



Technical Advisory Committee
The Centre at Elgin
(West Conference Room)
100 Symphony Way, Elgin

April 28, 2015

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Ed Coggin, MCCOG; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Mike Martens, City of Geneva; John Dillon, City of Batavia; Victor Ramirez, City of Crystal Lake; Angie Smith, EEI; Bob Sasman, Retired ISWS; Bob Benson, Trotter & Associates; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Mike Harvey, Donahue & Associates; Bridget Hardy, NWPAs Intern; Danielle Gallet, MPC; Jennifer Hughes, Village of Oswego; David Schmidt, Village of Barrington; Rebecca VonDrasek, DeKalb County; Paul Schuch, Retired Kane County Water Resources; Dave Schumacher, City of Aurora; Joanna Colletti; McHenry County Planning and Development.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:08 A.M.

Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions: Pete Wallers welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were given by those present.

Agenda Changes and Announcements: There were no changes to the agenda.

Approval of March Meeting Minutes: Paul (Kane County) made a motion to approve meeting minutes; Victor (Crystal Lake) seconded. Motion carries. Minutes approved with one revision; on Page 2: Burlington should be changed to Barrington.

General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPAs Area: Bob (Geneva) brought up the news article that was released on April 27th on the new recommended fluoride levels in water. Jeff (EEI) reported that the federal government came out with the recommended level of 0.7 mg per liter of water. We will monitor this and report on it as it progresses.

Bob (Retired ISWS) brought up the article that was in the paper regarding outside states looking for water from Lake Michigan. John (Batavia) forwarded a similar article to NWPAs and it was briefly discussed as well. It reinforces our efforts to do the water conservation in this area while we can and California becomes a good example for us. Discussion was had regarding full cost water pricing. The next time Margaret (IISG) is here she could expand on that theory as well and dealing with scarcity.



Ed (MCCOG) noted past presentations that were done on the Fox River by ISWS regarding low flows and allowable withdrawals. Could we possibly get Vern Knapp and/or a surface water guy to come up and present as well?

NWPA – Communication/Outreach: Pete (MWCOG) introduced and gave Bridget a warm welcome. Bridget gave a quick introduction of herself. Pete suggested that the group focus on some topics for newsletters in order to help Bridget get focused and ready to move forward.

Articles that we have done:

- Beet juice and other additives
- Water waste – fix a leak week
- NWPA Water Use Water Reporting Tool
- World Water Day
- Lawn Watering Ordinance – McHenry County
- Water Conservation Brochure
- Savings related to Water Conservation (Green Infrastructure, Lawn Watering Ordinance, other BMPs)
- Educating students on water conservation

Possible articles:

- Drought in California and the affects and efforts of water conservation efforts in this area
- Aging infrastructure and water loss accounting and with a tie in to the SRLF program.
- State Revolving Loan Fund updates/process
- Deep aquifer conditions (ISWS reports that were just completed for Kendall County), image showing cone of depression in Joliet
- Chloride levels (closer to winter)
- Unfunded mandates
- Water Rates and Declining use
- New Lake Michigan Rules (Partial allocation would be of interest to NWPA communities)
- Drought Preparedness (NWPA outdoor lawn water conservation ordinance and those that have approved it) Resolution of support if a communities' ordinance is close to our proposed ordinance
- ISWS Partnership (valuable resource – highlight some of their initiatives in place and also going forward)
- Why regional water supply planning is important

Critical items at the moment – #1 Drought with a note on the CMAP funding and any other timely things.

ISWS: Walt (ISWS) reported on the meeting with Joliet (*Available Water Supply to Meet Joliet Water Demands: An Analysis of Available Groundwater and Surface Water*). Those present at that meeting were members from Joliet, Lockport, Shorewood, Rockdale, and New Lenox. Shorewood's referendum just got passed so now they will be going off the deep aquifer. They are aware of the issue with the deep aquifers and the fact that they are dropping very rapidly.

Model simulations for 2014 (static) show that the Ironton Galesville is already showing desaturation. It's important to note that when they are pumping it could drop another 200 feet. The model simulations in 2050



(static) show a huge issue with desaturation. At some point the municipalities in the Joliet region are going to have to look at other water supply sources: Des Plaines River and Illinois River, Kankakee River and DuPage River. There are three primary considerations – water quality, protected minimum flow in the river and treatment and distribution infrastructure.

Not sure what's going to happen with this group, but they are aware of the situation. Daniel has done some more modeling since this meeting and there are a couple of wells that could run dry in 15 years or less. NWPA was brought up at the meeting by Rita Lee (IDNR) and that we would be more than happy to come down and talk to them. IDNR is going to be looking at the surface water alternatives.

Irrigation Reporting – A handbook is available for irrigators to help them with the process on our website. (http://www.sws.uiuc.edu/gws/iwip/irrigation/docs/Irrigation_Handbook.pdf) There are three ways that estimates can be completed by the irrigator.

Water Loss Accounting, Update on IEPA Initiative: Danielle (MPC) reported that the IEPA has received funding for the water loss accounting training sessions throughout the State of Illinois. Phase II will be drafting an RFP for a consultant to come in and help communities to refine these issues in the field. MPC and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus are working on the State Revolving Loan Fund survey. MPC has volunteered to assist with the recommendations and improvements.

They have officially expanded the guidelines to include other projects as well. There also is a program expansion to include stormwater related projects. They did earmark some money for grants for projects such as water auditing.

State and Regional Water Supply Planning, Update – MPC and CMAP: Danielle (MPC) reported on the regional forum. At this time the July and October meetings are still on the calendar, but they could be cancelled. Dan Injerd is the new Director of Office of Water Resources.

Pete (MWCOG) reported that a letter requesting reinstatement of funding for CMAP has been prepared and they will be delivering it to the IDNR Director in Springfield at the MWCOG Drive Down this week.

Executive Committee Update: Pete (MWCOG) reported that the next meeting will be in May.

Other Business: John (Batavia) brought up the Northeastern Illinois Groundwater Protection Group and the possibility of reaching out to them.

The next meeting will be held on May 26, 2015 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 A.M.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI