

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, June 4, 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/83378319759>

Meeting ID: 833 7831 9759

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**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**

Present 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld and Alternate Sweet McDonnell

Others present: Paula Randall, RuthAnne Hall, Gina Tuczak, Amy Wagner, Jimmy Canning, Grant Benjamin, Susan Pribyl, Janet Smart, Lori Latham, Janice Aull (V), Michael Miller (V), Darren Olson (V), Eric Steffen (V), Mike Wheeler (V) and SMC Staff: Kurt Woolford, Kelcey Traynoff, Christine Sher, Dijana Silber, Mike Prusila, Michelle Payne, Sharene Gould Dulabaum, Jacob Jozefowski.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Because the public comment was related to the T5 Data Center in Grayslake, Chairman Schmit asked Mr. Kurt Woolford to explain SMC's involvement with the data center. Mr. Woolford explained that SMC received a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requesting that SMC perform a Sediment Erosion and Sediment Control (SESC) review. This is a standard process, as there is an intergovernmental agreement between the USACE and SMC that allows SMC to act as the local SESC reviewer and inspector whenever there are impacts to Waters of the United States in Lake County. SMC inspects these sites every 30 days throughout construction and performs a final close out inspection to make sure the site is permanently stabilized. SMC will be coordinating with the Village of Grayslake, who will be issuing the Watershed Development Permit as the certified community. Mr. Woolford added that SMC has not received the submittal from T5, but SMC has started coordinating with the Village of Grayslake on the proposed development. Chairman Schmit noted that SMC is not involved with the electric supply or water supply for the data center.

Susan Pribyl shared her concerns on the proposed data center, specifically that the development will displace 15.75 acres of wetlands and that the mitigation within the same watershed at the required ration of 1.5 to 1 will be difficult. Ms. Pribyl suggested that SMC prepare a statement that can be shared with the public that identifies SMC's role with the project and clarify that, while this project is not a county project, SMC has the authority to manage and mitigate the effects of development on stormwater drainage while conserving wetlands. Ms. Pribyl stated that the public appreciates SMC's commitment to oversight and the transparency in regard to this project.

5. [26-0719](#)

Approval of May 7, 2026 meeting minutes

Attachments: [SMC May 7, 2026 meeting minutes draft](#)

Approval was requested for the May 7, 2026 meeting minutes.

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

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Schmit and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

Abstain: 1 - Alternate Sweet McDonnell

6. **COMMISSION REPORTS**

6.1 **Director's Report**

6.1. [26-0746](#)

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Attachments: [Woolford NAFSMA International Trip](#)

Mr. Woolford discussed an upcoming international leadership conference with the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) to the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to visit stormwater and floodplain management sites. Mr. Woolford stated that this would be a professional development opportunity, and he requested that the Commission authorize him to use his T-card for the trip. Mr. Woolford identified several benefits of this international trip which include learning international lessons on different planning frameworks from different countries, leveraging our federal partners through the organization and identifying policy intelligence for new FEMA, USACE, and EPA initiatives, and seeing what other cost-effective nature-based solutions and resilient strategies other countries have implemented. Commissioner Weidenfeld voiced his support for Mr. Woolford going on the trip and added that the Netherlands is one of the best countries to study floodwater management. Commissioner Casbon asked if Mr. Woolford would share what he learned from the trip and Mr. Woolford said that he would. Commissioner Maine asked if Mr. Woolford could address the budgetary implications of the trip, specifically if the budget for professional development would be exceeded this year. Mr. Woolford explained that he would not be attending the NAFSMA annual conference, which would not completely offset the cost of the international trip, but the trips and trainings line-item in the budget may be exceeded. Commissioner Pedersen noted that there were members from the county's finance department in attendance and asked if they had any concerns with the request. Gina Tuczak, Lake County Chief Financial Officer, explained that there are restrictions on the county's P and T cards that do not provide for international coding and the county's preferred process would be for Mr. Woolford to use his funds for the trip and then he would be reimbursed, pending the Commission's approval for the trip. Commissioner Sweet McDonnell mentioned that, based on the line-item budget, there is \$20,000 available for trips and training and she also voiced her support for the trip. Commissioners Hewitt and Hunter also voiced their support for the trip. There was a

general consensus from the Commission to authorize Mr. Woolford to utilize funds in the budget to go on the international trip with NAFSMA.

6.2 Chairman's Report

Chairman Schmit shared that he went to Springfield several times in the past few weeks to speak with state legislators and let them know that the DCEO funding has made a difference in the quality of life for Lake County residents.

6.3 Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Sweet McDonnell thanked the Commission for what they do for Lake County communities and helping to facilitate grants for stormwater management projects.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.1 [26-0720](#)

Approval of May 2026 Treasurer's Report

Attachments: [SMC May 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)
 [RSMP May 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)
 [PEM May 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)
 [DRWW May 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)
 [NBWW May 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)

Ms. Kelcey Traynoff presented and requested approval of the May 2026 Treasurer's Reports.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Hunter, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Aye: 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld and Alternate Sweet McDonnell

7.2 [26-0725](#)

Approval of a grant agreement in the amount of \$176,576.94 for the Timber Lake Shoreline Stabilization Project, funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Nonpoint Source Implementation Program (section 319 of the Clean Water Act) through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IL EPA).

Attachments: [IL EPA Grant 3192410 Agreement](#)
 [Timber Lake Shoreline Project Location Map](#)

Mr. Mike Prusila presented and requested approval of a grant agreement in the amount of \$176,576.94 for the Timber Lake Shoreline Stabilization project, which is being funded by the IL EPA 319 grant.

A motion to approve was made by Alternate Sweet McDonnell, seconded by Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, that this commission action item be approved. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Aye: 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld and Alternate Sweet McDonnell

7.3 [26-0729](#)

Approval of contract with Vizonomy, Inc. Arlington, Virginia to continue Capital Management & Planning software development of the INFLOW Platform for the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) in the amount of \$209,024 for FY2026.

Attachments: [Vizonomy - Inflow FY2026 RFP](#)
[Vendor Disclosure Vizonomy VER2](#)

Ms. Michelle Payne presented and requested approval of a contract with Vizonomy, Inc. to continue capital management and planning software development of the INFLOW platform for SMC in the amount of \$209,024 for FY2026, pending final legal review. Ms. Payne explained that there are 25 new items that are part of the scope of the new contract. These items include creating a new Watershed Development Permit submittal module, adding a fully functional RFP Watershed Management Board/Watershed Management Assistance Grant module, and adding an AI Chatbot to the interface. Commissioner Weidenfeld asked if the code being created was specifically for SMC or if it will be used to support other users. Ms. Payne stated that the code being created was just for SMC. Commissioner Weidenfeld also asked there was a cost for maintenance and Ms. Payne explained that maintenance was included in the budget. Mr. Woolford added that maintenance activities were identified, and 12 hours of support from the vendor would be provided per month. Commissioner Sweet McDonnell asked what the length of the contract was, and Ms. Payne stated that the contract was for one year. Commissioner Sweet McDonnell asked how long SMC has worked with the vendor and Ms. Payne stated that SMC has been working with the vendor since 2022. Commissioner Frank asked if SMC has had discussions with other county departments that do capital planning and grant administration to see if there are other options available. Ms. Payne explained that SMC looked at other options but found that Vizonomy was the best. Mr. Woolford added that SMC looked at the various tools and software that other departments were using but SMC needed a more stormwater-centric system that would utilize polygons and lines rather than just parcels for SMC's projects. SMC would be open to sharing the system with other county departments however, it is coded and customized for SMC's work. Commissioner Maine asked if the vendor would be selling the product they created for SMC. Mr. Woolford explained that the original code was provided to SMC from the Mile High Flood District as open source at no cost. SMC's code is also open source, and the vendor would not be selling the product. Commissioner Hunter suggested that staff identify where in the budget the funding is coming from. Mr. Woolford stated that this was planned for, and SMC has consulting funds for it.

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

Aye: 7 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Schmit and Alternate Sweet McDonnell

Nay: 2 - Commissioner Hunter and Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld

7.4 [26-0730](#)

Presentation and Approval of Stormwater Management Commission (SMC)
FY2027 Draft Line-item Budget Request

Attachments: [FY2026 Adopted SMC Budget - Lake County](#)
[FY2027 Draft SMC Line-Item Breakdown](#)
[SMC Proposed FY2027 Staff Organizational Chart](#)

Mr. Woolford presented SMC's draft line-item budget for FY2027. Mr. Woolford went through the sections of the draft line-item budget and explained why the budget for certain items increased or decreased. The final targets of the budget were not yet known, but SMC wanted to meet the July 6th budget deadline for the county. Mr. Woolford also touched on the FY2027 staff organizational chart, which would better align SMC's capacity to continue with the current workload while not increasing the staff headcount. Commissioner Sweet McDonnell asked if the FY2027 budget was essentially the same as the FY2026 budget and Mr. Woolford said that the FY2027 budget was very close to FY2026's budget. Commissioner Maine asked if Mr. Woolford was expecting to request reclassification of positions and therefore more money for salaries. Mr. Woolford confirmed that SMC would need more money for salaries with the reorganization. Commissioner Frank asked why SMC included the Central Permit Facility (CPF) large conference room in the budget if other departments use the room. Mr. Woolford explained that, while some of the amenities of the CPF are an enterprise facility responsibility, there are instances when SMC has a higher interest in the maintenance oversight (e.g. CPF green roof, site BMPs, large conference room).

