



Technical Advisory Committee

The Centre at Elgin

(West Conference Room)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin

January 26, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Danielle Gallett, MPC; Amy Gahala, USGS; Angie Smith, EEI; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Donald Pfeffer Sugar Grove Water Authority; Bob Benson, LCML; Tom Ruzicka, Village of Bartlett; John Sterrett, Kendall County; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Paul Schuch, Retired Kane County Water Resources; Mike Palmer, City of McHenry; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Water Authority; Bob Sasman, Retired ISWS; Rebecca VonDrasek, DeKalb County; Todd Hoppenstedt, Village of Montgomery; Andy Resek, City of Crystal Lake; Ed Coggin, MCCG; Kyla Jacobsen, City of Elgin; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Amy Gahala, USGS; Ryan McDillon, Village of Lake in the Hills; Wes Cattoor, IDNR; Tim Wilson, City of St. Charles; John Dillon, City of Batavia; Bob Leible, City of Aurora; Jennifer Hughes, Village of Oswego; Karen Young, City of St. Charles; John Dillon, City of Batavia.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions: Pete Wallers welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were given by those present.

Agenda Changes and Announcements: None at this time.

Approval of July and September Meeting Minutes: Paul Schuch (KC Retired) made a motion, Mike Palmer (MH) seconded. Minutes are approved.

General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area: Kyla (EG) water quality is good. Dealing a lot with questions with lead and the issues in Flint, Michigan issue and the new issue in Ohio. The City will be having a public discussion tomorrow night at the City Council meeting.

Todd (MO) a lot of inquiries regarding lead issues. Simply stating what we're doing at the local level and not speaking to the Flint, Michigan issue at all.

Wes (IDNR) all the water quality issues are going directly to the IEPA.

Bob (AU) stated that they have had some questions regarding this as well. There was an article in the Beacon today that John (BA) was quoted in regarding this issue as well.



(<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/aurora-beacon-news/news/ct-abn-water-safety-st-0126-20160125-story.html>)

Presentation: Dr. Abrams (ISWS) gave a quick update on what the ISWS has been up to since the last time we met. The ISWS has drilled a well in Kendall County – south of the Sandwich Fault near Newark. This was done to help us better understand the system. USGS came out from Arizona to do the drilling. The well is open to the St. Peter (500 feet below) and one is open to the Ironton-Galesville (1100 feet below). They are not connected. We’re seeing about a 75 foot difference in the aquifers. Will have a short article on their website; will share it with the group. Will also share the well log with the group. We also took water quality samples every five feet or so. We are waiting on those results.

At the moment ISWS has 18-19 wells that have been drilled for observation. We are looking to expand that though to about 30 wells. Currently looking to take over the well at the old Joliet prison. Also in discussion with Elwood on a couple of wells that they would like to take over. The observation network includes the northeastern portion of the state, but would eventually like to expand that to the entire northern half. The goal is to have the data be “real time”.

ISWS has also started a YouTube channel – look for Illinois State Water Survey.
(<https://www.youtube.com/user/StateWaterSurvey>)

Dr. Abrams gave a presentation entitled “*Revisiting Water Demand Forecasts in Northeastern Illinois: Observations and Lessons Learned – Part I*”. He took the 2005 data and has now entered the 2006-2012 data for the 11 county northeastern Illinois region. It was projected to show a decrease from 2005-2010 because of the recession. 2005 was a drought year; demands were based off a normal climate. 2012 was also a drought year. Projections were exaggerated due to climate conditions. Over the regional trends we don’t see the drought affecting the withdrawals. We also did this for Kendall, Kane and McHenry Counties. With the corrections of the climate conditions the projections show that Kendall County is close to the MRI while Kane and McHenry County are below the LRI. Looking at Yorkville, Joliet, and Huntley specifically. It shows that Yorkville is above the MRI. Joliet is close to BL and Huntley is close to BL as well. All of these projections are based off the 2005 projections by Dr. Ben.

