



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2014

The Centre, 100 Symphony Way, Elgin Illinois

NWPA Chairman Tom Weisner, Mayor of Aurora, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Present: Aurora Mayor Tom Weisner, Chairman; Mary McCann, McHenry County Board member, Vice-Chair; Dale Berman, President of North Aurora, Karen Darch, President of Barrington, Joseph Haimann, Kane County Board member, Robert Nunamaker, Fox River Grove Village President, Bonnie T. Carter, Lake County Board member, Terry Counley, President of McCullom Lake, Ruth Anne Tobias, DeKalb County Board member, Treasurer; Kathleen Leitner, President of Tower Lakes, Secretary.

Also present: Peter Wallers, TAC chairman; Angela Zubko of Kendall County; David Hosemuller of Lake County, Mary Randle, Metro West COG executive director, Dr. Tim Loftus, CMAP; Josh Ellis of Metropolitan Planning Council ; Catherine Kemp, CMAP intern; Deb Waszak, executive director of Lake County Governmental League, Colin Duesing of Will County, Chalen Daigle, executive director of McHenry County Council of Governments, Janet Agnoletti, executive director Barrington Area Council of Governments

Approval of Minutes: The July 10, 2014 meeting minutes were approved after a motion by Mary McCann and a second by Bonnie Carter.

Financial Reports: Ruth Anne Tobias presented July and August, 2014 financial reports. The July 31, 2014 fund balance was \$1,988.75. The August 30, 2014 fund balance was the same. The financial reports were approved after a motion by Dale Berman and a second by Kathleen Leitner.

There was a discussion about developing a budget and assessing dues. Since we no longer have use of an intern from Metropolitan Planning Council, it will be important for NWPA to be able to hire an intern. That person would continue producing the e-newsletter, do grant writing, serve as administrator for the website and assist with other administrative support. We need to include money for website maintenance and refinement and for printing. The executive committee members also discussed raising NWPA dues to \$750 per executive committee member. This will be the first time dues have been assessed since the beginning investment of the NWPA COGs and counties.

Action Item: Treasurer Ruth Anne Tobias and Mary Randle will send out a budget proposal to executive committee members. The executive committee wanted a proposed budget to present when asking their boards for the \$750 annual dues.

Strategic Planning Update: Dr. Tim Loftus of CMAP: Dr. Loftus stated that he reported on the NWPA to the Barrington Area Council of Governments and the Northwest Municipal Conference. He also met with the IWWSG and the ILWEF for presentations. Next week he will meet with McHenry County Council of Governments. In October he will present to the Illinois Groundwater Association and the South Suburban Waterworks Association. He spoke to someone at Columbia College about doing a video for NWPA.

Catherine Kemp was an intern this past summer from the IL Sea Grant. She worked on arranging for children to visit water facilities.

Dr. Loftus noted that we need Illinois Water Inventory Program water data for 2012 and 2013 from the Illinois State Water Survey. He reported that he is drafting comprehensive plans for the Village of Campton Hills and the Village of Pingree Grove through CMAP grants. He will ensure that they include water resources in the plan.

IEPA Water Loss Accounting Steering Committee NWPA/CMAP: Peter Wallers. Peter Wallers and Dr. Loftus are serving on the task force for Water Loss Accounting. They are encouraging municipalities to use the AWWA website program to calculate their water loss at awwa.org/waterloss. The IEPA is providing free training on how to use the program. Pete Wallers noted there are two kinds of water loss: apparent loss, which is figured through calculations and a real water loss, which is an obvious such as from a broken water main. The program also helps one to estimate the dollar value of the water they are losing or have lost.

This is a voluntary program but it can be very helpful. It also lets you enter how certain you are of the accuracy of your data. There may be some grants available to help with water loss. These would be from the revolving loan funds. CMAP and MPC have been promoting helpful changes in the state revolving loan funds. Wallers and Loftus are doing Train the Trainer training. Mr. Wallers noted that it is still important to do water drought planning. Water Loss is an important aspect of this. Lake Michigan users will be doing a water loss study.

Waller's stated there are funds available through the Illinois Revolving Loan Fund for water main or meter replacement. One may need a water loss audit, however, to qualify for that. Aurora, Batavia and Montgomery are already tracking water loss. We need some consistency in how cities measure their water loss.

Technical Advisory Committee: Pete Wallers: CMAP and MPC are hosting a planning effort with IDNR. The Corps of Engineering also have to consider the depth of rivers, channels, etc. They took part in the drought planning task force.

Josh Ellis After the 2050 CMAP Water Supply Plan, no funding was available for implementing the plan. IDNR did seek funding for water supply planning in the rest of the state. They are also funding some of CMAP's water planning. There is conversation about doing something in the legislature to provide funding sources. Some ideas include fees for larger water withdrawals. This would be tied to IWIP reporting. A tax on bottled water is another possibility. These were listed in NWPA's July minutes. IDNR

needs to decide which it wants to include in possible legislation. They have abandoned the idea of adding a tax onto water bills.

Dr. Loftus stated that CMAP is reconvening the regional water planning group. NWPA will have a seat at the table. They will also invite Boone and Grundy Counties to participate. They are thinking this will be a 15 member group and will probably convene in January 2015. He noted that IDNR seems to favor the idea of a tax on bottled water for funding water supply planning. They also suggested a fee for withdrawals from reservoirs they administer in Southern Illinois.

Josh Ellis stated there may be changes to the Illinois State Revolving Funds. There are two types of loans: one for drinking water infrastructure and the other for sewer infrastructure. Interest from those funds helps to fund others projects such as rain gardens. The IEPA has not yet developed stormwater-related loan funding. He noted that most municipalities don't have funding sources for stormwater management. Regarding the revolving loan fund, there is a problem with timing of the approvals. There is such a long lag time before approval that by the time the loan is approved, the engineering costs have escalated and are no longer valid. Most municipalities cannot continue to wait and end up having to drop their loan requests. NWPA/MPC/CMAP/Mayors Caucus have approached the state about how to improve the loan fund but we have not heard back from the IEPA.

Peter Wallers stated that the water use reporting tool is being used. We continue to work with Illinois State Water Survey to promote the use of the Water Reporting Tool. The TAC is working with ISWS to provide enhanced modeling for sub-regional water supply issues. There is mining of the Deep Aquifer going on and we need to better define the anticipated water level drawdown and timeline.

Metro West made comments on the general NPDES Stormwater permit ILR-40 in July. Our main area of concern was the requirement for sampling all outfalls upstream and downstream on a quarterly basis after a quarter-inch rain. We feel it would be burdensome on municipalities and it was not clear as to the value of the sampling.

Mayor Weisner noted that there were only two municipal representatives included in the IEPA's planning process regarding post-development stormwater run-off. He will bring this up to the Mayors Caucus. There needs to be more municipal input on such task forces. Mayor Weisner stated it would be helpful to invite an IEPA representative to one or some of our NWPA meetings.

The Metropolitan Planning Council will hold a roundtable event on water reuse at noon at MPC office on October 14.

Colin Duesing from Will County stated that his county has been concentrating on stormwater issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. after a motion by Dale Berman and a second by Mary McCann.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on November 13.

Kathleen Leitner, Secretary