



Technical Advisory Committee Zoom Meeting

April 26, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Wallers, MWCOG/EEI; Wei Han, IEPA; Derek Hiland, DeKalb County; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Katie Piotrowska, CMAP; Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Jeff Babich, SGTWA; Jerry Elliott, SGTWA; Nora Beck, CMAP; Natalie Karney, Village of South Barrington; Matt Asselmeier, Kendall County; Faye Sinnott, BACOG; Janet Agnoletti, Retired BACOG; Tim Holdeman, EEI; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Allan Jones, ISWS; Brad Merkel, Village of Sugar Grove; Gary Clark, Retired IDNR; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Dean Farr, McHenry County Soil and Water Conservation District; David Schumacher, City of Aurora; Amy Gahala, USGS; Tim McMahon, CMAP; Tom Kopanski, Village of Montgomery; Cary McElhinney, USEPA; Justin Keller, MPC; Devin Mannix, ISWS; Gordon Smith, Robinson Engineering; Wes Cattoor, IDNR; Angie Smith, EEI

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

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

Agenda Changes and Announcements: Pete (MWCOG/EEI) stated no changes at this time.

Approval of February Meeting Minutes: Jerry (SGTWA) made a motion to approve. Natalie (South Barrington) seconded. Minutes approved.

General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area: Pete (MWCOG) opened the group for discussion. Dave (Aurora) reported nothing new now, regular springtime high flows; nothing abnormal to report. Never figured out what caused the musty smell of the water that was mentioned the last time. City of Aurora was selected as the Water Taste Winner at WATERCON and will be going to Nationals in June.

Scott (McHenry) question in regard to removing PFAS from drinking water through conventional water treatment. Jeff (EEI) there is a lot of attention in PFAS in biosolids and talking about regulations regarding this. As far as conventional treatment for PFAS, it depends on the type of PFAS compounds as to which treatment options will work. Typically, we have seen either ion exchange or granular activated carbon (GAC). Dave (Aurora) added that they have GAC and they have PFAS in the river water. Calgon Carbon has been studying PFAS and their process can break down about 99% of the active compounds.

Presentation: *Groundwater Sustainability Goals in other state planning processes, Margaret Schneemann:* Margaret gave the background on the water sustainability plan that is currently being worked on by CMAP and IISG. Margaret covered three different case studies for Texas, California, and Minnesota.



Groundwater in Crisis? Addressing Groundwater Challenges in Michigan (USA) as a Template for the Great Lakes: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/5/3008>

Jodie (Kane County) shared the following article with the group
<https://kanecountyconnects.com/2022/04/countdown-to-earth-day-invest-in-home-water-conservation-you-and-the-environment-will-see-dividends/>

Pete (MWCOG/EEI) stated that NWPA is going to put together a plan, but each municipality will have to prepare their own Sustainability Plan based off what will work best for them.

Margaret (IISG) shared three questions to the group – 1. What struck you about these planning approaches? 2., Is there a particular aspect of a states' approach you could see working in Illinois? 3. Is there another state you think we should look at?

Scott (McHenry) liked California's approach. Daniel (ISWS) commented on the presentation and how people are calculating the different values. California used a lot of data in order to put this program together. Perhaps somewhere down the road we can start to use our information to see trends in Illinois. Devin (ISWS) commented that Minnesota is one of the heaviest monitored wells states, so they also are data driven.

Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update): Scott (McHenry County) reported that the draft manual has been pulled together and handed over to Connie Fortin for her review. She will provide her comments to the Sensible Salt Smart Committee. Next step is to talk about the application rates; next meeting will be in June.

CMAP (Update): Kelsey (CMAP) reported on the drought vulnerability and they will be developing a series of communication pieces on outdoor water use that will feature some case studies.

ISAWWA (Update): Jeff (EEI) reported that ISAWWA has officially moved to Naperville. WATERCON in March was a great conference, there were about 1,200 in attendance. Upcoming water, wastewater, and stormwater educational sessions both in-person and on-line. ISAWWA has a water trailer that can be used at summer events.

ISWS (Update): Walt (ISWS) reported that they are going to be starting a sampling program in Lake County. Will combine this with the BACOG well monitoring in July.

IDNR (Update): Wei (IDNR) reported that they have received the 2022 update. The CMAP funding is on its way and will reach out to them when it is ready, pending for a new Fiscal Year template.

USGS (Update): Amy (USGS) gave an update on the reports – McHenry is within the review process and moving towards finalization, hope to have out by July/August timeframe. Making progress on the PFAS report, goal is to have the first draft written by June 1st. The Crystal Lake report is also in the review process.

SGTWA (Update): Jerry (SGTWA) reported that the recent rains have helped the area. Blackberry Creek is presently at 74,000. Cecelia from ISWS will be on-site tomorrow to reassess their chloride levels in the wells.



Other Business: Pending legislation and regulations: Pete (MWCOG/EEI) brought up that SB3905 has passed both houses and is going to the Governor for signature.

Jeff (MWCOG/EEI) stated that IDPH has issued a draft blanket variance for the sanitary sewer and water main.

Scott (McHenry County) commented on the Gail Borden Library Exhibit. He had a meeting with Denise from the library and the focus is going to be on sensible salting. He has sent her a link to a presentation that was given to the Sierra Club so she would have a better understanding. She is looking at types of materials and costs and how to move forward. Looking for a Fall rollout.

Scott (McHenry County) also commented that he's seeing a lot more construction (subdivision, etc.) now people are starting to be concerned with having enough water with the growing demands. This could provide opportunities to provide information on water conservation.

Future Meetings: Kelsey (CMAP) provided a survey to the group through Mentimeter in order to determine how to move forward with our meetings. Three options were provided: 1. Meet in-person once a quarter and use zoom the rest of the time; 2. continue using zoom until further notice; or 3. meet in-person each month. Consensus of the group is to go with Option 1 – meet in-person once a quarter and use Zoom the rest of the time.

Jodie (Kane County) thanked ISWS for their work on the gasoline spill in Lily Lake and surrounding area with private wells, etc. Pete (MWCOG/EEI) it would be a good topic on the approach that was taken. Walt (ISWS) reported that Dan Hadley took the lead on the efforts. Margaret (IISG) shared the following link with the group: <https://glsicrudeoiltransport.org/>

The next meeting will be held on May 26, 2022 and tentatively will be in-person at The Elgin Centre. We will reserve the right to return to Zoom at any time due to the COVID variant. The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 PM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI