgroups on this as well, to get a variety of voices for the video.
    - Hanna asked for volunteers to participate – Tony from Niles, Edgar from Evanston, John from Homewood, Roderick from Park Forest, Ed from MWRD, Chicago Skyway all spoke up that their communities/organizations would participate.
  - Update on Salt Smart Parking Lots and Sidewalks Training and Certification Program
    - Hanna shared an update on the Salt Smart Certified for Parking Lots and Sidewalks program. The manual is finished and in progress of being translated into Spanish. We will be doing a press release to formally launch the program after the Spanish version is available to share. Classes will be offered hopefully this summer and as part of the Fall Deicing Workshops. The program is meant for those who maintain parking lots and sidewalks during the winter and highlights the best practices. We made sure the BMPs included in the TLWQS were part of the program and manual, so the certification can be included and for TLWQS communities, you will know that any contractors with the certification will be using the BMPs that are required to be used.



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- Workgroup Member Check-In
  - If any workgroup members have any needs or requests for resources, assistance/help, connections, to please reach out. The workgroup is meant to be a resource for your organization.
  - This will be a regular meeting feature so that the workgroup is continuing to do work that will support the members.
- Upcoming 2022-2023 Meetings
  - June 21, 1pm, Microsoft Teams – Annual Membership Meeting
    - Reminder that all members should send staff to the Annual Meeting as budgets and dues for the next year will be discussed and voted on.
  - All meetings after June 21 will be in-person. We will need meeting hosts. Hanna can bring a projector and screen as needed. It would be great to spread hosting duties around the watershed. Dates for next year will be shared and please volunteer if your community has a space that will work for the meetings.

Meeting closed by John Schaefer, President, at 1:54pm