Pete (MWCOG) suggested collaborating with CMAP in order to get the updated population projections. Paul (KC Retired) mentioned that we should also keep the drought years in mind when doing the projections so that we don’t run out of water when there is a drought year. Should also extend the drought for more than one year at a time. Margaret (IISG) reminded everyone that this is showing demand and not supply.

The second thing that was observed was that the Industrial pumpage – before adjustment didn’t turn out so well. It was forecast based off a regional demand based off USGS regional plan. It was applied to all scenarios. The projections were way too high so what we see now is way lower. Now they are going to simulate a no growth model. Going to need some assistance in changing the slope – take 2005 to 2012 data and you’re going to get a completely different timeline. Ideally it would be nice to work with CMAP, an economist and ISWS to put all the data together.

Part II – will be discussed at the next meeting.



NWPA – Communication/Outreach: Pete (MWCOG) meeting packet includes the 2016 calendar. Will probably cancel the March 22nd meeting since it's during WATERCON.

Pete (MWCOG) commented that we have been without an intern so our newsletter has been on hold. Danielle (MPC) is interviewing candidates right now. MPC is going to be leading the charge for our interns.

Pete (MWCOG) commented on the grant offer from the Sugar Grove Water Authority. At the next meeting we are going to review our strategic plan and at that meeting we will be able to identify 1-2 projects.

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG) Program – Pete (MWCOG) recapped when Adrienne Gulley from the IISG was at the last meeting. This was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting and they were generally receptive to the idea as long as it was voluntary. Take a look at it and come prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

MPC Update: Danielle (MPC) gave an update on their efforts. Want to continue having regional water supply discussions so they have put together a small advisory group. Will be putting together an actionable agenda with the top issues in the area.

ISWS: Walt (ISWS) reported that Scott Meyer retired at the end of December. Just finished the Kane County report on water quality. Also looking to focus on the Sandwich Fault area and see what the difference is in those aquifers.

Water Loss Accounting, Update on IEPA Initiative: Danielle (MPC) recapped the education initiative. They are interested in providing more training; however they are currently unable to do so due to the budget issues.

Pete (MWCOG) inquired of the group how many have taken the training. A number of utilities indicated that they have taken the training. It would be nice to get the LRI's and get a database put together. Something to discuss in the future is sending out a survey to gather the data.

Low Interest Loan Program Revisions: Danielle (MPC) reported on MPC working with IEPA on the SRLF program. Working with IEPA to push through the recommendations in the report that was released last October. Stormwater is now included as well.

State and Regional Water Supply Planning, Update – MPC and CMAP: Wes (IDNR) the regional planning committee still has a balance sitting there. Still in a holding pattern to see when funding can be freed up.

Executive Committee Update: Pete (MWCOG) reported that the Executive Committee meeting was earlier in January. The major item was the Water Forum Day on May 12th. It will be co-hosted by MPC, City of Aurora and NWPA at Two Brothers in Aurora. Going to ask IDNR and ISWS to speak as well.

Other Business: Pete (MWCOG) commented on the Fox River Implementation Plan. It has been submitted to IEPA. Kyla (Elgin) a couple of key people from the board are going to meet with the IEPA next Wednesday. She will plan to give an update at the next meeting.



Pete (MWCOCG) commented on the MS4 NPDES permit. There will be changes on the ILR 40 permit. The statewide permit is also going to address inventory and nutrient removal. Testing will be an option and not required at this time.

Pete (MWCOCG) next month we will concentrate on Dr. Abrams Part II presentation and will be revisiting NWPA's Strategic Plan and start promoting the May 12th date. Also mentioned the presentation that Janet Agnoletti gave at the Executive Committee meeting and she will be here in April to give that to the group.

Mentions of the upcoming technical sessions at WATERCON2016 were given. Check out the program here: http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/isawwa.site-ym.com/resource/collection/C6B9544F-C028-45A3-B251-C6F4E66F9CEB/WATERCON2016_preconf_FINAL_lores.pdf

Amy (USGS) will also be hosting a session on water quality monitoring soon.

The next meeting will be held on February 23, 2016 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 AM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI