

# Lake County Illinois

*Central Permit Facility  
500 W. Winchester Rd  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048-1331*



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, February 5, 2026

6:00 PM

500 W. Winchester Rd - Libertyville, Illinois

**Lake County Stormwater Management Commission**

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:** There are two options for the public to attend the meeting: (1) in-person attendance at on the 2nd floor Central Permit Facility building 500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois, or (2) remote / virtual attendance through the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84563759354>

Meeting ID: 845 6375 9354

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85137896784# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**RECORDING:** Meetings, including Public Comment, will be recorded.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public will be afforded time to comment on matters related to the business of the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission. A total of 30 minutes will be permitted for Public Comment and no more than three minutes per Comment. In general, Public Comment on items not on the agenda will be presented near the beginning of the meeting. Public Comment on agenda items may be presented during consideration of that item.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*The SMC meeting was called to order by Chairman Schmit at 6:00 p.m.*

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

**Present** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

*Others present: Paula Randall, Mike Warner, Margaret Tritschler, Stephanie Hannon, Noah Brown, Nicholas Kallmyer, Justine Schild, Gerardo Trujillo, John Schuster, Daniel Venturi, David Thomas, RuthAnne Hall (V), Kelley Brown (V), Nicholas Adams (V), Janice Aull (V), Andrea Pracht (V), Jim Heinen (V), Matt Ueltzen (V) and SMC staff: Kurt Woolford, Kelcey Traynoff, Christine Sher, Mike Prusila, Jacob Jozefowski, Ashley Strelcheck, Bill Santelik, Michelle Payne, Ernesto Huaracha, Sharene Gould Dulabaum (V)*

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**5. [26-0140](#)**

Approval of December 4, 2025 meeting minutes

**Attachments:** [SMC December 4, 2025 meeting minutes draft](#)

*Approval was requested for the December 4, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion*

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Sode, seconded by Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 7 - Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**6. COMMISSION REPORTS**

**6.1 Director's Report**

*Mr. Woolford discussed the Green Ribbon award received for the Talbot Avenue Drainage Improvements Project from the Friends of the Chicago River. SMC was one of the award recipients because SMC's WMB and DCEO funds helped to fund the project. Ashley Strelcheck and Ernesto Huaracha attended the award ceremony and accepted the award on SMC's behalf.*

*Mr. Woolford also discussed the fact sheet provided to the Commissioners for the DCEO project update, which will be shared with the State Legislators during an upcoming project field visit. SMC has received about half of the DCEO grant funding and used it to fund 33 projects throughout Lake County. There are currently 33 unfunded projects, which SMC would like to fund with the remaining DCEO appropriations. Commissioner Wasik asked if SMC is experiencing any roadblocks in receiving the remaining funding. Mr. Woolford explained that SMC has not experienced any roadblocks for receiving the funding and so*

far, SMC has received \$30M for each round of DCEO funding (Round 1 and Round 2). SMC is hoping to receive another \$30M for the Round 3 release. Commissioner Wasik also asked if the Commission could have a list of the outstanding projects. Mr. Woolford stated that the QR code included in the handout had the current list of the unfunded projects.

## 6.2 Chairman's Report

Chairman Schmit shared that he would be attending the field visit with the State Legislators to help convey the importance of the DCEO funding as well as the impact the funding has had throughout Lake County. Chairman Schmit also expressed his gratitude towards SMC staff for working to not only receive the funding but also using it to complete projects that have been beneficial to residents and communities.

## 6.3 Commissioner's Report

Commissioner O'Brien shared that Nick Leach, Village Engineer for Gurnee, recently gave a presentation on the ANHMP and provided a brief update regarding the new NPDES permitting requirements. SMC has provided some resources of the requirements for the Village for the permit, including a document highlighting changes in the updated permit. SMC is working on the SMPP template, but there were some questions remaining for Illinois EPA before release.

