



## Technical Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting

January 24, 2023

### Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Wallers, MWCOG/EEI; Matt Asselmeier, Kendall County; Derek Hiland, DeKalb County; Faye Sinnott, BACOG; Tim Wilson, City of St. Charles; Gary Clark, Retired IDNR; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Natalie Karney, BACOG; Wes Cattoor, IDNR; Wei Han, IDNR; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Kevin Feckske, Village of Barrington; Caleb Apker, Burns & McDonnell; Matt Wilson, City of St. Charles; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Katie Piotrowska, CMAP; Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Cecelia Cullen, ISWS; Joanna Colletti, McHenry County; Haylee Young, ISAWWA; Amy Gahala, USGS; Judith Thomas, USGS; Nora Beck, CMAP; Brad Merkel, Village of Sugar Grove; Tim Holdeman, EEI; Jeff Babich, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Angie Smith, EEI.

Peter Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.

**Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions:** Pete (MWCOG/EEI) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Agenda Changes and Announcements:** Pete (MWCOG/EEI) distributed a revised agenda that was sent a few minutes prior to the meeting.

**Approval of November Meeting Minutes:** Jerry (SGTWA) made a motion to approve. Matt (St. Charles) seconded. Minutes approved.

**General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area:** Pete announced that CMAP's funding has been renewed for two years by IDNR to assist with NWPA activities.

**Presentation: "Introduction to the NWPA Water Sustainability Plan (WSSP)":** Kelsey (CMAP) gave a presentation on the NWPA WSSP that will be worked on with the group. It is expected to be a two-year planning process. The schedule was shared with the group. TAC roles and expectations were shared with the group. A schedule with topics was shared for the upcoming TAC meetings for this year.

Margaret (IISG) reminded the group of Water2050 demand management strategies. This group will be choosing up to eight strategies for this WSSP. Example strategies were given for quantity: non-revenue water reduction, outdoor lawn watering, conservation water rates, plumbing retrofits and appliance upgrades as well as quality: water considerations. The strategy selection and investigation was reviewed with the group.

Kelsey (CMAP) explained what the plan deliverable would be. It will include an executive summary, plan vision and goals, summary of existing conditions, recommended strategies and potential savings from the



recommended package of strategies. Results will be compared to ISWS sustainable yield values and performance metrics (if available).

Wei (IDNR) commented on how water demand had a significant reduction in the approach that they used in the State Water Plan. By 2050, due to water conservation and water re-use the number will reduce to 50-60 gallons per capita per day. The approach used the data from the last 20 years. This trend cannot continue forever. Pete (MWCOG) questioned how will industrial and commercial use be handled? Margaret (IISG) limited to what resources are available to them.

Jeff (EEI) asked about Kane County Water Sustainability Plan progress and how this could relate to this study as well. Jodie (Kane County) there are two different projects going on. One with Margaret and the water conservation side of things. Currently working on RFPs to get out to the Kane County municipalities. Will be kicking off soon. Three projects with ISWS – going on four months to get the Attorney’s approval. Shallow Ground Water Sustainability Study. Working with Daniel Abrams and gathering e-mail addresses for all of their communities and will be doing a kick-off meeting in early Spring. The other two are to support the SGTWA well modeling network and will have a 3-year program / 5 wells each year. Will be wrapping in some of the PFAS/PFOA testing.

Scott (McHenry County) reported that they are working on their 2050 plan. Number one area of concern is water resources with the board members. Focusing on water conservation as the plan gets developed. McHenry County Water Forum will focus on conservation. looking for suggestions for speakers on water conservation please contact Scott. USGS has published their 2020 report - <https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20225110>

Matt (Kendall County) noted that they are monitoring the efforts by Montgomery, Oswego, Yorkville, and Joliet’s portion in Kendall County for switching to Lake Michigan.

Next step is to adopt a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that the Executive Committee will need to approve. A motion was made by Scott (McHenry County) and seconded by Jerry (SGTWA) for the MOU to be presented to the Executive Committee on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> for consideration and approval.

**Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update):** Scott (McHenry County) reported they are reviewing the training and certification program right now. Will be having a training workshop coming up in March. The manual that has been put together is very well done.

Also, the Salt Smart exhibits are complete and are up at the Gail Borden Library. A total of 10 panels were created to tell the story of Salt Smart as a person walks through. In addition, 12 oz cups will be handed out to show that one cup will take care of one normal sized driveway. It will travel to Joliet, Schaumburg, and Aurora libraries. Pete (MWCOG) complimented Scott on his efforts, our partnership with Conservation Foundation – Mayor Kaptain is extremely happy with how things turned out. There is an event coming up on Tues., Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> at



10 AM there will be an in-person or on-line announcement with Mayor Kaptain, Conservation Foundation and the Library.

**CMAF (Update):** Kelsey (CMAF) gave the update that funding has been received for the next two years and will be working on the WSSP. In July will go back to the Water Demand Forecast as well.

**IISG (Update):** Margaret (IISG) reported that the IDNR funding has come through. Kane County work will be starting as well. Link to Director's blog: <https://iiseagrant.org/the-new-year-brings-a-bounty-of-sea-grant-professional-opportunities/> they won a national competition to study PFAS/PFOA and will be doing grants for that work as well in the great lakes region. Also, have hired two new staff focused on aquatic invasive and fishery issues.

**ISAWWA (Update):** Haylee (ISAWWA) gave an update on education: Mission Monday seminars, PFAS will continue through April. Working full force on WATERCON2023. There are some pre-conference workshops being held on Monday. Other communities coming from out of state to discuss lead as well. A representative will be joining on Tuesday to talk about WATER2050.

**ISWS (Update):** Walt (ISWS) noted that ISWS staff are fully committed with existing studies.

**IDNR (Update):** Wei (IDNR) reported that the CMAF funding is complete. Working with ISWS on funding as well, hoping to have contract signed by end of this fiscal year. Wes (IDNR) also added the State Water Plan has been released. Note: IDNR is in the process of getting a new website.

[https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/WaterResources/Pages/SWPTF\\_Main.aspx](https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/WaterResources/Pages/SWPTF_Main.aspx)

**USGS (Update):** Amy (USGS) gave an update that the McHenry County Report is completed. Happy to give a presentation at any future meeting as well. The PFAS report should be out by March. USGS will be replacing their groundwater watch to a different type of set-up where you can view in real time the water level compared to previous year data. Judith (USGS) gave an update on the Illinois River Basin project that they are collaborating with ISWS and ISGS. <https://www.usgs.gov/news/state-news-release/media-alert-low-flying-helicopter-will-survey-illinois-river-basin-geologic> and <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/cm-water/science/airborne-electromagnetic-aem-survey-2023-illinois-river-basin#overview>

**SGTWA (Update):** Jerry (SGTWA) stated that the Water levels throughout the township are 1 ½ feet below, but almost exactly the same as a year ago. Contract ends with ISWS at the end of the year. They are happy to loan the equipment to Kane County for their new project. Also looking ahead to 2024-2027 nitrates and/or contaminates of chloride.

#### **Other Business:**

Walt (ISWS) asked about the Groundwater Governance in the Great Lakes Region report by the Joyce Foundation. It was noted that CMAF and IISG was invited for implementing some of the recommendations in that report. Walt (ISWS) had a follow-up call with Elizabeth and may be able to help ISWS with their IWIP irrigation numbers. <https://keeler.umn.edu/research/groundwater-governance-in-the-great-lakes-region-2021-2022>



Pending regulations and/or legislative: Jeff (EEI) commented on the IDNR Lake Michigan allocation webinar on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> for comments. These are the existing Lake Michigan users review every 10 years. IEPA SRF is working on a revision to the rule making process. Draft rules have been issued and comments are due by Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Scott (McHenry County) shared that he attended a webinar last week by WaterSense for designation for reverse osmosis systems in regard to removing PFAS. <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-01/ws-products-RO-draft-spec-webinar-slides.pdf> Would be interested in bringing in someone to talk about this topic further.

Kelsey (CMAP) will be putting out the newsletters again so be on the look out for those soon.

The next meeting will be held on February 28, 2023 and it will be virtual.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 AM.

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