



**Sensible Salting Committee  
Engineering Enterprises, Inc.**

**52 Wheeler Road, Sugar Grove**

**January 17, 2018**

**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Pete Wallers, TAC Chairman; Todd Hoppenstedt, Village of Montgomery; Jim Turcan, Cornerstone Partners; Angie Smith, EEI

Conference Call: Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Walt Kelly, Illinois State Water Survey; Kyla Jacobsen, Retired City of Elgin/ISAWWA; John Kawka, Retired DuPage DOT/Morris Engineering; Tony Johnson, Midwest Salt; Tara Neff, The Conservation Foundation.

Todd Hoppenstedt called the meeting to order at 3:03 P.M.

**Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions:** Todd (SSC Co-Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.

**Approval of December Meeting Minutes:** Kyla (Retired Elgin/ISAWWA) made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Pete (TAC) seconded. All in favor minutes approved.

**Ideas for Discussion:** Todd (SSC Co-Chair) listed several ideas to start the discussion amongst the group: develop snow and ice control best practices guide for private contractors; develop a certification program with a promotional component; municipal or county ordinances to support certification.

Todd (SSC Co-Chair) commented that we still need to include the public side. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) leading by example is the best way to lead. Working in conjunction with the PW Departments and continuing to improve, but we shouldn't wait until we have perfection. Reach out to the private side as well.

Pete (TAC) suggested that we can use this guide for Public and Private if it's issued uniformly. It would be important for this group to get a product out and get a little traction with the Executive Committee and gain some credibility for the group. This guide can be put under the NWPA brand. We can assist with the graphics, layout, etc. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) will send over their Sensible Salting workbook. It is based off of Fortin's Consulting's educational guide. Tara (CDF) stated that Fortin's guide is available on-line and they are propriety. Pete (TAC) stated that we would like to give them credit for the information. He asked Tara to reach out to Connie to explain what we're planning to do. Turk (Cornerstone) stated that Connie would be appreciative that we reached out to her. If we can list quick bullet points for the municipalities and private as well. Todd (SSC Co-Chair) agreed that the recommendations should be included for rate to be applied. Tony (Midwest Salt) not clear on the goals, metrics and boundaries for the group. It is a very big range of items that are out there. Pete (TAC) our overarching goal is to reduce the chlorides in our groundwater..... Scott (McHenry) not only are we preparing the guide, but we need to educate people from the top down in municipalities. Also need to work with the private contractors. Tony (Midwest Salt) stated went through this year's winter so far and how unique it has been. Three of the four major distributors have sold out of salt already this winter. The big problem is how do we switch guys over from salt to liquid.



Turk (Cornerstone) experienced an issue yesterday morning with a disgruntled property manager because his parking lot wasn't clean of snow. The perception was that he wasn't doing his job if he was telling them to salt more. In addition to the Mayors and Managers that have to be educated so do the property managers.

Scott (SSC Co-Chair) there has to be an incentive for the individuals to use less salt. Walt's data and imagery are key to helping get the word across. Pete (TAC) stated that one thing that has worked well is a case study in order to get a point across.

Todd (SSC Co-Chair) brought up the appellate court documents that Pete sent out. Pete also forwarded this to Atty. Steve Andersson and has forwarded these to the group for review/comment as well. After review of this case and Steve's comments he's a little less worried about the liability issue. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) this is information that can be relayed to the outside folks as well to help aide their fears as well. Turk (Cornerstone) commented on the Steve's last comment – base the guideline off of good data and science.... Pete (TAC) justification is the environmental concerns without the sensible salting guidelines. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) one other thing to share with the group he was reading something in Vermont that they set money aside for residents if they run into issues with their well due to salt. John (Morris Engineering) looking at CDF's website there's a guideline on there for their workbook. Mentioned a flowchart that is also included in Midwest Salt's brochure as well.

Tony (Midwest Salt) what is our timeline for getting this information out to the public? Turk (Cornerstone) have you come across anyone that will put their name on an application rate? Tony (Midwest Salt) no there's just guidelines that should be followed; it's an art since there are so many factors that go into it. Tara (CDF) the key to this is getting the information out, the flow chart would be a good starting point. Pete (TAC) maybe we start with the large class customer – shopping centers, hospitals, etc. and then use the trickledown effect. They want to be environmentally friendly as well. Issue a certification or a sign that could be posted at the parking lots so that we can create demand and awareness. The other thing that works is an awards program and recognition by the communities. Todd (SSC Co-Chair) also issue a sticker for the communities. Tony (Midwest Salt) municipalities are a huge culprit because of the number of roadways, etc. Could a list be created of every municipality, county, etc. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) really likes the award program side of things and NWPA would be a good outfit to be behind this. We would need to develop metrics in order to qualify for the award. Turk (Cornerstone) not just looking at the municipalities, but also looking at the organization side for property managers. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) sort of following the LEED AP BD&G format to get the contractors accredited, and get them on a preferred list in order to be a certified sensible salting. Pete (TAC) stated that we want to keep it reasonably simple as well. Tony (Midwest Salt) what about having property managers sign a pledge as well? Pete (TAC) probably need to put together a short educational piece with the data from ISWS. Scott (SSC Co-Chair) one tablespoon of salt will permanently impact five gallons of water. The order of magnitude of permanent effects. John (Morris Engineering) I didn't like people telling me what to do so I was happy to be proactive when he was at DuPage DOT. Getting buy-in from larger contractors – Tobar out of Rosemont they put on their own seminars as well. Pete (TAC) one other educational component is coming back to Turk's example of replacing the landscaping in Spring.

Pete (TAC) one thing Todd and Scott if you guys will update on the Committee at each TAC meeting. Doug Martin from McHenry is coming to the next TAC meeting as well. The next Executive Committee meeting will be in March if we could have a good report or plan of attack at that meeting so that they understand that we're making some progress.

Scott (SSC Co-Chair) what's the next step? Reach out to Fortin's and see if we can use their material. Tara (CDF) will reach out to Connie at Fortin's to get her opinion and how to incorporate her information. Pete (TAC) asked Walt



(ISWS) to start putting together a one page fact sheet regarding this. Try to couple this with a dollar and cents with the landscaping issue (Turk). Scott (SSC Co-Chair) the tablespoon salt imagery will forward it to the group and perhaps show this at the next TAC meeting. Top down and multi prong approach as well. Will be working with Matt Wittum, Public Works Supervisor of Spring Grove and will be giving presentations to McHenry County Council of Mayors and a similar presentation to McHenry County Council of Government. Pete (TAC) is formed with five counties and a number of COGs as well.

The next meeting will be held on February 12, 2018 at Engineering Enterprises, Inc.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 PM.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Angie Smith, EEI