



Technical Advisory Committee

June 24, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Walt Kelly of ISWS; Angie Smith, EEI; Tim Loftus, CMAP; Kaitlyn McClain, MPC; Josh Ellis, MPC; Kyla Jacobsen, City of Elgin; Jennifer Hughes, Village of Oswego; Tim Farrell, Village of Huntley; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County; Paul Shuch, Retired; John Dillon, City of Batavia; Victor Ramirez, Crystal Lake; Ed Coggin, McCOG; Angela Zubko, Kendall County; Bob Leibel, City of Aurora; Scott Trotter, Trotter and Associates; Catherine Kemp, IISG; Jon Hortness, USGS; Rebecca Von Drasek, DeKalb County; Cory Horton, McHenry County.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:09 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 May Meeting Minutes – Victor Ramirez made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Ed Coggin seconded the motion.

General Discussion on Current Water Use in the NWPA Area: Kyla Jacobsen, Elgin, reported that they have probably had about 11 inches of rain over the past month. Water use is at normal levels.

Victor Ramirez, Crystal Lake, commented that it's business as usual. Water use is still pretty low at this point.

Jennifer Hughes reported that Oswego is in the process of finalizing their water study that looks at future water improvements, they will be bringing that to the Village Board in the near future.

Bob Leible, Aurora, reported that they have had about seven inches of rainfall for the month and they are using about 70 – 75% river water.

Tim Farrell, Huntley, reported that usage is up, but not what we normally see due to the wet weather.

John Dillon, Batavia, stated that everything is pretty routine at the moment.

NWPA/ISWS Water Use Reporting System – Pete gave an update on the Water Reporting Tool. He also stated that we did put together a short tutorial on how to use the website. Pete suggested getting together with Walt Kelly, ISWS on doing a joint letter to try and get others to put info into the system.



John Dillon, Batavia, suggested that we make it easier for people to get to the site by placing the link on the Home page of the website. He also suggested adding a *Contact Us* button in case people run into difficulty with the existing spreadsheet

NWPA – Communication/Outreach – Kaitlyn McClain, AmeriCorps VISTA (MPC), gave an update on the newsletter that went out in June. Open Rate was 32.1%; the click rate was 7.2%. Working on putting together some advanced newsletters. Working with Catherine from IISG to put together a few before she goes. If anyone is interested in writing an article let her know.

Pete will present Kaitlyn’s internship listing to the Executive Committee meeting in July for approval for a stipend.

Kaitlyn has also started working on a second brochure that will be on *Household Water Efficiency*, moving to layout now, Abby or Josh will keep you updated throughout the summer. This will be Kaitlyn’s last meeting with NWPA as her internship is complete. Pete thanked Kaitlyn for her service over the past year and all of the great things she was able to accomplish while here.

Strategic Planning – Tim Loftus, CMAP; Tim reported that he attended a webinar on M36 Water Loss Accounting and gave a brief overview of what he learned. Tim mentioned that Pete and he are on the IEPA’s Steering Committee for Water Loss Accounting. Pete also mentioned that Laurie Doherty from ISAWWA is also on the steering committee and ISAWWA will be coordinating training statewide.

Tim noted that the Advisory Committee will meet again in the summer, but no date has been set yet. In the meantime CNT and Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), two other Advisory Committee members, are in the lead for developing a water loss related message that will be distributed as part of an effort to promote training and technical assistance.

Tim has a request into the Illinois Water Inventory Program (IWIP) to obtain 2013 water use data. CMAP will also be compiling water use data for the region going forward.

The biennial water conference will be held again in October. Tim will be giving a presentation and will include the work that NWPA is doing.

Tim reported that he has a presentation scheduled – one for BACOG in August. Rebecca Von Drasek suggested that DeKalb County Planning Committee would be interested in hearing the presentation as well. Rebecca will work on the future dates and get those to Tim for scheduling. Kyla stated that she needed the presentation before the ISAWWA July 9th meeting as she was planning giving it there. Ed Coggin suggested a webinar on this topic would be good for ISAWWA Source Water Protection Committee.

Water Loss Accounting – Tim Loftus gave an updated presentation on *An Assessment of Water Loss Among Lake Michigan Permittees in Illinois* (<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and->



[resources/lta/idnr](#)) that was first given in May to the Water Loss Advisory Committee in Springfield. For the six years studied, about 21% of the permittees exceed the 8% water-loss standard; IDNR is proposing a 12% nonrevenue-water standard during a four-year transition period followed by a 10% standard. If the 10% nonrevenue water standard was in effect today, 60% of permittees would be out of compliance and thus, in violation of their lake water allocation permit.

One of the questions on the survey was to describe your water department/utility's water loss control policy; found that 74% have no formal policy in place. 75% don't communicate water loss information to their customers. 75% only communicate with their Village officials about water loss once a year.

Asked about source of funding – water rate revenue 89%, general obligation bonds, 37%; state revolving fund loan 23%.

Seven recommendations for IDNR:

- Request permittees adopt formal water loss control policy
- Request water loss info be shared as part of requirement to implement a public program to encourage reduced water use
- Increase communication – provide guidance and performance related information, and communicate with city managers in addition to public works staff
- Strengthen the recommendation to develop water rate structures that discourage excessive water use
- Request basic benchmarking for full cost service and annual reporting of benchmarks
- Require use of the M36 water audit method
- IDNR Assistance and Collaboration:
 - Provide outreach, education and technical assistance with the M36 tool
 - State agencies should align programmatic objectives and requirements of permittees/applicants

Some discussion was had by the group regarding wholesale vs. retail rate. Pete stated that if you go through the M36 form it will apply the wholesale rate. He also suggested that you try using the M36 form and that would probably clear up some of the questions or confusion.

ISWS Update – Dr. Daniel Abrams, ISWS; gave a presentation on the *Estimate of Available Water Supply in the Deep Aquifer*; updated from his April presentation. His presentation provided a more refined



available water supply model estimates based upon three hypothetical pumping scenarios that he presented at the [May TAC meeting](#). He presented water supply estimates for each scenario—withdrawals that prevent desaturation of the deep aquifer in steady-state conditions. The models suggest that with proper management, well locations, and conservation measures, there may be a way to minimize large-scale desaturation in the NWPA region. ISWS will continue to refine the model and report back to the TAC later this year.

State and Regional Water Supply Planning – Update MPC and CMAP: Josh Ellis, MPC gave an update on the Water Supply Planning. IDNR received comments; meeting was cancelled for June 12th and the next meeting will be in September. At the same time, MPC and CMAP are still encouraging IEPA to solicit more feedback from users for the State Revolving Loan Fund so that they can make it easier and more relevant. Tim Loftus, also added the CMAP, MPC and NWPA are meeting with Arlan Juhl and others on July 1st to discuss the state water task force meeting and see where they are at with the state regional planning.

Other Business

Next Meeting: Tues., July 22, 2014

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, Recorder