



Technical Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting

June 25, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, MWCOG/EEI; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Ann Grooms, City of Joliet; Derek Hiland, DeKalb County; Tony Speciale, Retired Village of Sugar Grove/Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Gary Clark, Retired IEPA; Amy Gahala, USGS; Jerry Elliott, Retired Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Dan Nagle, Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Brad Merkel, Village of Sugar Grove; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Haider Medhi, CMAP; Natalie Karney, Retired Village of South Barrington/BACOG; Heidi Voirol, V3 Consultants; Daniel Hadley, ISWS; Wei Han, IDNR; Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP; Trent Ford, ISWS; Matt Asselmeier, Kendall County; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Joe Munder, City of Aurora; Cecilia Cullen, ISWS; Allison Swisher, City of Joliet; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Dean Farr, Illinois Walton Izzak; Wes Cattoor, IDNR; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Mike Pubentz, City of Elgin; Allen Wehrmann, Interra; Angie Smith, EEI.

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

Agenda Changes and Announcements: Nothing at this time.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes: Tony (SG Water Authority) made a motion to approve. Jodie (Kane County Water Resources) seconded. Minutes approved.

Presentation: “Managing Water in the NWPA Region in 2024 and Beyond”: Trent (ISWS) presented this topic to the group. He discussed the groundwater levels in DeKalb County and McHenry County that have been a response to the wet spring for this year. Starting to see a response to the longer trajectory recovery period to closer to normal levels.

Looking ahead there are no immediate drought or flooding concerns in the region. The climate prediction center has been leaning more toward dryer conditions in July and August which is something to keep an eye on. Implications of wetter winters – looking like it’s going to be a La Nina winter this year which will have above-normal precipitation. On the flip side, projections of low flow due to drought project an increase in annual minimum discharge and low flow duration. There’s also a projected shift of low flow later in the fall.

Overall, the region is getting wetter and has a greater range of variability moving forward. Projections of wetter springs – higher peak streamflow (Kim & Villarini, 2023).

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2023GL107480>

Working on a new project – precipitation effectiveness; more intense rainfall can induce a higher runoff ratio.

The group inquired if the models take climate control into them. The models themselves do not consider any climate control policies, but the scenarios that are run take those into account along with other items.



The group inquired if they are seeing advancements with AI in the understanding of local scale impacts vs. global. There are some folks at ISWS working on design standard numbers for municipalities to use for planning purposes.

In regards to monitoring wells in the area – Amy (USGS) reported that no additional wells are planned in McHenry County. Scott (McHenry County) reported that Boone County has hired a part-time water resource specialist. They want to replicate their 3D mapping with USGS. One of their big concerns is land use and recharge area.

Presentation: **“Water Conservation Efforts in the City of Joliet”**: Allison, Ann (Joliet), and Heidi (V3) presented this information to the group. The group will cover the background, development of community water conservation plan, water conservation programs, water rate setting to encourage water conservation, and the next steps. For more information visit their website: www.rethinkwaterjoliet.org

Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update): Scott (McHenry County) no updates today.

CMAQ (Update): Kelsey (CMAQ) reported there are no updates at this time.

IISG (Update): Margaret (IISG) reported there are no updates at this time.

ISAWWA (Update): Jeff (ISAWWA) reported that the Fall Regulatory Update is October 18th in Oak Brook.

ISWS (Update): Cecilia (ISWS) gave the following updates: Dan Abrams is presenting on drain tiles that were done in Lexington, Illinois at a conference in Minnesota – a paper accepted for publication. The Kane County group has met and is continuing to move items forward. ISWS is working on its 3rd quarterly update for IDNR which will be delivered in July. Also, ISWS/USGS Sandwich Fault Zone seismic data will be processing the data over the next few months.

IDNR (Update): Wei (IDNR) commented that the ISWS released water supply data available on their website. Everyone is welcome to review and provide feedback. IDNR is proposing to amend the State Water Use Act of 1983 to revise and expand the Water Use Act to bring it up to date.

USGS (Update): Amy (USGS) no major updates.

SGTWA (Update): Tony (SGTWA) no updates at this time.

Other Business: Nothing at this time.

The next meeting will be held on July 23, 2024, via Zoom. It was noted that there will be one more in-person meeting later this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI