



Technical Advisory Committee

The Centre at Elgin

(East Conference Room)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin

March 26, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Nora Beck, CMAP; Tim Wilson, City of St. Charles; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County; Natalie Karney, Village of South Barrington; Kyla Jacobsen, ISAWWA; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Don Zeling, Robinson Engineering; Matt Asselmeier, Kendall County; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Dave Schumacher, City of Aurora; Dave Segal, Elgin Sustainability Commission; Mike Palmer, City of McHenry; Angie Smith, EEI.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.

Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions: Pete (MWCOG) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were given by those present.

Agenda Changes and Announcements: A change on the presentations – Nora and Margaret are going to give their presentations that they gave at WATERCON. If there is time, then we will get into a discussion on strategic planning.

Approval of February Meeting Minutes: Scott (McHenry County) made a motion. Jodie (Kane County) seconded. Nora (CMAP) minor correction in regard to the funding source that was secured; should be IDNR not IEPA. All in favor minutes approved.

Presentation: *Water Rate Studies in Northeastern Illinois* Margaret (IISG) gave her presentation that she gave last week at WATERCON. Recently updated, the regional water demand forecast for the Chicago region. Projecting that total water demand will stay relatively stable despite the demands of a growing population and economy. However, the forecast is projecting continued increases in demand on groundwater sources. The presentation highlighted the overall findings of the demand forecast, the key assumptions and methodology behind the forecast, and the available municipal-scale data to help inform local, long-range planning for water supply. Particular attention was given to water rates data used in the forecast, including a discussion of trends in water rates over the past decade, and the estimated price elasticity of demand. Utility-management and policy recommendations and the role of multiple rate-setting objectives was discussed, using audience-participation feedback technology.

Nora moderated the discussion on the Strategic Plan. Specifically talking about the water use summary that is included in the existing document. Questions that were discussed: Should the focus be on NWPA members or by



water source? Focus on reporting past trends or do you want to present forecast data? Report only on water withdrawals or do you want to include information on demand factors?

Mission/Vision Statement with a series of goals – went through so that we could recognize achievements to date.

Goal A: Build the organization capacity to achieve mission; develop an annual stream of revenue; develop

Goal B: Provide education and outreach to raise awareness of the value of water – promote a water use conservation and efficiency ethic; incorporate ongoing educational opportunities for elected officials and school-age children. Walt (ISWS) referred to the www.privatewellclass.org website that would be good to use as a reference. The group noted various educational resources that are available in McHenry County – MCSWEEP. Tim (SR) suggested that as a future presentation could be a way to gather all of the available items so that the rest of us are aware what is out there as well.

Goal C: Develop sustainable water use policies and practices that are widely adopted and protective of water supplies

- Define sustainable water use by each water source
- Track monthly and annual water use among members
- Improve the scientific understanding of water supplies in terms of quantity and quality
- Make recommendations to protect groundwater and surface water quality
- Achieve consistency among member regarding an outdoor lawn-watering ordinance
- Organize to develop drought-preparedness recommendations

NWPA TAC Topic discussion – educational materials, microplastics, developing policies that we want to recommend to the Executive Committee for adoption (i.e., Sensible Salting), rebates for watersense or water conservation items, water audits (i.e., UofI ISTC TAP <https://www.istc.illinois.edu/cms/One.aspx?portalId=427487&pageId=757984>), case studies, position papers on certain legislation issues, etc.

Tim (SR) suggested somehow getting other organizations to participate in these meetings. Nora (CMAP) will be working on the different topics and speakers that could be scheduled throughout the year.

Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update): Scott (McHenry County) reported that we are going to be working together with The Conservation Foundation on their Salt Smart initiative. (www.saltsmart.org)

IISG – Warm vs Cool Grasses Brochure Follow-Up: Margaret (IISG) received extensive feedback and will try to incorporate a few more pictures. Pete (TAC) suggested a secondary brochure as a follow-up piece be created. Margaret agreed so they will start working on the layout now and should have a draft at the April meeting.

ISAWWA (Update): Jeff (ISAWWA) commented that last week was WATERCON; about 1,600 people attended. Commenting on a couple of upcoming educational opportunities – April 3rd, April 16th & 17th, May 1st – Source Water Summit in Joliet; seminar on LSLR Flossmoor May 8th. Kyla (ISAWWA) commented on the WUC; tracking



11 bills, commenting on the Illinois Plumbing Code revisions and working on the Lead Service Line issue. The Illinois State Revolving Loan Fund will be available to be used for the lead service line replacement.

MPC (Update): Remind everyone about the Drinking Water 1-2-3 Academy dates and that registration is open.

ISWS (Update): Daniel (ISWS) mentioned the Southwest Water Planning Alliance is official and they are focused on the deep aquifer and whoever is impacted by this.

The State Water Plan, there was a meeting last Friday and 10-12 items were selected out of 27-29 topics that were compiled. The goal is to complete this update by 2020. IEPA and IDNR received most of the writing/updating of assignments. The topics included were: water quality, water supply planning, sediment, and flooding.

Other Business:

Scott (McHenry) commented on the 30 applicants that they have received for the solar farms within the County alone. McHenry County actually requires that they plant native plants on the site if they are approved. An environmental group will be sponsoring a workshop to talk about this topic on April 4th at McHenry County College. Tim (SR) commented that they had done something similar a couple of years ago.

Also, commented on the WRAP that is well underway. Next meeting is Wed., April 10th.

The next meeting will be held on April 23, 2019 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI