



Technical Advisory Committee

April 22, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Walt Kelly of ISWS; Angie Smith, EEI; Dr. Tim Loftus, CMAP; Kaitlyn McClain, MPC; Abby Crisostomo, MPC; Kyla Jacobsen, City of Elgin; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Bob Van Gyseghem, City of Geneva; Dr. Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County; Paul Shuch, Kane County; Kurt Thomsen, BACOG; Victor Ramirez, Crystal Lake; Tony Speciale, Village of Sugar Grove; Ed Coggin, McCOG; Angela Zubko, Kendall County; Bob Leibel, City of Aurora; David Schmidt, Village of Barrington and Scott Trotter, Trotter and Associates.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

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

Agenda Changes and Announcements – None at this time.

Approval of March Meeting Minutes – Kyla Jacobsen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Bob Van Gyseghem seconded the motion.

General Discussion on Current Water Use in the NWPA Area: Kyla Jacobsen, Elgin, mentioned that a group of gentlemen that are working in Zimbabwe Africa came in to see how to do jar testing with the Elgin Water Staff. In doing this activity with them Kyla noted higher than normal suspended solids in the Fox. She also mentioned that they ended up with 52 frozen service lines and they just dug up the last one last week and a big chunk of ice came out.

Bob Lieble, Aurora, also noted that they have seen higher solids as well.

Tony Speciale, Sugar Grove, reported that things are status quo.

Bob Van Gyseghem, Geneva, reported that things are status quo as well.

Victor Ramirez, Crystal Lake, stated that they had 54 frozen water service lines over the winter. They also passed a resolution to allow for compensation on residents and businesses water bills if they were asked to keep their water running by the City during the extreme cold temperatures during the winter. It was challenging, time consuming and expensive.

Dave Schmidt, Barrington, they dropped one of their wells by about 15 feet and they had a few frozen lines as well.



NWPA/ISWS Water Use Reporting System – Pete reported that we’ve corrected a couple of glitches in the system. We are continuing to work with everyone that has had an issue. ISWS has been very good about being responsive when wells have not been entered. We will do more of a push now that we have that information corrected. At the next meeting we look at what kind of summary reporting we are going to want.

State and Regional Water Supply Planning – Abby Crisostomo, MPC, gave a brief update on the last meeting that was held a couple of weeks ago. Dr. Tim Loftus, CMAP, indicated that the draft plan did not reflect their comments and additional follow up is needed; they are taking comments until May 15th.

They also talked about the proposed IDNR Lake Michigan Allocation rule changes; one proposed change is to allow a community to receive a partial allocation. To date there is no opposition to this proposed change. NWPA proposed and continues to support this rule change.

Plumbing Code revisions are stalled.

A quick update on the State Revolving Loan Fund – MPC, CMAP, and Mayors Caucus continue to work with IEPA to expand the program and streamline the process.

Available Water Supply from Deep Aquifers in Northeastern Illinois: Preliminary Model Estimates – Dr. Daniel Abrams, ISWS; gave a presentation on the findings of the reports that have been finalized for McHenry County and Kendall County.

Kendall County Groundwater Report has been finalized and is available on-line at <http://www.isws.illinois.edu/pubdoc/CR/ISWSCR2013-05hi-res.pdf>

Save the Date! Kendall County Presentation on the Groundwater Study – Tues., May 27th 2-4 PM

The presentation went through several scenarios using baseline models for now and future use of groundwater. For more information on the presentation please contact: dbabrams@illinois.edu or (217) 693-7656

Daniel would like to consult with NWPA to develop scenarios, each of which will have an “available deep groundwater supply”. Scenarios with a dynamic well network for future simulations.

Strategic Planning – Dr. Tim Loftus, CMAP; presented a draft presentation that anyone could give that promotes NWPA and why we need support from our elected officials and other organizations.

Make changes to NWPA accomplishments: lawn watering ordinance and manual; NWPA/ISWS Water Reporting Tool; E-Newsletter that’s been out since Nov. 2013; website; water conservation bill inserts.

It was suggested that on the Lawn Watering Ordinance slide: include a fact, i.e., grass only needs 1 inch of water a week; also mention the new brochure.



BACOG has contacted to give a presentation. To others that represent COGs let him know and he will schedule a presentation. Also include County Board meetings as well. Tim will also show the presentation at the next Executive Committee meeting so that they can see it. Kyla committed to giving the presentation to ISAWWA Section in July. It was suggested that when presentations are given that they are mentioned or highlighted in the E-Newsletter that goes out.

NWPA – Communication/Outreach – Kaitlyn McClain, AmeriCorps VISTA (MPC), gave an update on the newsletter that went out in April. The Open Rate was 36%; the click rate was 7.2%. Working on May newsletter – featuring the City of McHenry, they just adopted the NWPA Lawn Watering Ordinance and its great timing for the endorsement letters that we’ve been working on.

Kaitlyn reminded the group that Lawn Watering endorsement letters; one from Mayor Weisner to elected officials and one from Pete to water operators will be going out soon. Kaitlyn will work with Mary Randle to get it distributed to all of the COGs.

In regards to the Lawn Watering Ordinance brochure, both a printed version and a web version have been developed. In terms of distribution strategy, if individuals wanted to work with Margaret Schneemann directly, she’s going to have a summer intern to help spread the word with workshops, etc. A motion was made by Ed Coggin for approval of each version of the brochures. Victor Ramirez seconded. The brochures are approved and will go to the next Executive Committee for approval.

Pete gave a reminder that Kaitlyn finishes up with her internship in July.

Other Business:

Water Conservation Workshops at every US Home Depot on Sat., April 26th from 10 – 11:30 AM.

Joint Mtg. with Illinois Groundwater Association, Tues., Oct. 28th – No separate meeting at this time unless something arises so for now we will plan on the co-conference with no separate NWPA meeting.

Next Meeting: Tues., May 27, 2014

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, Recorder