

NORTHWEST WATER PLANNING ALLIANCE

July 14, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: Aurora Mayor Tom Weisner, Chairman; Barrington President Karen Darch; McHenry County Board Member Carolyn Schofield; DeKalb County Board member Ruth Anne Tobias, Treasurer; South Barrington President Paula McCombie; Kane County Board Member Joseph Haimann.

Also present: Peter Wallers, Technical Advisory Committee Chairman; Danielle Gallet of Metropolitan Planning Council; Jaci Amundsen, NWPA Intern; Janet Agnoletti, BACOG Executive Director; Chalen Daigle, MCCG; Angie Smith, EEI.

Mayor Tom Weisner called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and introductions were given by those present.

Approval of Minutes: The March 10, 2016 minutes of the Executive Committee meeting were approved after a motion by Joseph Haimann and a second by Carolyn Schofield.

Approval of Financial Reports: Treasurer Ruth Anne Tobias presented financial reports for March 2016 through June 2016. The June 30, 2016 fund balance was \$23,373.53. They were approved after a motion by Joseph Haimann and a second by Mayor Karen Darch.

Presentation: Kane County Ground Water Quality – Jodie Wollnik: Jodie gave a quick recap on the background work that was completed with Walt Kelly from the Illinois State Water Survey for this project.

The summary that was concluded was that the quality of shallow groundwater in most of Kane County is still good. However, salt run-off continues to be the major source of contamination. This is increasing the salinity of groundwater. They were able to re-sample 55 of those same wells and 13 replacement wells; total wells sampled = 78 which include an additional 10 wells from the Groundwater Quality Database. The samples included two shallow aquifers – shallow bedrock and sand and gravel (glacial).

Things to note:

- Change in Chloride: 5 wells increased more than 100 mg/l.
- Arsenic: 10 wells above drinking water standard (10 micrograms/liter) 9 of these are in shallow bedrock aquifer. The well with the highest arsenic is in a sand and gravel aquifer.

The final report can be found at <http://www.isws.illinois.edu/pubdoc/CR/ISWSCR2016-04.pdf>

Jodie also mentioned that Kane County will be putting together a De-Icing seminar in the Fall. Once the date is established she will send it to Pete to forward to the group. Pete also distributed a flyer for the APWA Snow and Ice Leadership Seminar that is scheduled for Sept.

8th. At the last TAC meeting it was discussed that the committee would look into IDOT and ISTHA to see what their practices were as well.

Carolyn Schofield reported that McHenry County has rolled this information into their small quantity salt program into their ordinance. She will send a copy to Pete; it's something the TAC would be very interested in. It would be similar to the Lawn Watering Ordinance.

Mayor Weisner commented that once their snow plow drivers were educated it made them more aware of the effects of their jobs. Educating the public about the negatives of over salting so that they are aware is a great idea.

Discussion was had in regards to water softeners also attributing to the raise in chlorides. The TAC can look at this topic and see if there's any guidelines that can be put together for just general awareness/education.

Report on Water Supply Forum Event: Mayor Weisner gave a recap of the event and the wonderful speaker that we had. If we receive all of the sponsorships the net proceeds that will go into the NWPA will be \$14,616. That puts us into a good position to potentially do a study or something. Think we should consider doing it annually or every two years? Pete commented without Mayor Weisner and the City of Aurora's involvement it would not have gone as smooth. Pete also recognized Danielle and MPC for putting the forum together and getting the keynote speaker.

Update on Metropolitan Planning Council Water Planning Activities – Danielle Gallett: MPC is working on a short video for some water concerns in Northeastern Illinois. Hope to release that before the end of the year. Also releasing an action agenda for what MPC is going to be working on over the next couple of years. Also working on a 101 Guide for Public Officials to help educate them in their role; hope to have that completed by next year. Will shoot for April 2017 after the next election.

Looking at a Fox River Water Use Plan for all users – will be seeing if there is any interest related to this topic.

Report on Technical Advisory Committee: Peter Wallers, Chairman: One of the things that is really coming to the forefront is demand management for water. This will also tie into water rates as well. Things that we are looking at for this are Seed vs. Sod education. The other thing that will be non-controversial would be to support Water Sense appliances.

Janet inquired about the status of the NWPA Water Sense partners to date. 33 have reported that they have become partners.

<http://www.nwpa.us/pdfs/NWPA%20Members%20in%20WaterSense%20for%20Website.pdf>

Pete reported on the MIB outbreak with the Fox River and the fact that communities have had to have a back-up plan with regards to getting water.

The water reporting that we started was a great thing. The ISWS is hoping to take it over so that we can get some real time reporting. Another great idea would be to get all the communities to use the same terminology when billing for their water.

One of the other things that we thought about doing was short YouTube videos representing NWPA on various topics. Karen Darch commented that if those are done if the community has a cable television they can run those on there as well. Carolyn Schofield commented that all of the topics that have been discussed should be incorporated into the 101 Elected Official Guide that MPC is preparing.

Mayor Weisner also suggested that the lawn watering ordinance be revised in regards to automatic watering equipment with sensors on it. Pete said that the TAC will revisit this and issue an update.

Pete mentioned that attendance by CMAP to the NWPA meetings has declined since Tim Loftus left. IDNR has officially asked for the money back that was allotted to them for water supply planning.

Mayor Weisner's closing comments were geared towards the water forum and thanked the additional people that were involved in the planning process. He opened it up for discussion and feedback.

The next meeting of the NWPA Executive Committee will take place on September 8th in Elgin.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI