



## Technical Advisory Committee

### The Centre at Elgin

(West Conference Room)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin

February 23, 2016

### Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Danielle Gallett, MPC; Amy Gahala, USGS; David Schmidt, Village of Barrington; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Township; Bob Benson, LCML; John Sterrett, Kendall County; Trotter and Associates; Dave Segal, Elgin Sustainability Committee; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Joanna Coletti, McHenry County; Rebecca VonDrasek, DeKalb County; Todd Hoppenstedt, Village of Montgomery; Ed Coggin, MCCG; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Tim Wilson, City of St. Charles; Bob Leible, City of Aurora; Don Zeilenga, Robinson Engineering; Jaci Amundsen, NWPA Intern; Jeff Freeman, EEI and Angie Smith, EEI.

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:** Ed (MCCG) made a motion, Todd (MO) seconded. Minutes are approved.

**General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area:** Bob (AU) commented with the warmer weather coming up things were going well.

Jodie (KC) stated that the County has completed the report for their wells.

**NWPA – Communication/Outreach:** Pete (MWCOG) commented on the new intern – Jaci and welcomed her.

Pete (MWCOG) stated that we will suspend the grant offer from Sugar Grove Water Authority until we get through the strategic plan review.

**Strategic Plan Update:** Danielle (MPC) opened up by reminding the group of the Mission/Vision statement of the NWPA.



Accomplishments to date:

- 2014-2016 Strategic Plan
- Monthly newsletter
- Internship program
- NWPA/ISWS Water Reporting Tool
- NWPA Fact Sheet
- Municipal Outdoor Water Conservation: Manual, Resolution of Support and Ordinance
- Public education: brochures and bill inserts

Danielle asked what is the value in NWPA? Todd (MO) collaboration and strength in numbers. Ed (MCCG) the networking opportunities in McHenry County – chlorides. Getting exposure to all of the expertise in the room. Pete (MWCOG) collaboration to ISWS, USGS. Jerry (SGWA) this group offers the best opportunity for our small rural communities.

Danielle (MPC) stated that there were three goals for today:

1. Identify 2-3 manageable priorities that but for the NWPA would not happen
2. Discuss workable structure to accomplish these priorities
3. Ideas for upcoming newsletters (again)

Danielle (MPC) reminded the group what the established goals for NWPA are:

- A. Building the organizations capacity to achieve mission.
- B. Provide education and outreach to raise awareness of the value of water as a finite asset.
- C. Develop sustainable water-use policies and practices

Discussion was had amongst the group regarding the collaboration efforts. It was suggested that NWPA present at a Kane County Water Association meeting in order to get the communities that are involved to show up to the meeting so that they can be a part of this organization.

Goal A: Build the organizations capacity to achieve mission

Possible ideas:

- NWPA membership dues
- Pursue grant opportunities
- Develop working groups and/or sub-committees to carry out specific NWPA initiatives
- Other

Pete (MWCOG) agrees that we need to get more membership here at the meetings.

Goal B: provide education and outreach to raise awareness of the value of water as a finite asset.

Possible ideas:

- Concerted effort to promote existing resources
- Brochures, videos, ordinances, bill inserts, etc.



- Water resources engagement presentation for utilities to use in their local schools
- Prepare brief(s) for newly elected officials and/or general public about running a water system
- Seed or sod promotion

Goal C: develop sustainable water-use policies and practices that are widely adopted and protective water supplies.

Possible ideas:

- Work with IWIP to track historical annual water use by NWPAA member
- Promote wintertime “sensible salting” as standard practice
- Promote adoption of BMPs in water loss control (non-revenue water & M36)
- Reinvigorate adoption of outdoor lawn-watering ordinance

Brainstorm:

What initiative ideas might you have that the NWPAA could consider working on together in the coming year that aligns with NWPAA’s mission + objectives?

**Build Capacity:**

- Find ideal budget and goal to accomplish it
- Creation/formation of subgroups
- Survey to NWPAA members regarding desires/topics – what is the NWPAA image?
- Develop advantageous relationships with other organizations

**Education/Outreach:**

- Develop outreach for a new target audience
- Define our message for deliverables based on sound science, impactful storytelling and underlying mission
- Plan for member outreach through cohesive presentations by multiple members along with metrics
- Engagement opportunities for NWPAA members (also under Build Capacity)
- Development of one-pager that the media can use to write the NWPAA story

**Develop Policies and BMPs:**

- Reinvigorate IWIP reporting tool
- Review of new MS4 permitting and how it might aligns with BMPs NWPAA is interested in
- Exploration of a voluntary data sharing
- Pilot project to test performance of monitoring for data
- Looking at water reuse

Danielle (MPC) will poll the TAC members via a survey to get their feedback. We will be hitting the ground running in 2016 and carry that momentum into 2017.

**Other Business:** Pete (MWCOC) next month we will concentrate on Dr. Abrams Part II presentation and revisiting NWPAA’s Strategic Plan and start promoting the May 12<sup>th</sup> date. He also mentioned the presentation



that Janet Agnoletti gave at the Executive Committee meeting and she will be here in April. We will also discuss the Seed or Sod Brochure.

The next meeting will be held on April 26, 2016 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Angie Smith, EEI