



Technical Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting

June 27, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Wallers, MWCOG/EEI; Tom Kopanski, Village of Montgomery; Dean Farr, Lake County Soil & Water Conservation; Devin Mannix, ISWS; Natalie Karney, BACOG; Gordon Smith, Robinson Engineering; Janet Agnolleti, McHenry County; Joe Munder, City of Aurora; Gary Clark, Retired IDNR; Haylee Young, ISAWWA; Claire Dillon, CMAP; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Cecilia Cullen, ISWS; Kimberly Saunders, BACOG; Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Judith Thomas, USGS; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Nora Beck, CMAP; Mark Mussachio, Lake County Health Department; Tony Speciale, Retired Village of Sugar Grove; Dan Hadley, ISWS; Faye Sinnott, BACOG; Kevin Kerrigen, Lake County Division of Transportation; Matt Farmer, City of Crystal Lake; Wei Han, IDNR; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Brad Merkel, Village of Sugar Grove; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County; Derek Hiland, DeKalb County; Jeff Babich, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Kevin Fecske, Village of Barrington; Wes Cattoor, IDNR; Amy Gahala, USGS; Angie Smith, EEI.

Peter Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions: Pete (MWCOG/EEI) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Agenda Changes and Announcements: No changes or announcements.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes: Scott (McHenry County) made a motion to approve. Jodie (Kane County) seconded. Minutes approved.

Presentation: “Results from a Summer 2022 ISWS study of groundwater quality in Lake County’s shallow aquifer”: Cecilia (ISWS) presented on this topic. She stated that the following reports would be forthcoming from ISWS: Rock River Region Report (<https://www.isws.illinois.edu/illinois-water-supply-planning/rock-river-region>), Lower Illinois Report (<https://www.isws.illinois.edu/illinois-water-supply-planning/lowerillinois>), Supply and Demand Report, Model Update Report, Lake County Report, Sugar Grove Sampling Report, and 2021 Synoptic Water Level Report.

The findings show the highest transmissivity is in the BACOG area and the lowest is in the Wadsworth area which translates to higher populated areas.

She explained the process that was followed for the samples. wells were sampled in forest preserves and other natural areas. Most of the wells were in the Lake County area, some were located in McHenry County and Cook Counties.

All chloride, nitrate, and phosphorous were all low. One site had arsenic higher than 10ppb (the EPA standard). They correspond to a sand/gravel unit called the Beverly Tongue.



Also anticipated to be in the report will be the results of PFAS analyses at eight of the wells; water isotope results can comment on the timing of the recharge of groundwater in Lake County.

Judith (USGS) inquired if these findings were compared with the McHenry County report that was finalized in 2022. Cecilia (ISWS) wasn't aware that there was a 2022 report (<https://doi.org/10.5066/P9RBXV53>) but did include/cite the 2019 report. It would be good to see them together or a comparison table. She also shared this link with the group: <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/il/nwis/current/?type=quality>

Wei (IDNR) suggested building a groundwater model for McHenry County. It is something that the ISWS would like to work towards.

Scott (McHenry County) shared the Fox River Study Group update:
<https://www.foxriverstudygroup.org/resources>

Presentation: “NWPA Water Supply Sustainability Plan: Examining Conservation Strategies”: Margaret (IISG) presented the conservation strategies that we would like to suggest investigating further. They are 1. Residential retrofits, 2. Adopt community policies; 3. Water loss control; 4. Commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) program; 5. Costing and pricing, 6. Information & education.

Scott (McHenry County) asked if water reuse will be discussed or considered in the plan. Margaret (IISG) could be difficult, and communities could have trouble adopting this in the next few years. Pete (MWCOC) mentioned that we do have some limited resources. We're trying to make this plan as versatile as possible for the region. Kelsey (CMAP) confirmed that these are the strategies that we will take a deeper dive into for the plan, but we will also include best practices as well.

Kelsey (CMAP) shared the following polling questions with the group.

Q. Are we missing any strategies that have water savings potential?

A: rain barrels; rainwater capture and gray water use; cooling towers or will that be in the CII category?; plumbing service sizing; fixed network meter reading that has leak detection capabilities; is the IPEA revising requirements for the Water Sense certificate if so consider implications; information and education is important, getting buy-in and neighbors encouraging neighbors is difficult; smart meter use for homeowners and education; community rain gardens; link personal water use to effect on the water source, like lowering expectations for “black asphalt” in that topic area; incentive programs for native plantings over irrigated lawns; protection of groundwater recharge areas.

Q. Who are you representing today?

A: Federal/State Government (eg, USGS, IDNR, ISWS) = 5

Regional government (COGs, CMAP) = 4



County government (DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry) = 2

Municipality / Utility = 5

Other (consultant, nonprofit) = 5

Scott (McHenry County) if there was a way to get the questions ahead of time so more time can be spent on thinking about the topics.

Kelsey (CMAP) jumping into the strategy assessment phase of the project. Will be coming back and sharing that information with the TAC as things progress forward.

Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update): Scott (McHenry County) reported that the dates are set up for their typical roads program. They also have two dates set for the parking lots and sidewalk – Sept. 27th and Oct. 3rd. Currently looking into setting up a date for McHenry County as well.

CMAP (Update): Nora (CMAP) shared that CMAP has partnered with Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) for a grant opportunity to develop climate action plans to get in line with the national goals. The comprehensive climate action plan will be due Summer of 2025. There will be more information coming out regarding this.

IISG (Update): Margaret (IISG) mentioned the water-energy nexus work that they are currently working on. Will be presenting this data at the ISAWWA Water Energy Summit.

ISAWWA (Update): Haylee (ISAWWA) check out the website for the education opportunities that are scheduled. The Water Energy Summit is scheduled for August 1st at the College of DuPage:
<https://www.isawwa.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1747144&group=>

ISWS (Update): Walt (ISWS) shared that all of the reports that Cecilia presented will also have public-facing websites as well. Dan (ISWS) commented on the Kane County Water Sustainability group meeting that they will be presenting at on Thurs., June 29th. We are currently going through the water use data for the Kane County communities involved.

IDNR (Update): Wes (IDNR) reported that they are currently monitoring the statewide drought issue and it could impact the water supply in certain areas if it continues. Wes (IDNR) there will be a state water plan task force meeting in July and they will probably talk about the drought.

USGS (Update): Amy (USGS) IEPA/PFAS report is in its near-final stage. Making final edits and then going back to IEPA. It should go back out within the next month or so for printing. Did collect samples for PFAS in McHenry County, working through that, and should be out by the end of the year. USGS has updated its system and in doing so created a new website for McHenry County Realtime Groundwater Monitoring Network.
<https://rconnect.usgs.gov/McHenry-groundwater/Index.html>

SGTWA (Update): No update.



Other Business: Pending regulations and/or legislation: None.

The next meeting will be held on July 25, 2023, and it will be virtual.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 AM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI