



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2016

Present: Aurora Mayor Tom Weisner, Chairman; 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 Misty Hajh Sheikh; Kane County Board Chairman Joseph Haimann; McHenry County Board member Mary McCann.

Also present: Peter Wallers of EEI, Inc. and Metro West COG Consulting Engineer, TAC Chairman; Janet Agnoletti, Barrington Area COG Executive Director; Colin Duesing, Will County Planner; Dan Hadley of Illinois State Water Survey; George Roadcap, ISWS; and Mary Randle, Executive Director of Metro West COG.

Mayor Weisner 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 July 14, 2016 were approved after a motion by Dale Berman and a second by Joseph Haimann.

Approval of June through August 2016 Financial Reports: In the absence of the treasurer, Mary Randle presented the June through August 2016 financial reports. There was a fund balance of \$25,149 on August 31, 2016. The reports were approved after a motion by Karen Darch and a second by Joseph Haimann.

990-N Tax Filing: Mary Randle stated that she filed the 990-N Postcard filing for small nonprofit organizations with Internal Revenue Service for NWPA fiscal year ending on April 30, 2016.

Presentation: Daniel Hadley, Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) hydrogeologist, presented a report on *Visualizing Groundwater Resources within an Interactive Map*. Mr. Hadley noted that the presentation is still a work in progress. He also presented the report to the NWPA Technical Advisory Committee. The purpose is so planners, engineers and water operators will have access to groundwater and surface water information. This is critical information to have when siting a well. This enables us to graph water usage. Most of this reports on Illinois municipal water supplies and some county water supplies. The report also contains information on who is buying water from whom. It tracks changes in water supplies including economic and other factors. The following types of water supplies are addressed: 1) sand and gravel systems, 2) aquifers and 3) shallow bedrock. The map shows each well on each aquifer.

Mr. Hadley noted that if they see major changes in how much water is being withdrawn, they check with the municipality or county to see if there is an error in the figures or if there was truly a major change or event, such as a drought, to justify the increase. ISWS is trying to make the map easy to use and accessible. They also want to add industrial users. The map/report now covers from 1980 through 2013 and shows 75,000 gallons a day of withdrawals. Peter Wallers stated it would also be helpful to track growth in population. The groundwater resource map is now available on the ISWS website.

Report on Illinois State Water Survey: Dr. George Roadcap presented a report on the Illinois State Water Survey. Peter Wallers stated that the ISWS has been a valuable partner to the NWPAs. If there is anything that we can do to advocate for funding of the Prairie State Institute, we should do so. Dr. Roadcap said that he is pleased that the Surveys are working well together and that they are also building on what others have done. He noted that there is a meeting with Illinois Department of Natural Resources next week. They will discuss where water supply planning should go at this point.

He also stated that there is some evidence of oil in the Channahon and Shorewood areas' water supplies.

Peter Wallers stated that he would like to see even more interaction among the three agencies when it comes to water supply and quality issues when wells are to be drilled. The ISWS is working on real-time water level data in northeastern Illinois.

Technical Advisory Committee Report: Peter Wallers said that our NWPAs water reporting tool was developed two years ago. We do not have any staff to keep maintaining it. We had tried to get IDNR to take this over. We have now transferred this function to the ISWS. The TAC is going to work on getting the word out to water operators, encouraging them to start, and keep using this tool.

NWPA Newsletter: Mr. Wallers noted that it would be helpful to have our NWPAs intern based with Metropolitan Planning Council. We could then reimburse them the budgeted \$3,000 per semester that we have budgeted for the intern.

Water Conservation: There is a tremendous benefit in drop of per capita water usage when using water conservation measures such as the outdoor watering schedule. We are working on the seed versus sod basis of water usage. Mayor Weisner stated that we need to get smart politically and in terms of conservation. We need to get our NWPAs newsletter out to all elected officials in the NWPAs area.

Mayor Weisner's Retirement: Peter Wallers thanked Mayor Weisner for his pivotal role in forming the NWPAs and building its success. Presidents Berman and Darch have also been with us from the beginning. The initiative initially grew out of CMAP's Water 2050 Program. It was formed as a voluntary partnership between municipalities and counties. This meeting will be Mayor Weisner's final NWPAs meeting because he is retiring. The group added their thanks in acknowledgement of Mayor Weisner's role.