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

Aye: 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld and Alternate Sweet McDonnell

7.5 [26-0744](#)

Presentation of Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) FY2027-FY2032
Draft Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Recommended Projects

Attachments: [FY2027 Draft SMC Capital Improvement Program - Map](#)
[FY2027 Draft SMC Capital Improvement Program - List](#)
[USACE Floodplain Management Services](#)

Mr. Woolford presented on SMC's FY2027-FY2032 draft Capital Improvement Program (CIP) recommended projects and explained that this was a request for a 5-year capital program. The recommended projects were included in the work program that was presented to the Commission in May however, SMC does not have the staff capacity or funding to complete all the projects. SMC has a technical understanding of what the issues are throughout the county and where they're located. The listed projects were identified as either a flood-prone property buyout or a stormwater CIP project. Mr. Woolford explained that in some cases, it can be more cost-effective to remove a property from a flood-prone area than implement a stormwater capital improvement project. As an example, Mr. Woolford discussed the property buyouts in Highland Park, which would buyout up to nine properties at a cost \$5M. This funding would come through the state but because the grant is reimbursement-based, the county would need to provide the funding up front. Commissioner Frank asked if this funding would be for previous buyouts in Highland Park or for new buyouts and Mr. Woolford clarified that the funding is for new buyouts. Mr. Woolford further clarified that some of the listed buyouts did not fit into a specific program for funding, which is why they are being included in the 5-year program. Commissioner Maine asked if the municipality contributes to the buyouts that fall within their municipal boundaries. Chairman Schmit stated that for the buyouts in Fox Lake, the Village has perpetual maintenance on the properties. Mr. Woolford added that some municipalities contribute funding towards the buyout and others takeover the maintenance responsibilities. SMC does not want to own these properties long term, and they are conveyed to the municipalities as soon as they can be. Commissioner Weidenfeld asked if SMC, as the grant administrator, is the one who decides the percentage of funding each buyout property receives. Mr. Woolford explained that for the IDNR grant, the property has to be appraised and approved by IDNR, and their staff goes to the closing. Commissioner Hunter pointed out that the buyout program is voluntary, not a condemnation, and the property owners have to initiate the buyout of their property. Mr. Woolford added that SMC will try to find as much outside funding as possible, but he would like to present the list of CIP projects to the Finance Department so that if funding does become available through the county's CIP program, SMC has a list of projects ready. It was also explained that the Montesano Avenue Stormwater Improvements project and the Yeoman Creek Improvements at Sunset and Lewis Avenue project were potential DCEO projects and need to reach shovel-ready status, so they are ready for DCEO funding.

This was an informational item only and no action was taken.

8. INFORMATION SECTION

8.1. [26-0721](#)

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Regulatory Reports May 2026

Attachments: [May 2026 Regulatory Reports](#)
[Wetland Restoration Budget-Updated 05-27-26](#)
[WRF Program Summary 2007 - 2026](#)

Ms. Traynoff presented the Regulatory and Wetland Restoration Fund (WRF) Status Report for May 2026. A WRF Program Summary Report that showed all the projects and bank credit purchases by watershed from 2007 to 2026 was also presented. It was explained that there used to be more bank credit purchases at the start of the program however, there are currently limited bank credits available for purchase. Commissioner Maine commented that SMC should have a strategy to use the non-encumbered balance of the WRF if there are no credits left to purchase, and the funds are unable to be used as intended. Mr. Woolford added that there has been a shift from bank credit purchases to projects and SMC wants to use the funds for wetland restoration. Commissioner Maine suggested that SMC look for project partners so that funds can be used.

8.1. [26-0745](#)

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FY2024 Stream and Channel Maintenance Pilot Program Draft Report

Attachments: [FY24 Stream & Channel Maintenance Pilot Project DRAFT Memo VER2](#)

Ms. Traynoff presented the Stream and Channel Maintenance Pilot Program Draft Report and explained that the information in the report will be used to inform the Lake County Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan update.

8.2 Correspondence

8.2. [26-0722](#)

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The Illinois Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Report Card for Illinois Infrastructure - 2027 Update

Attachments: [2026 Report Card Agency Letter ASCE-IL_LCSMC](#)

Ms. Traynoff shared a letter from the ASCE on the 2027 updates to the report card for Illinois infrastructure.

8.2. [26-0723](#)

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Izzy Daniels - Correspondence

Attachments: [Izzy Daniels - Correspondence](#)

Ms. Traynoff shared an email from Izzy Daniels, a local high school student, regarding the recent April flood event and her concerns about the impacts the flooding had on the communities and residents in Lake County.

8.3 Community Relations/Public Info

8.3. [26-0724](#)

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Daily Herald - Bangs Lake Wauconda, IL

Attachments: [Daily Herald e Edition– Bangs Lake Wauconda, IL](#)

Ms. Traynoff shared an article from the Daily Herald on the Bangs Lake outfall drainage and flood control project.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. ADJOURNMENT

Before the meeting adjourned, Commissioner Maine asked if land could be included as an in-kind service for SMC's projects and Mr. Woolford stated that yes, in general, land can be considered an in-kind service. Commissioner Maine explained that at last week's Finance Committee meeting, the Chief County Assessor gave a presentation and one of the initiatives was about how open space is valued. This could positively impact SMC's projects by making them more feasible because they would be getting more dollar credit for their land.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunter, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Aye: 9 - Commissioner Frank, Commissioner Hewitt, Commissioner Pedersen, Commissioner Maine, Commissioner - Alternate Casbon, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner Schmit, Commissioner - Alternate Weidenfeld and Alternate Sweet McDonnell