



Chicago Area Waterways

CHLORIDE WORKGROUP

In-Person Meeting **March 20, 2024, 1:00PM** **Meeting Minutes**

Edgar Cano, Vice President, opened meeting at 1:05pm.

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of December 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes by Edgar Cano, City of Evanston. Second by Michael Cramer, Village of South Holland
 - Voice vote by all members present. Motion passed unanimously.
- TLWQS Reminders
 - Staff shared important TLWQS reminders with the group.
 - Workgroup will need all annual reports by JUNE 1, 2024 as the Workgroup Status Report to IEPA is due on July 1, 2024. In order to include workgroup member's annual reports in the Status Report, we do need the reports a month in advance. Please use the workgroup template for the annual report.
 - Staff requested that members include any impediments they've faced to implementing the BMPs in their annual reports as it is something is needed to be reported in the Workgroup Status report.
 - Reminders for calibrating equipment by November 30 and providing staff training by November 30.
 - Documentation Reminders were shared and are in the slides presented at the meeting.
- Salt Smart and You Exhibit Available
 - The exhibit is available, if any workgroup members do want to reserve it. The exhibit comes with some Salt Smart Cups to distribute in your community.
 - You can reserve the exhibit as far in advance as you'd like, it is a permanent feature of the workgroup and is available to all workgroup members. Reservations are first come, first serve.
- Street Sweeping and Chlorides Presentation by TCF/DRSCW Staff, Stephen McCracken and Alex Handel
 - Stephen and Alex presented on their results from a study done through the DRSCW to analyze the effect of street sweeping on chloride reduction.
- Liquids Lessons Learned Guide Draft Feedback



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- Staff requested feedback on the Liquids Lessons Learned guide. No feedback was provided, so staff will be posting it the workgroup website and making it final. If any members have anything to add to the guide (for example, they try new rates with liquids and they work well or try a new liquid practice), please email your results to Hanna Miller so the guide can be updated with the new experiences.
- Training Opportunities from Workgroup Discussion
 - A Roads Training will be developed through the Salt Smart Collaborative with support from the local watershed groups, including the CAWCW, to have a roads training that is specific to NE Illinois and the BMPs used.
 - There will be two formats developed, a 2-3 hour live virtual or live in-person training (as done in the past) and a 10-30 minute module style training. Both options will be available to workgroup members this fall to meet their annual training for the TLWQS. To use the modules, communities would need to send staff to a “train the trainer” class to get needed info and resources for using the modules. Both options will cover all the topics and meet annual training needs.
 - Feedback on the module style was positive, members present liked the short timing of the modules to keep the attention of their operators
 - Staff requested feedback on the topics and what the workgroup would like to see included in the training:
 - Want to use training to help get buy-in from operators
 - Requested a meeting to talk practices, strategies that don’t work and do work
 - Want info on covering salt when not in active use and what that looks like across different members and options to meet this bmp. Want info on procedures, best strategies, good practices
 - Want info are storing salt out of season
 - Want to discuss application rates and show that not just their community is using lower rates with success
 - Want emphasis on amount of salt to put down, buy-in on the science/low salt practices, and making decisions based on pavement temperatures and conditions not hitting the blast button to go home early
 - Want to include tech available, what staff is allowed to control vs decisions by management
 - More detail vs less – want to educate operators on these practices to get buy-in
 - Training for RFPs and requesting the best practices
 - Include service expectations and communication
 - Know what’s in our plan to help with litigation/lawsuits based on following or not following snow and ice plan
 - Include MS4 permit good housekeeping in section about good housekeeping to meet both training needs



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- Request for application rate summary information from workgroup on what member communities are using for their rates
- Why follow the practices, rates, and that everyone is targeting reduced salt in their operations
- Decision making trees – how to use and why they are useful
- Multi-modal infrastructure for winter
- Will be putting together a committee to incorporate local technical knowledge and experience and examples into training. The committee will include staff from communities/organizations across the various watershed groups to be representative of NE Illinois (not just the CAWCW).
 - Evanston and Niles volunteered staff to participate in the committee.
 - Email Hanna Miller if interested, Hanna will also be reaching out various members to request participation to build the committee.
- Workgroup Member Check-In
 - Request for “B-Roll” for training, this would include pictures of winter operations or any video footage members have of their operations.
 - Contact list will be coming out, waiting on a few communities to ID their primary contact.
 - Request for exploring how the workgroup can work together on salt contracts. Staff will investigate this possibility to see what could come from the workgroup for this request.
- Upcoming 2023-2024 Meetings
 - Date for in-person Annual Meeting is being changed due to the Juneteenth Holiday. The new date and location will be emailed to all workgroup members.

Meeting closed by Edgar Cano, Vice President, at 2:37pm