



## Technical Advisory Committee

### The Centre at Elgin

(East Conference Room)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin

April 24, 2018

### Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; MPC; Danielle Gallett, MPC; Paul Schuch, Retired Kane County Water Resources; Walt Kelly, Illinois State Water Survey; Nora Beck, CMAP; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Natalie Karney, Village of South Barrington; Tim Wilson, City of St. Charles; Tim Zasada, Village of Oswego; Tom Weisner, MPC; Bob Kay, USGS; Amy Gahala, USGS; Don Zelinga, Robinson Engineering; Allison Neubauer, Illinois Indiana Sea Grant; Derek Hiland, DeKalb County; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; John Kawka, Morris Engineering; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Molly Wolosyzn, National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS); Jodie Wollnik, Kane County; David Schumacher, City of Aurora; Dave Segal, Elgin Sustainability Committee; Jeff Freeman, EEI; and Angie Smith, EEI

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

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

**Agenda Changes and Announcements:** Scott (McHenry) announced the McHenry County Water Forum that is scheduled for Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a groundwater field trip during the day as well.

**Approval of March Meeting Minutes:** Natalie (S. Barrington) made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Dave (Aurora) seconded. All in favor minutes approved.

#### **General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area:**

Dave (Aurora) the river water is good quality at this time!

**Presentation: Midwest Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) and Tools for Tracking Drought and Managing for Extremes:** Molly (NIDIS) explained what NIDIS is – authorized by Congress in 2006 and reauthorized in 2014 with an interagency mandate to develop and provide a national drought early warning information system. They are supposed to develop a comprehensive system that collects and integrates information on the key indicators of drought in order to make usable, reliable, and timely drought forecasts and assessments of drought and communicates drought forecasts, conditions, and impacts on an on-going basis to decision makers.



There are five key components that they work on:

- Coordinated drought observation and monitoring networks
- Better prediction and forecasting capabilities
- Interdisciplinary federal research with practical applications
- Integrated drought planning and preparedness
- Effective outreach and consistent communication on drought

There are nine regional DEWS in the Midwest. The Midwest is made up of about eight states. The Midwest DEWS was launched in February 2016 and their strategic plan was just released for 2018-2019. They have an active network of about 220 people. The Midwest DEWS priorities: 1., integrate impacts, data, management practices and research into drought planning; 2. Enhance drought observations and data availability; 3. Improve drought early warning and communication capacity; 4. Foster stakeholder collaboration, coordination and relationship building.

Activity 3.1 – Establish Midwest DEWS Communications Working Group (about 30) – determine and establish new modes of communication to DEWS network and public. Communication ideas – email listserv, newsletter or online chat forum.

Activity 3.3 – Monthly webinar (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 1 PM): north Central US Climate and Drought Outlook and quarterly report: Midwest climate and impacts. Can subscribe to either of these items.

Activity 1.3 – Develop a database of drought management actions (response, mitigation, recovery and adaptation) used in the Midwest.

U.S. Drought Portal: [www.drought.gov](http://www.drought.gov)

SP is available online: <https://www.drought.gov/drought/sites/drought.gov.drought/files/Implementation-Plan-December-2016-Update.pdf>

How can NIDIS help the water resources sector?

Access networks – practitioners across sectors and regions

Access science – better forecasts, applied where relevant in decision-making

Assess the impacts of drought to improve response and preparedness

Plan for or mitigate water shortages caused by drought through risk-based drought management planning that

How can the water resources help NIDIS?

Better integrate drought indicators into drought forecasting and assessments

Quantify in \$\$ the value of the work we do

Communication drought forecasts, drought conditions, and drought impacts

Inform research gaps and needs in support of a national drought early warning system

Participate in regional DEWS



Pete (MWCOG) inquired if NIDIS was part of the 2012 Drought Task Force – no they were not. Hopefully moving forward NIDIS would be able to start being involved with any drought task force at this point. NIDIS wasn't in the area back in 2012. Looking like the Midwest will experience more drought flashes instead of a long term drought. Working on how to determine the timeframe and notify people. The predictive models are provided by NOAA and would be under the Outlooks and Forecasts section on the website. NOAA just opened a National Water Center – <http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2015/20150526-national-water-center-opens-on-university-of-alabama-campus-in-tuscaloosa.html> Send link to Molly with stations located on the Fox River – Montgomery, Algonquin, Dayton, and those are helpful for flooding events, but it would also be good to get it for the low flow / drought as well. ([www.water-weather.gov](http://www.water-weather.gov)) Molly will plan to come back and give an update once the NIDIS group gets involved with the State.

**Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update):** Scott (McHenry County) reported that we did get a workable document for the BMPs for Parking Lots. We are looking to get more input from the private contractor side as well. Those sections will be divided amongst the group for re-write for this area. In addition, we will be working on a certification program as well. Wondering if CMAP and/or MWRD could get involved and help push it out. There is a ILCA Summer Snow Days in July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at Pheasant Run Resort and Conference Center in St. Charles. <https://www.ilca.net/summer-snow-days/> Walt (ISWS) will be working on a two page informational document that could be used at the event.

**CMAP (Update):** Nora (CMAP) reminded the group that draft chapters have been released for ONTO2050 and they are available on the website. [http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/654864/FY18-0039\\_Preview\\_Report\\_ca\\_100417\\_lowres\\_spreads.pdf/98ccf77d-fb2e-5dcc-2970-ac0529815065](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/654864/FY18-0039_Preview_Report_ca_100417_lowres_spreads.pdf/98ccf77d-fb2e-5dcc-2970-ac0529815065) Looking for feedback by Fri., April 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be an open public comment period from June to mid-August. The other update is that they are still working on the Regional Water Demand update and they are starting on the preliminary results.

**ISAWWA (Update):** Jeff (ISAWWA) reported on the SB3080 revision that has been distributed. Biggest change is that there needs to be documentation and a time period for which lead service lines would be replaced in the communities. There is a WUC conference call this afternoon.

**MPC (Update):** Danielle (MPC) related to the SB3080 that MPC will be weighing in heavily on this as well in order to figure out the best way to go about it. Have been continuing work in Will County; Tom Weisner and Danielle have been working down there. City of Joliet has issued an RFQ for their water service options. This is very exciting to see that they are moving forward. Also working with the Will County Government League and the Economic Development and putting together a water planning group. It will be similar to the NWPA structure. Also, Green Town will be coming out October 26<sup>th</sup> in Joliet – MPC, Danielle and Tom will be putting the water section together.

**ISWS (Update):** Walt (ISWS) reported that the Rock River Planning has kicked off and they will be giving their presentation. Last Tuesday ISWS held their first Advisory Board Committee. Been contacted by Flint Hills Refinery and they want to drill a new well. They are located in the worst spot, near the Sandwich Fault. Daniel is going to meet with them next week to discuss options with them, but they need the water now.



**IDNR (Update):** Pete (MWCOG) stated that he has spoken to Wes Catoor and he wants to stay engaged with the committee. Still trying to get up here on a quarterly basis. Danielle (MPC) stated that they had a meeting with Wes last week and he is still supportive

**Executive Committee Update:** Pete (MWCOG) stated that Gary Clark is coming to the May 10<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting to give his presentation on Illinois Water Law. Mayor Kaptain has initiated the moveable drinking water display at the Elgin Public Library. MWCOG and NWPA will be heading to Springfield for the Drive Down.

Dave (Elgin Sustainability Committee) reported that Mayor Kaptain will be hosting another presentation on Mon., April 30<sup>th</sup> regarding water as well. Going to be holding events on the weekends trying to draw the public into connecting with sustainability.

**Other Business:**

**Fox River Implementation Plan:** No update at this time.

**IDPH:** Pete (MWCOG) stated that we've already covered the SB3080.

Amy (USGS) Illinois Groundwater Association will have their annual meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> in Havana, Illinois. 10 AM – 3:30 PM meeting in Mason City.

[http://www.illinoisgroundwater.org/meetings/2018\\_Spring/IGA%20Field%20Trip%20-%20Mason%20County2.pdf](http://www.illinoisgroundwater.org/meetings/2018_Spring/IGA%20Field%20Trip%20-%20Mason%20County2.pdf)

The next meeting will be held on May 22, 2018 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 AM.

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