



Technical Advisory Committee

The Centre at Elgin

(East Conference Room)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin

September 26, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; MPC; Kyla Jacobsen, City of Elgin; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Water Authority; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County; Danielle Gallet, Metropolitan Planning Council; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Tim Wilson, City of St. Charles; Paul Schuch, Retired Kane County; Walt Kelly, Illinois State Water Survey; Jason Thomason, Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS); Jeff Freeman, EEI; Janet Agnoletti, BACOG; Jim Eggen, City of Joliet; Margaret Schneemann, IISG; Tim Zasada, Village of Oswego; Allison Neubauer, IISG; Natalie Carney, Village of South Elgin; Jeff Babich, Sugar Grove Water Authority; Jillian Kiss, Trotter and Associates, Inc.; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Todd Hoppenstedt, Village of Montgomery; Dave Schumacher, City of Aurora; and Angie Smith, EEI.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

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

Agenda Changes and Announcements: None at this time.

Approval of July Meeting Minutes: Paul (Kane County) made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with one minor correction; on the 2nd page add word "model" after Texas aquifer. Jerry (Sugar Grove Water Authority) seconded. All in favor minutes approved.

General Discussion on Current Water Topics in the NWPA Area: Kyla (Elgin) reported that the river is somewhat cooperating, she noted it is summer and we haven't had rain for eight weeks. She also reported that she had a summer intern from the University of Illinois that was doing some samples and analysis at five sample spots on the river. They are still taking weekly samples because they were seeing some high readings for the algae bloom.

Jim (Joliet) noted Water Commission meeting will be Oct. 26th; still working on agenda and other details.

Jerry (SG Water Authority) reported that they have installed their second well monitoring system near the Aurora Airport. Working on another site, just north of the airport off of Heartland Drive. Reminded everyone that they are using the Well 'n Tell system. Pete (MWCOG) suggested that it would be a good idea to give a report to the group after all five monitoring systems have been installed.

Bob (Geneva) discussed his dealings he's been having with IDPH in regards to lead service lines. He reported that he has met with Justin DeWitte at IDPH and they will not approve partial lead line replacements. Suggestions were to do some sort of grant program, hire a contractor. Last thing they did was offer a credit to the residents for flushing their



lines and a faucet filter; last letter that was sent to IDPH for approval. As of today he still hasn't heard back from them. Looking forward to the regulatory update to hear their stance on this topic.

Tim (St. Charles) reported that they are starting their phosphorus project at the WWTF and they currently have an RFQ out for the Water Master Plan Update.

Presentation "New Approaches to Mapping Aquifers in Illinois" by Jason Thomason (ISGS): Jason's presentation went through how his group works closely with Walt's group in order to map the aquifers in different parts of Illinois. They prepare two dimensional maps of various aquifers where each color depicts different materials. They are currently looking at how to utilize different tools in order to get the information gathered quicker so that questions can be answered in a more timely manner. He went into great detail over the process for figuring out what's beneath our feet. It is a very laborious effort in order to pull all of this information together. He showed some examples of their on-line interactive products that will allow anyone to draw cross-sections in order to see the 3D information. He noted that they are also working with ISWS to integrate the water flow modeling data.

IISG – Buffalo Grass Brochure Discussion: Margaret and Allison (IISG) gave a quick presentation on the Lawn to Lake program which has been in place since 2010. Created NWPA Resources: Lawn and Landscape; Seed or Sod?; Household Water Efficiency; Conserving Water Outdoors. All of these brochures are available on the NWPA website at: <http://www.nwpa.us/resource-center.asp>

Buffalograss brochure discussion – northern Illinois is a cool season grass area; Buffalograss is considered a warm season grass. Looking for general direction on how to proceed.

Pete (MWCOG) reported that the original suggestion was just buffalograss, but if there are other types of grasses that are similar that are more drought tolerant. Danielle (MPC) suggested that you take a look at the climate changes vs. cool and warm grasses. The whole point is to come up with a replacement to Kentucky bluegrass that takes less water and is more drought tolerant. All warm season grasses will be brown 8 out of the 12 months as the temperature sits right now.

Allison will take the notes from today's meeting and put together an outline and come back to the October meeting.

Todd (MO) there is a podcast called Lawn Order from Hudson Florida that talks about this – <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/lawn-order/>

CMAP (Update): Nothing at this time.

ISAWWA (Update): Kyla (Elgin) reported that the Water Utility Committee (WUC) continues to meet. They are continuing to educate the child care facilities. Continuing to work with IDPH on language. On October 19th they will be hosting the Annual Regulatory Update; starts at 8 AM – 3 PM. Registration is available on-line. They will be recording the event as well.

MPC (Update): Danielle (MPC) reported that she's been working on the Water 1-2-3 Guide for the elected officials. Currently going through final edits. The demand for this is region wide. Can still accept sponsors. Nov. 1st release date at a microbrewery in the suburbs.



ISWS (Update): Walt (ISWS) mentioned that he hopes that everyone has seen the 2-pager that was prepared. http://www.isws.illinois.edu/gws/wsp/docs/FactSheet2_2015-02.pdf Devin also wrote a blog post on it as well. <https://illinois.edu/blog/view/789/549244>

George and Daniel have met with Flint Industries, located in Joliet. They will probably be the first to run out of water. Also meeting with Godley and they are looking to go to the Kankakee River. Morris is also looking to get off of their aquifers and go to shallow aquifers. Walt gave his desaturation talk to a group in New Lenox. Thursday will be going to Countryside to give it to the chemical industry group.

IDNR (Update): Nothing at this time.

Executive Committee Update: Nothing at this time.

Other Business:

Fox River Implementation Plan: Nothing at this time.

Sensible Salting: Pete (MWCOG) commented that most of the municipalities have been doing a good job in getting their public works trained properly. The element that is missing is the private side – hospitals, schools, etc. Would like to put a sub-group together to put together some suggestions that can be given to them. Tim (St. Charles) reported that the University of Minnesota has a lot of information that could be used. Scott, Todd, Paul, Margaret – if their’s want to volunteer e-mail Pete. Schedule a meeting to move forward on.

IDPH: Pete (MWCOG) already covered previously.

Scott (McHenry County) noted that the McHenry County Water Forum will be held on November 8th at McHenry County College from 6:00 – 8:45 PM. Scott will send a write-up to Pete to share with the group.

Margaret on behalf of CMAP – Water Strategy paper has been finalized and is available on-line. http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/653821/Water+Strategy+Paper_FINAL_+9-21-17.pdf/b7aa6b24-a482-4718-b51f-e82effc34a9e

Jason, ISGS, will be installing observation wells in Kane County as part of the National Groundwater Monitoring Network. Pete suggested taking some video that we could post on the website.

The next meeting will be held on October 24, 2017 at the Centre at Elgin.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 PM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, EEI