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

### 7.1 [26-0141](#)

Approval of December 2025 and January 2026 Treasurer's Report

**Attachments:** [SMC December 2025 Treasurer's Report](#)  
[SMC January 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)

Ms. Kelcey Traynoff presented and requested approval of the December 2025 and January 2026 Treasurer's Reports.

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 7 - Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

### 7.2 [26-0148](#)

Approval of carryover requests for Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) Budget for Fiscal Year (FY)2026.

**Attachments:** [MAR-26 Carryovers](#)

Ms. Traynoff presented and requested approval of the FY 2025 SMC carryovers.

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye: 7** - Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.3 [26-0155](#)

Ratification of Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup (DRWW) FY2026 Budget.

**Attachments:** [SMC DRWW FY2026 Memo](#)  
[DRWW FY26 Budget](#)

*Ms. Ashley Strelcheck presented and requested ratification of the Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup (DRWW) FY2026 Budget.*

*Commissioner Maine asked for more information about the placeholder cost for the Illinois/Wisconsin super gage installation. Ms. Strelcheck explained that this is an estimated cost for the DRWW to potentially upgrade their Russell Road monitoring site to a super gage, which would monitor continuous flow, phosphorous, and other parameters. Commissioner Maine asked if there were any other super gages in Lake County. SMC staff were not aware of any other super gages being used in the county.*

*Chairman Schmit asked for a motion to ratify items 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, and 7.7 with one vote.*

**A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 8 - Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.4 [26-0158](#)

Ratification of Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup (DRWW) and Lake County Health Department (LCHD) FY2026 Technical Services Agreement

**Attachments:** [SMC DRWW FY2026 Memo](#)  
[2026 LCHD-DRWW Contract](#)

*Ms. Strelcheck presented and requested ratification of the DRWW and Lake County Health Department (LCHD) FY2026 Technical Services Agreement.*

*Commissioner Maine asked if the reason for the 20% budget increase was due to cost and/or number of sampling locations. Ms. Strelcheck explained that this increase was partly due to inflation but mostly due to changes in the LCHD's monitoring strategy.*

**A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 8 - Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.5 [26-0160](#)

Ratification of North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) FY2026 Budget.

**Attachments:** [SMC-NBWW FY2026 Memo](#)  
[NBWW FY2026 Approved Budget](#)

*Ms. Strelcheck presented and requested ratification of the North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) FY2026 Budget.*

**A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 8 - Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.6 [26-0163](#)

Ratification of North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) and Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) FY2026 Agreement.

**Attachments:** [NBWW FY2026 Memo](#)  
[NBWW-SMC FY2026 Agreement](#)

*Ms. Strelcheck presented and requested ratification of the NBWW and SMC FY2026 Budget.*

**A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 8 - Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.7 [26-0162](#)

Ratification of North Branch Chicago River Watershed Workgroup (NBWW) and North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD) FY2026 Technical Services Agreement.

**Attachments:** [NBWW FY2026 Memo](#)  
[NBWW-NSWRD Tech Sevices Agreement 2026](#)

*Ms. Strelcheck presented and requested ratification of the NBWW and North Shore Water Reclamation District FY2026 Technical Services Agreement.*

**A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 8 - Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.8 [26-0147](#)

Approval of Watershed Management Board (WMB) and Watershed Management Assistance Grant (WMAG) Funding Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2026.

**Attachments:** [FY26 WMB Project Overviews](#)  
[FY26 WMB Approved Projects Location Map VER.02](#)

*Ms. Michelle Payne presented and requested approval of the Watershed Management Board (WMB) and Watershed Management Assistance Grant (WMAG) funding recommendations for FY2026. Mr. Woolford added that the project summary sheet that was provided shows all of the projects that were submitted and while there isn't enough funding to fund all of the projects, there are other sources for funding like the Stormwater Infrastructure Repair Fund (SIRF). Commissioner Wasik asked what the source of funding was for the WMB and WMAG projects and also asked if there were any additional sources helping to fund the projects. Mr. Woolford explained that the WMB and SIRF programs are funded with a maximum 50% cost-share that comes from SMC's operational budget, through the annual County levy. Mr. Woolford stated that per program policies, there is a 50% cost match requirement from non-county sources, and this can be met with in-kind services, cash match, easement/land value, other grant funding sources, etc. Commissioner Wasik also thanked SMC staff for their work with the projects and WMB program administration.*

*Commissioner Maine suggested that a zero should be put in the project summary sheet for projects that do not receive funding.*

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, seconded by Commissioner Maine. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.9 [26-0143](#)

Approval of the Stormwater Infrastructure Repair Fund (SIRF) Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Mundelein for the Wellington Avenue Drainage Improvements Project in the amount of \$65,000.

**Attachments:** [FY26 SIRF IGA Wellington Ave](#)  
[Wellington Ave SIRF Eligibility Authorization](#)  
[Wellington Ave EOPC](#)  
[Wellington Ave EA Meeting Minutes](#)  
[Wellington Ave Project Location](#)

*Mr. Jacob Jozefowski presented and requested approval of the Stormwater Infrastructure Repair Fund (SIRF) Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Mundelein for the Wellington Avenue Drainage Improvements Project in the amount of \$65,000.*

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**7.10 [26-0152](#)**

Approval of the Stormwater Infrastructure Repair Fund (SIRF) Project Agreement with the Village of Bannockburn for the Bannockburn Court Storm Sewer Project in the amount of \$40,000.

**Attachments:** [FY26 SIRF Agreement Bannockburn Court Storm Sewer](#)  
[Bannockburn SIRF Eligibility Authorization](#)  
[8101.053 Bannockburn Storm Sewer EOPC](#)  
[December Minutes 2025 draft](#)  
[Bannockburn SIRF Location Map](#)

*Ms. Strelcheck presented and requested approval of the Stormwater Infrastructure Repair Fund (SIRF) Project Agreement with the Village of Bannockburn for the Bannockburn Court Storm Sewer Project in the amount of \$40,000.*

*Commissioner Frank asked if there was a ratio that SMC was contributing to the total cost. Ms. Strelcheck explained that this project was submitted as a WMB project, but staff felt it met the requirements of the SIRF program better and recommended it for SIRF funding, with the original project cost of \$40,000.*

*Mr. Woolford added that like the WMB program, the SIRF program has a 50% cost match requirement and SMC will reimburse eligible expenses up to a maximum 50%.*

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Frank, seconded by Commissioner Maine. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**7.11 [26-0200](#)**

Approval of Contract authorization with Everlast Blacktop, Inc. Elgin, IL for the Round Lake Drain Master Plan Phase 1 Project, Round Lake Beach, IL in the amount of \$1,288,849.30.

**Attachments:** [RLD Ph. 1 Construction Summary of Bids](#)  
[Everlast Blacktop Vendor Disclosure VER.02](#)  
[RLD Ph. 1 Location Map](#)

*Mr. Ernesto Huaracha presented and requested approval of the contract authorization with Everlast Blacktop, Inc. for the Round Lake Master Plan Phase 1 project in the amount of*

\$1,288,849.30.

Mr. Huaracha explained that SMC contracted a consultant in 2022 to work on a master plan for the Round Lake Drain and they provided project recommendations. Two restriction points were identified in the Round Lake Drain corridor, which became two priority projects. SMC is working on the Round Lake Drain Master Plan and LCDOT will be working on the second project. Items 7.11 and 7.12 are being funded by DCEO Round 2 funds.

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld, seconded by Commissioner - Alternate Wasik. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**7.12 [26-0180](#)**

Approval of Contract authorization with Atwell LLC Southfield, MI for the Round Lake Drain Master Plan Phase 1 Project Construction Engineering, Round Lake Beach, IL in the amount of \$99,900.00, subject to final legal review.

**Attachments:** [Atwell RLD Engineering Contract](#)  
[Atwell Vendor Disclosure](#)  
[Round Lake Drain Location Map](#)

Mr. Huaracha presented and requested approval of the contract authorization with Atwell, LLC for the Round Lake Drain Master Plan Phase 1 project construction engineering in the amount of \$99,900.00, subject to final legal review.

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Sode, seconded by Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**7.13 [26-0145](#)**

Ratification of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members

**Attachments:** [SMC TAC Ratification - February 2026](#)

Ms. Traynoff requested ratification of a new primary member for SMC's Technical Advisory Committee.

**A motion to ratify was made by Commissioner - Alternate Gust, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

## 8. INFORMATION SECTION

### 8.1 [26-0142](#)

Regulatory Reports December 2025 and January 2026

**Attachments:** [December 2025 Regulatory Reports](#)  
[January 2026 Regulatory Reports](#)  
[Wetland Restoration Fund Budget-Updated 1-26-26](#)

*Ms. Traynoff presented the Regulatory and Wetland Restoration Fund (WRF) Status Report for December 2025 and January 2026.*

### 8.2 Correspondence

### 8.3 Community Relations/Public Info

#### 8.3.a [26-0146](#)

Isolated Wetlands Regulatory Program Update Through 2025

**Attachments:** [IWLC Program Summary 2025](#)

*Mr. Bill Santelik provided information on the Isolated Wetland Regulatory Program update through 2025. Commissioner Maine stated that the information provided should be clear on if it is cumulative or over a single year. Commissioner Wasik asked if SMC would still have jurisdiction over isolated waters if the ILEPA removed isolated waters from the Clean Water Act. Mr. Santelik explained that with an ordinance in place, SMC should not need to change anything, but if the state decided to put their own protections in place, isolated waters would still be protected under SMC's Watershed Development Ordinance.*

*Mr. Woolford added that SMC tracks wetland impacts by the four primary watersheds in Lake County and wetlands are part of the stormwater infrastructure because of the amount of water they can hold. Mr. Woolford further explained that if each watershed were to be given a grade based on SMC's WRF Program and Isolated Wetland Program, similar to how ASCE provides infrastructure report cards, the Des Plaines watershed would get a A, the Fox River watershed would get an A-, the North Branch watershed would get a C, and the Lake Michigan watershed would get an F.*

#### 8.3. [26-0164](#)

b

Homeowner Association (HOA) Workshop and Vendor Expo February 25, 2026

**Attachments:** [2026 HOA Workshop Flyer](#)

*Ms. Traynoff provided information on the Homeowners Association Workshop and Vendor Expo being held on February 25, 2026.*

#### 8.3.c [26-0177](#)

Daily Herald - Lake Michigan shoreline

**Attachments:** [Daily Herald eEditon-Lake Michigan shoreline](#)

*Ms. Traynoff shared a Daily Herald article on the shoreline restoration Lake Forest Open*

*Lands will be doing at the Jean and John Greene Nature Preserve.*

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion to enter into executive session to review the executive session minutes and to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of employees of the public body 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) made by Commissioner Maine, second by Commissioner Frank. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. The Commissioners entered executive session at 6:38pm.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**9.1 Executive Session to review the executive session minutes from November 6, 2025**

**9.2 Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of employees of the public body 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1)**

**10. REGULAR SESSION (for action on Executive Session items)**

**10.1 Commission action approving the Executive Session minutes from November 6, 2025**

*Chairman Schmit asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes from November 6, 2025.*

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Maine, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a roll call vote:**

**Aye:** 8 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**Abstain:** 1 - Commissioner - Alternate Wasik

**10.2 SMC determination of Executive Director annual salary increase for fiscal year 2026**

*Chairman Schmit asked for a motion to approve the Executive Director annual salary increase of 3.1% for FY2026.*

**A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Frank, seconded by Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Sode. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm.**

**Aye:** 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Wasik, Commissioner - Alternate Gust, Commissioner - Alternate O'Brien, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner Sode and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld