



Technical Advisory Committee

March 27, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; John Sterrett, representing Kendall County; John Dillon, City of Batavia, representing MWCOG; Paul Miller of DeKalb County, Dave Lawry of Village of Wauconda; Jon Schmitt of City of McHenry, representing MCCOG; Paul Schuch of Kane County; Scott Trotter of Trotter and Associates representing LCML, Dennis Burmeister of Village of Barrington representing NWMC; Victor Ramirez, City of Crystal Lake representing MCCOG, Ed Coggin of HR Green, representing MCCOG and Paul Schuch of Kane County.

Also Present: Tim Loftus and Amy Talbot of CMAP; Scott Meyer and Walt Kelly of Illinois State Water Survey; Abby Crisostomo of MPC; Ken Schroth, City of Aurora; Dave Schumaucher, City of Aurora; Joe Munder of City of West Chicago; and Mary Randle of Metro West Council of Government.

Peter Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions – Peter Wallers welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were given by those present.

Agenda Changes and Announcements – None at this time.

Approval of February 28 Meeting Minutes – Minutes of the February 28, 2012 meeting were approved with one change: remove Amy Talbot of CMAP from the list of those present. The motion was made by John Dillon and seconded by Paul Schuch.

Water Energy Nexus Survey Presentation: Amy Talbot, who is chairman of the ISAWWA Water Efficiency Committee, gave a report on the Water Energy Nexus Survey. They surveyed water utilities in Illinois and focused on electric use. The survey includes the number of service connections; number of residential connections, population served, and EPA facility identification. They had 52 responses from small, medium, and large utilities and wholesalers. This represented 17 counties and 5.4 million people. They looked at water source, percentage of each source by use, total annual production in gallons, total annual billed/metered and accounted for water supply in gallons, and beginning and ending data for 2010 calendar year. Energy: energy intensity: 1,600 to 2,000 kWh/MG. Total annual electricity cost, cost per unit and comparison of water sources. They also looked at the type of treatment used.

It is more expensive for smaller utilities to produce water. Producers using non-Lake Michigan surface water sources tend to use more energy and pay more for energy per unit of water than groundwater and Lake Michigan water sources.



Surface water users have greater loss of water. On average, the energy cost percentage of a utility's total annual loss in 2010, equates to a loss of \$2 million in energy costs alone. On average, larger utilities tend to have greater loss of water.

Lessons learned:

- 1) There is no consistent data collection and tracking.
- 2) Energy data and water data are kept in separate places. Greater collaboration needed between energy and water utilities and with municipal departments in terms of data sharing, tracking and auditing.
- 3) Energy use data could be provided to customers via utility's annual water quality report.
- 4) More education and outreach are needed.
- 5) Staff and budgets are needed.

Next Steps:

- 1) Partner with finance department to gather monthly electric bills and match the bills with pump stations, motors and other water facilities using electricity. Make sure the electric bills are accurate based on estimated electric usage.
- 2) Review pump curves and motor efficiencies with a qualified engineer or pump manufacturer.
- 3) Talk with neighboring utilities, if practical, to discuss annual energy costs and electric suppliers.
- 4) Consider off-peak pumping as an option.
- 5) Perform leak detection and repair practices on a regular basis to identify and reduce water loss.

City of Aurora uses a ComEd program. They enter their well figures and it tells them how much electricity it costs them to produce the water.

One problem with the survey results is that Lake Michigan water users only report distribution costs while other surface and groundwater users report the full costs.

This is a very unique survey. There is a June 1st deadline. To access the online survey, go to surveymonkey.com/s/isawwa-water-energy-nexus. For the full report, go to www.isawwa.org.

Pete Wallers will send this out to all NWPA members.



Education – Municipal Ordinance Review: There was further discussion about model municipal ordinances. Abby Crisotomo discussed ordinance assessment criteria. MPC will report information to the TAC and they will recommend how to prioritize. The NWPA executive committee will choose the final priorities. There was a question what would happen if a municipality or county already has a more restrictive ordinance than what is recommended. We could set a minimum standard. If a community wants to be more restrictive, that's fine.

They discussed various lawn watering scenarios and considered ease of implementation, ease of enforcement, collaboration and impacts and metrics. Many use color coding. Pete Wallers suggested adding an additional color such as orange before red when there isn't a full-blown drought. The TAC will need to recommend a scenario to the executive committee.

There was also discussion about new sod watering restrictions. Some have a complete ban from July to August. Then there is the CMAP ordinance and then there is the possibility of a ban from June through September 15. MPC will bring this back to the TAC to determine its recommendation. If you want to make more suggestions, contact Josh Ellis or Abby Crisotomo.

Scott Meyer stated that Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) has a state climatologist who declares drought conditions and makes relevant statements by region. Paul Schuch said the Office of Emergency Management may also be involved in making drought conditions declarations.

Executive Committee: Pete Wallers reported that we are still getting more members that are joining WaterSense. The request about using the CMAP inserts in water bills and newsletters went out last week. Mary Randle will follow up with mayors and managers to make sure they know about it.

Scott Meyers stated there is not a person at the state level that declares drought conditions. There is a U.S. website for monitoring drought conditions: <http://droughtmonitor.url.edu/> Mr. Wallers noted that it would be better to have an entity such as the Illinois State Water Survey declare a drought. Jim Angel of the ISWS has been asked to speak to the NWPA about declaring drought conditions.

Plumbing Codes Update: Abby Crisotomo stated that HB 4496 passed out of Committee unanimously. It is going to the House floor for a vote on March 28. Abby requested that any additional input about plumbing codes should be submitted to her by the afternoon of April 10.

HB 404, Water Planning and Implementation Funding. Scott Meyer reported that Arlan Juhl of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources said there is a bill being proposed that would institute a fee on water usage to fund water planning and implementation. HB404, which is sponsored by Rep. Mautino, would send the money to IDNR to administer. Tim Loftus of CMAP stated that the funds should come back to the region they came from.



ISWS Deep Well Measurements: Walt Kelly reported on the deep well water level measurements taken during the fall of 2011. This is the project with which the NWPA assisted. They got 153 measurements. None came from Boone or Kendall Counties or Joliet. The results show drawdown of the deep aquifer in several areas. Eighty-three of the measurements had previous data for comparison. This measured apparent water level declines or replenishments. There was an apparent recovery compared to previous levels.

Of the 83 measurements: 26 showed a decline; three remained the same and five recovered to some degree.

The ISWS is doing follow ups on several measurements to clarify some of the results. The results are still provisional. They are trying to find out if the apparent recoveries are related to how long the pumps were off when the measurements were taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 24.

Submitted by _____ Mary Randle, Recorder