



Technical Advisory Committee

January 22, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Abby Crisostomo of MPC; Josh Ellis of MPC; Dave Schumaucher, City of Aurora; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Angie Ford, EEI; Jon Schmitt, City of McHenry; Victor Ramirez, City of Crystal Lake representing MCCOG; Paul Schuch of Kane County; Jodie Wollnik of Kane County; Scott Meyer of Illinois State Water Survey; John Dillon of City of Batavia, representing MWCOG; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Cory Horton, McHenry County; Jon Hortness, USGS; Rebecca VonDrasek, DeKalb County; Kyla Jacobson, City of Elgin; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Ed Coggin representing MCCOG; Jon Hortness, USGS; Tim Loftus, CMAP; David Schmidt, Village of Barrington; Margaret Schneemann and Walt Kelly of Illinois State Water Survey.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Welcome 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 November 27th Meeting Minutes – Victor Ramirez made a motion to accept, John Dillon seconded.

General Discussion on Current Water Use in the NWPA Area: There was general discussion about water use in the NWPA region. Kyla Jacobson of City of Elgin reported lots of water main breaks; 36 in 40 days. From a quality and treatability standpoint the Fox River is acting normal.

Paul Schuch of Kane County reported that he hasn't notice a lot snow so it isn't boding well for the drought situation in the spring.

Victor Ramirez of Crystal Lake reported no issues with water main breaks, only 3 so far. Consumption is down a little bit even during the winter. Conservation continues to play a role and emphasizes that we are in a drought even though we are in winter.

Kyla Jacobson stated that ISAWWA is going to being putting together a survey regarding water main breaks.

John Dillon of Batavia reported that they have had above average water main breaks. They didn't experience a lot breaks during the summer months, but they did go through a three week period where they experienced quite a few. Average daily use is at or below normal so it is quite unusual.



Jon Schmitt of McHenry County reported that water main breaks have been non-existent. Nov/Dec pumpage is about the same; 1.99 MGD. He also stated that they have a shallow well that is six feet lower than last year. And they also have another shallow well that is a couple of feet lower as well.

Dave Schmidt of Barrington reported that water main breaks are about the same. They did have a spurt a couple of months ago due to the dryness in the ground. They did pull one of their wells just recently.

Dave Schumacher of Aurora reported that the Fox River quality is about normal and that water main breaks are a little bit higher than normal.

Drought Conditions Presentation by Walt Kelly of Illinois State Water Survey: Walt Kelly, ISWS, gave his presentation about Drought Conditions in Illinois. The drought monitor considers that most of the state is out of the drought, except for the west and the north. There are still parts, such as Nebraska that are still in a severe drought.

Walt also noted that December's measurements for shallow monitoring wells are about three to five feet lower than this time last year.

The Drought Monitor Map may be accessed at <http://droughtmonitorw.unl.edu/>

All agency reports have been posted on the website at www.drought.illinois.gov.

Lawn Watering Ordinance: Margaret Schneemann, CMAP, gave her presentation on the Lawn to Lake program that's been converted to the NWPA communities. She's currently working on the Outdoor Water Conservation Manual which will be an educational component to the Lawn Watering Ordinance that was developed by the NWPA. A draft version of the manual was sent out to everybody and feedback is due to Margaret by February 25th.

Kyla Jacobsen suggested that Margaret may want to attend Elgin's Green Expo coming up in May. Paul Schuch suggested that could be some synergy built with ISAWWA for the teaching aids.

Josh Ellis suggested a couple of things; go back and look at the water reuse section to make sure that it matches the plumbing code. Also, in the Winter/Spring as we go and do outreach it would be helpful to be able to provide an outreach brochure that can be given to COG's and communities. Margaret will be working on a brochure for distribution.

Drought Management Planning: Dr. Tim Loftus, CMAP, gave a short presentation on the building blocks to preparing a Drought Preparedness Plan for the NWPA. Discussion was had on how the supply of water could be estimated in order to proceed with the "magic number" in order to better plan for moving forward. There was also discussion amongst the group about possibly interconnecting the water supply systems of communities. Dr. Loftus will continue working with ISWS and Pete in order to determine a course of action for moving forward.



Water Reporting: Walt Kelly, ISWS, gave a brief presentation on e-Mor program. Walt reported that they are trying to work with Class C and D operators to standardize the forms. It's going to be a few years before we can provide that information. ISWS would like to have the information sent directly to them instead of uploading it to the NWPA website. Send us whatever it is that you use now so that we can see what the information looks like. Walt asked everyone to e-mail him their latest report so they can see what they are dealing with. Once they receive the information they will put something together and bring it back to the February meeting.

Strategic Planning: Pete Wallers stated that we need to have a strategic planning session so that goals can be set for this year. There are a lot of topics out there, but we need to determine what it is we are going to concentrate on for 2013. The LTA that NWPA has received is also going to help guide us. We will target this for our February meeting.

NWPA Executive Committee Update: Pete will be asking the Executive Committee to start implementing the Lawn Watering Ordinance. He will also be bringing forward a Resolution that can be used if a community has an existing ordinance that mimics the NWPA ordinance.

Pete also reported that we do have five new Ccounty Board chairs.

Victor Raimrez stated that he needs more documentation from the Executive Committee in order to pass the Ordinance or the Resolution. The meeting minutes from the November's Executive Committee will be finalized and posted on the website.

Other Business – Regional Water Planning: Josh Ellis, MPC reported that because of the drought of 2012, IDNR is exploring the possibility of re-establish the water planning committees and expanding the effort. MPC is going to be facilitating these meetings with CMAP, to start discussing major water issues in the State. They will try to schedule these meetings just before the TAC meetings so that we can report back. IDNR is planning to come back in a month with some ideas as well.

Full Cost Water Pricing Guidebook: Pete reminded everyone that the Full Cost Water Pricing Guidebook is now available at <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/20583/> or drop Margaret an e-mail at mschneemann@cmap.illinois.gov

Illinois Plumbing Code: Josh Ellis, MPC reported that if you sent in changes they are being incorporated. May 31st is the deadline. Support would be very helpful via letters to Springfield, etc.

LTA Project: Josh Ellis, MPC reported that DuPage County requested assistance for a summer series of workshops for their public works staff. As that develops Josh will keep us informed. They will be held in DuPage County, but it will be open to all NWPA members.

Next Meeting: Tues., February 26, 2013



The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Submitted by _____ Angie Ford, Recorder