



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2016

Present: McHenry County Board Member Carolyn Schofield, Vice-Chair; North Aurora Mayor Dale Berman, Secretary; Barrington President Karen Darch; South Barrington President Paula McCombie; DeKalb County Board Member Ruth Anne Tobias, Treasurer; DeKalb County Board member Misty Haji-Sheikh; Elgin Mayor David Kaptain, Kane County Board Chairman Joseph Haimann, McCullom Lake President Terry Counley.

Also present: Peter Wallers of EEI, Inc. and Metro West COG Consulting Engineer, TAC Chairman; Jason Novato of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Janet Agnoletti, Barrington Area COG Executive Director; ; and Mary Randle, Executive Director of Metro West COG, Kyla Jacobsen of City of Elgin.

Ms. Schofield opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: After a welcome and introductions, the minutes of September 8, 2016 were approved after a motion by Joseph Haimann and a second by Paula McCombie.

Approval of September - October 2016 Financial Reports: Treasurer Ruth Anne Tobias presented the September through October 2016 financial reports. There was a fund balance of \$22,048.53 on October 31st. We sent \$3,000 to Metropolitan Planning Council to reimbursement them for the intern's salary. The reports were approved after a motion by Karen Darch and a second by Misty Haji-Sheikh. At the request of Mary Randle, the committee voted to donate \$100 in Mayor Weisner's name to the Weisner Family Foundation. The foundation helps young people in the Aurora area who face health and other challenges.

Pete Wallers stated that he also presented a plaque to Mayor Weisner on behalf of the NWPA.

Election of New Chairman Elgin Mayor David Kaptain was unanimously elected to serve as the new chairman after a motion by Dale Berman and a second by Joseph Haimann. It was noted that Mayor Kaptain had a professional background as a water professional. He was also a founding member of the Fox River Study Group.

Presentation: Danielle Gallet was unable to attend because of illness. Pete Wallers presented the report. MPC has developed a presentation on **Solutions to Northeastern Illinois Water Supply Challenges**. Gallet will give a full presentation in January.

They are suggesting 10 action steps that should be taken within the next five years:

- 1) Produce a guide for elected officials.
- 2) Improve state funding stream for water infrastructure.
- 3) Explore opportunities for cost savings in water services.
- 4) Analyze and test equitable rate structures.
- 5) Drive adoption of best practices in water reporting and sensible salting.
- 6) Develop and implement a coordinated plan for Fox River water use.
- 7) Research statistics and opportunities for matching the right water to the right use.
- 8) Update the state plumbing codes.
- 9) Establish a dedicated revenue stream for regional water supply planning.
- 10) Require infrastructure condition reporting.

It was noted that both the City of Joliet and that area's industries are mining the aquifer. This points out the need for planning, coordination and money for water planning.

We will decide which of the 10 goals the NWPA wants to adopt. Carolyn Schofield suggested that we add salt storage to the list of goals. There will be a sensible salting seminar next week in McHenry County.

Jason Novato of CMAP noted that Nora Beck has been attending the TAC meetings. CMAP used to have IDNR funding for water planning but that is gone. CMAP wants to re-engage on water planning. The "lock box" amendment was passed and will mean even less funding available for water planning.

Technical Advisory Committee Report:

The Illinois State Water Survey has studied the desaturation of the St. Peter and the Iron-Galesville sandstone aquifers. The impacts of desaturation include 1) Lost well capacity including some dry wells, 2) water quality impact and 3) the potential for caving.

At this rate the Iron-Galesville aquifer will become desaturated within 25 years at the center of the cone of depression. This poses a real challenge for the southern part of the NWPA region.

SB 500, Lead in Water Bill, Sen. Steans: Kyla Jacobsen gave an update on this bill. The bill was a reaction to the Flint Michigan water crisis. Ninety percent of water operators in the United States add phosphates to their water. A majority of the water operators in Illinois are careful about treating for corrosiveness of water. The USEPA is in the middle of making revisions on its standards. This puts the financial burden back on municipalities. Ms. Jacobsen has information about the Water Utility Council. Their phone number is 847.931.6160. Jacobsen's email is Jacobsen_k@cityofelgin.org.

The Illinois EPA is asking those with construction projects to notify all residents that water may be affected. Most schools don't have lead in their pipes. The proposed bill currently would make municipalities responsible for testing process and the costs of testing water in schools and daycare centers. It would require five samples from each drinking fountain. The legislators are basing their information on the Chicago School System and that is not representative of schools in general.

Peter Wallers thanked retiring executive committee members Joseph Haimann, Ruth Anne Tobias and Carolyn Schofield for their work on the executive committee. This is their last meeting.

The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2017.

Presented by _____ Dale Berman, Secretary