



## Technical Advisory Committee

### The Centre at Elgin

(West Conference Room)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin

February 24, 2015

### Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG, Jennifer Hughes, Village of Oswego; Kyla Jacobsen, City of Elgin; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Scott Meyer of ISWS; Tim Loftus, CMAP; Amy Gahala, USGS; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Bob Leible, City of Aurora; Andy Resek, City of Crystal Lake; John Dillon, City of Batavia; Dave Segel, City of Elgin Sustainability Commission; David Schmidt, Village of Barrington; Rebecca Von Drasek, Dekalb County; Joanna Colletti, McHenry County Planning & Development; Danielle Gallet, MPC; Josh Ellis, MPC; Danielle Taylor, NIU Student; Margaret Schneeman, UIC; Bob Sasman, Retired State Water Survey; Mike Palmer, City of McHenry; Jon Schmitt, City of McHenry; Walt Kelly, ISWS; Angela Zubko, Kendall County; Jon Hortness, USGS; Margaret Schneemann, Illinois Indiana Sea Grant (IISG); Angie Smith, EEI.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:04 A.M.

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

**Agenda Changes and Announcements:** There were no changes to the agenda.

**Approval of November and January Meeting Minutes:** Angela (Kendall County) made a motion to approve both meeting minutes; Kyla (Elgin) seconded. Motion carries. Minutes approved.

**General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area:** Kyla (Elgin) reported that the cold is causing some issues with some of their equipment at the Water Treatment Plant. From a water quality standpoint chlorides are holding steady. She also mentioned that they have not had as many water main breaks as last year; it's actually lower than normal.

Jon (McHenry) the fluctuations of temperatures seems to keep things active (relative to main breaks). Definitely better than last year.

Jodie (Kane County) reported Tim Loftus was at their meeting last week giving a presentation about NWPA. Kane County is working with ISWS and testing 75 wells within the County.

Bob (AU) running about 75% river water right now. Treatment conditions are good.



**Presentation: “Review of Strategic Plan” – Dr. Tim Loftus, CMAP**

Tim (CMAP) led a discussion through the five worksheets that summarize the strategic plan. Specific attention was given to the following items.

***Goal B: Provide Education and Outreach to Raise Awareness of the Value of Water as a Finite Asset Strategy, No. 5 – Encourage adoption of Water 2050 recommendations.***

Tim (CMAP) posted the question: Should it go to the Executive Committee? Jennifer (Oswego) it’s more of an overarching goal, but the TAC is doing the basic work and bringing recommendations to the Executive Committee and having them support them.

Regarding Water 2050, Angela (Kendall County) noted we might need to remind people what the recommendations are since it has been five years since the report was completed.

Danielle (MPC) the TAC needs to say that specific elements of Water 2050 should be taken to the Executive Committee so that they can adopt them and promote them.

Pete (EEI) suggested that a Top 10 list be created that could be presented to the Executive Committee for promotion and adoption.

Tim (CMAP) will create the list and bring it back to the March meeting. Two of the items on the list should be the lawn watering ordinance and the monthly water use data as well.

***Goal C: Develop sustainable water-use policies and practices that are widely adopted and protective of water supplies, Objective 4: Make recommendations to protect ground and surface water quality, No. 15 ~ Promote wintertime “sensible salting” as the defacto standard practice at state, county, township, and local events of road maintenance responsibility.***

Pete (EEI) McHenry County has done great things regarding this. The difficult part is that residents expect their streets to be cleaned immediately following a snow storm. It takes time to educate everyone.

Jodie (Kane County) DOT does training for just DOT staff. The training is not open to Township Road Districts or Municipalities.

Amy (USGS) we need to know where it’s going. Walt and Daniel (ISWS) we could do some modeling to see if we can figure that part out, but we’re not ready to do that yet. It’s something we could shoot for in the future.

Josh (MPC) do the County’s or municipalities actually have a sensible salting policy? If they do we could try to get the Executive Committee to adopt it.



Jon (McHenry) the Village of Wauconda has a policy in place. McHenry County puts out a public notice and they cut their salt by 30% and all of their operators have to go through McHenry County's salting program. (Side note: This would be a great case study for the newsletter.)

Jennifer (Oswego) reported that they just calibrated their trucks and they have adopted some internal policies as well. Also need to include the commercial entities as well.

Walt (ISWS) also should consider the environmental issues as well – lawns, trees, bushes, etc. and gray infrastructure as well.

Josh (MPC) like the idea of surveying people to see what people are doing and not doing.

**Goal C: Develop Sustainable Water-Use Policies (ISWS)**

Tim (CMAP) noted that he had made some changes to the language for item no. 13 and he also added Year 1 accomplishments and Course Corrections.

