



Technical Advisory Committee Via Zoom

January 27, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Wallers, EEI/MWCOG; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Gary Clark, Retired ISWS; Jacob Mann, Village of Wauconda; Jeff Humm, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Jeremi Bryant, Elevate; Matt Asselmeier, Kendall County; Rachael Burchett, Elevate; Wei Han, IDNR; Amy Gahala, USGS; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Carolyn Campbell, McHenry County; Derek Hiland, DeKalb County; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Walt Kelly, Retired ISWS; Kate Evasic, CMAP; Haider Mehdi, IISG; Mike Pubentz, City of Elgin; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Cary McElhinney, EPA; Mary McCann, Retired McHenry County; Terra McParland, IDNR; Joe Munder, City of Aurora; Abbey Matre, IISG; Angie Smith, EEI.

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

Approval of November Meeting Minutes: Jerry Elliott (Sugar Grove Township Water Authority) moved to approve the minutes. Wei Han (IDNR) seconded. Minutes approved.

Presentation: “Cook County Water Affordability Program”: Rachael Burchett and Jeremi Bryant (Elevate) presented this information to the group. The presentation can be found on NWPA’s website under Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Materials.

Presentation: “Conserve Water for Kane Program Updates”: Haider Mehdi (IISG) presented this information to the group. The presentation can be found on NWPA’s website under Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Materials.

Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update): Scott Kuykendall (McHenry County) reported he’s seeing a lot of nonsensible salting going on. He stated that Jerry Glogowski from Algonquin, who is also on the NWPA Executive Committee, shared a flyer regarding Sensible Salting with reference to NWPA. He also noted the NWPA website needs to have some updates on the Sensible Salting information. He will work with Haider to get those made. Natalie Karney also sent some information from South Barrington. He would like to reach out to property managers, so if anyone has any contacts in that area, please share them with him. He would also like to have Salt Smart Conservation create a 2-page document specific to property managers instead of their larger 12-page document. Currently, he has a 15-minute presentation that he gives to real estate agencies.

CMAP (Update): Kate Evasic (IISG) announced that the first water workshop scheduled for February 18th is in the planning process. The registration link is: <https://cmap.illinois.gov/focus-areas/climate/water/water-supply-workshops/>. At a future meeting, she can give an update on the Century Plan. More information on the Century Plan can be found here: <https://cmap.illinois.gov/regional-plan/the-next-plans/century-plan/>.



IISG (Update): Margaret Schneeman (IISG) commented further on the first water workshop and the agenda has been solidified and encouraged registration.

ISAWWA (Update): Jeff Freeman (EEI) reminded the group that WATERCON2026 is coming up April 14-16th in Peoria. The education program has been released: <https://www.isawwa.org/page/watercon2026education>. He also noted the Water Works 360 Conference is August 26-27th in Glen Ellyn.

ISWS (Update): Walt Kelly (Retired ISWS) commented that Ceclia Cullen just sent her last report to him. It summarizes chloride levels in Romeoville. She may be available to present at a future meeting.

IDNR (Update): Wei Han (IDNR-OWR) provided an update on the Statewide Drought Preparedness Plan. A drought subcommittee has been established, and a meeting was held in December. The plan will be a statewide response. They recognize that statewide droughts do not happen very often, but there are regional/local droughts nearly every year. It will be a multi-agency effort. IDNR, IEPA, Dept of Ag, IDPH, Emergency Response and IDOT are involved in the group. More information can be found here: [State of Illinois Drought Preparedness and Response Plan](#). He encourages each water supply planning region to have its own regional/local drought response plan in response to drought conditions.

USGS (Update): Amy Gahala (USGS) reported no major updates to share at this time.

SGTWA (Update): No update provided.

OTHER BUSINESS

Pending legislation: Jeff (EEI) stated the LCRI and PFAS regulation modifications are working their way through the IPCB. The deadline for completion is the end of the week.

Other Business: The next meeting will be held on February 24, 2026, via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 AM.

Submitted by Angie Smith, EEI