**NWPA – Communication/Outreach:** Pete (EEI) reported that we did post for an internship. Applications are due by March 1<sup>st</sup>. A plan will be put into place so that interviews and a recommendation can be taken to the Thurs., March 12<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting.

Tim (CMAP) *Friends of the Fox River* organization might be a way to reach one of our goals of reaching K-12<sup>th</sup> grade. He suggested that Gary Swift come in and talk about this at either the March or April meeting. Co-participating with this organization would be a great idea.

Kyla (Elgin) went through the history of the *Friends of the Fox River*. Things are getting funded as things move forward. This happens during the school year. The program has skyrocketed now and we are looking to incorporate someone out of Kendall or LaSalle County. It's a way to get the kids involved. They do have a Facebook page.

Josh (MPC) it would be nice to see who they are working with so then we know who they're not working with so that would help create a target audience.

Janet (McHenry) McC program that go out and work with schools and students. They also do a youth Groundwater Event. Start with the kids and it feeds back to the parents.

Josh (MPC) when we get our intern that person can do some research regarding environmental programs for our youth.

Margaret (IISG) gave a brief overview of an educational component for water conservation. We did talk about putting together two promotional videos; peer to peer and one to show in the classroom. We have the story board and people who are willing to participate in the video, but right now we are looking for funding



Kyla (Elgin) mentioned that she also participates in the Northeastern Regional Water Protection District. Kyla knows that Deb Peramond would be a good resource to talk with. Kyla will talk to her .

Pete (EEI) inquired as to if there were any grants that are available?

Jeff (EEI) expressed concerns with the Common Core Standard and that it may be hard to get buy-in at the school districts.

Next steps: one page top level proposal that can be taken to the Executive Committee meeting in May. This will give us time to find alternate funding sources.

Tim (CMAP) inquired if there are summer programs that are available? Josh (MPC) Forest Preserves or Park Districts might be another route to try.

**ISWS: Presentation: “Update on Synoptic Measurement of Sandstone Aquifers” – Scott Meyer and Dr. Daniel Abrams**

An updated map was distributed that showed Lake Michigan water use, as well as groundwater use, in Northeastern Illinois throughout the second half of the 1900’s into the beginning of the 2000’s.

The PowerPoint presentation showed the 195 facilities that were visited from July 2014 to present; 142 Public Water Supplies and 53 self-supplied commercial and industrial or irrigation. Over 500 wells have been tested thus far.

Sandwich Fault, has a large influence on the heads of the aquifers in the Chicago region. It was noted that there are several YouTube videos on Sandwich Fault zone that will show you what it looks like.

They will be re-contouring all of the information from 1980 on through time using one uniform approach. All of the contour maps being shown are drafts and they require some clean-up.

Map showing head change from 1980 to 2014. In Kendall County there seems to be very high pumping going on, it’s close to the Sandwich Fault and the timing of the readings. There a number of wells that are only open to the Ironton-Galesville aquifer only. There is a head difference of 500 feet in some of the wells. There are multiple factors that are being juggled in order to get these issues resolved.

Jeff (EEI) commented that many municipalities are putting in wells in the Ironton-Galesville only. Suggested that the Campton Hills area would be a spot to check on for a head difference with the St Peter formation.

Moving into the Eastern Joliet area the drawdown is much more than anticipated. Western Joliet shows that there is a pretty steady drop from 2007 to 2014 because the water level has fallen below the St. Peter. The concern is that by 2050 the model is simulating that we will see the endangerment to the Ironton-Galesville.

Model simulation – Assumption No. 1 – small exchange of water between St. Peter and Ironton-Galesville sandstones.



Assumption No. 2 – large exchange of water between St. Peter and Ironton-Galesville sandstones. In this scenario, a large zone of complete desaturation occurs in the St. Peter sandstone by 2050. The head is still greater than 200 feet above the top of the Ironton-Galesville.

At the moment these are still in draft form; hoping to have more information in coming months.

**Water Loss Accounting, Update on IEPA Initiative:** Danielle (MPC) and Tim (CMAP) stated that March 18<sup>th</sup> will be the sub-committee only putting together an RFP for Phase II. The full committee can expect to meet at the beginning of April.

**State and Regional Water Supply Planning, Update – MPC and CMAP:** Tim (CMAP) and Danielle (MPC) gave a summary of the first Water2050 meeting; 60 people in attendance. Next meeting is Thurs., April 16<sup>th</sup> to be held at CMAP. Working on the agenda right now. Trying to get the new IDNR Director – Rosenthal to attend. Also, invited Lisa Bonnett, IEPA Director as well.

MPC is working on a survey that is going to be sent out in regards to the Low Interest Loan State Revolving Loan Fund.

**Executive Committee Update:** Pete (EEI) reported the next Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2015.

**Other Business:** Walt (ISWS) will be meeting with several officials and staff from Will County/Joliet in April. They will plan to provide an update after the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2015 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 P.M.

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