



Technical Advisory Committee

July 23, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Josh Ellis of MPC; Abby Crisostomo of MPC; Kaitlyn McClain, MPC; Walt Kelly of Illinois State Water Survey; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Angie Ford, EEI; Tim Loftus, CMAP; Bob VanGysghem, City of Geneva; Dave Schumaucher, City of Aurora; Josh Ellis of MPC; Paul Schuch, Kane County; David Husemoller, Lake County; Kurt Thompson BACOG; Walt Kelly, ISWS; John Dillon, City of Batavia; John Andersen, Greenleaf Advisors; Ed Coggin representing MCCOG; Rebecca Von Drasek, DeKalb; Daniel Abrams, Illinois State Water Survey Edith Makra, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:06 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 June Meeting Minutes – Paul Schuch made a motion to accept. Kurt Thompson seconded.

General Discussion on Current Water Use in the NWPA Area: Dave Schumacher gave an update on the geisomine event; it appears it has passed. Aurora is at 50/50 for river and well water. Discussion was had in regards to the cause of the geisomine. Aurora is working with USGS to try to determine if a single cause, i.e., algae, bacteria, drought, can be identified.

Bob VanGyseghem, reported that well levels are fine and demand is down from last year and two years ago as well in Geneva.

John Dillon reported everything is normal in Batavia.

Strategic Planning – Dr. Loftus, CMAP, went through the changes that the Executive Committee suggested at their last meeting.

The vision statement was revised and removed the word equitable; making it:

“The NWPA area will have dependable supplies of water for generations to come.”

Goal A, Objective 2 was revised to read:

Develop a work plan/budget consistent with the strategic plan; prioritize activities accordingly.



Strategy – Determine staff and resources needs; hire accordingly.

Evaluation Measure – Approve a work plan/budget annually.

Under Goal B; two strategies were added, they are:

Strategy – Encourage adoption of Water2050 recommendations.

Strategy – Use existing resources and programs (e.g., CMAP’s water-bill inserts)

Objective 2: Switched the order of school-age children and elected officials.

Strategy – Added: Develop and make presentations to county and village boards, city councils, and Council of Governments; coordinate with delivery of annual reports.

Strategy – Deleted: work with Council of Governments to implement strategies.

Evaluation Measure was revised to add: obtain evaluations of activities as feedback to gauge effectiveness.

Goal C, Objective 3: A new Strategy was suggested by the Executive Committee and it is up for discussion by this committee.

Strategy – Should we strive for a well-monitoring network (i.e., aquifer levels) in place throughout the NWPA area?

Walt Kelly, ISWS, went through the current well monitoring process stating that McHenry County has them and Kane County is interested in getting them. They also have a few other wells that they are monitoring, but have been unable to pull the information together. Walt went through the process of monitoring the wells in Kane County.

The group questioned if existing deep wells could be used for model inputs to provide more frequent measurements. ISWS should consider if they can use wells at strategic locations to aid in the modeling effort. More to follow on this topic.

Paul Schuch, Kane County, the strategy that Pete just outlined is the same strategy that Kane County is currently working with ISWS on for the County. They have worked with the ISWS to find the locations to find the “ideal” pumping locations. They are also working with USGS on this. ISWS prepared a model for Kane County, static model from 2003. Paul’s vision is to have sufficient monitoring wells installed and take that model and monitor the fluctuations and build a data base.

Kurt Thompson, stated that the BACOG area is all on shallow groundwater and they will be approving the monitoring. They will also be ready to implement this next year. They are planning to do a trend



analysis, stream flows and basins measurements. They don't have the money to do the modeling at this time. USGS is going to put in recording devices and then they will be part of the national network. Starting with three of those and they have about 25 wells that could use that. They'll have real time data and will be available to ISWS and USGS.

After much discussion by the group a refined statement for this Strategy was established:

Develop and implement an optimal network of monitoring aquifers by using both existing wells and new well locations.

The remainder of the meeting was spent going through and filling out the Strategic Plan matrix and assigning Lead Implementers and Partners. Tim stated that he will be taking these documents to the Executive Committee on Sept. 12th for their approval.

The group was also introduced to Kaitlyn McClain who is an AmeriCorps VISTA Member who will be working at MPC and devoting half of her time to the NWPA's initiatives.

Regional Water Planning Update – Josh Ellis, MPC, gave a brief introduction for John Andersen, Green Leaf Advisors. IDNR has contracted with Green Leaf Advisors to develop a plan and a strategy for them. Helping them understand what other states are doing to raise funds and then planning accordingly. Two elements that we hope to get going on this year. A number of states have been identified that they think could help the State of Illinois and so they are starting to contact those states. Thoughts and framework to inform Arlan Juhl; it was really through the meetings that MPC hosted in the beginning of the year that this is coming to light. This calendar year is basically to get going on this and then presenting some options/ideas to IDNR. Final comment, scope of the engagement is to look state-wide and the northeastern Illinois is a sub-region.

There was discussion on how the options of acceptable forms of revenue would be decided upon. The mayors are very concerned with this topic and it was suggested that the Mayors get involved from the beginning.

John reported that the final report that will be prepared and presented to Arlan Juhl would be in the November/December timeframe with the thought that some of the ideas could be brought forward for legislative action next year. He reminded everyone that they are still in the discovery process and if anyone has anything they would to share with him to e-mail him at jandersen@greenleafadvisors.net

State Plumbing Code Revisions – Josh Ellis, MPC, gave a brief update on the plumbing code revisions. He had some site visits with the Dept. of Public Health and they have asked for how to re-write the potential uses of potable water instead of the sources. No likely revisions to submit to JCAR until August.



Various Updates: DuPage Water Commission – Abby Crisostomo, MPC, reminded everyone that next Wednesday, August 31st is the third session in our workshop series: working with your water users on water conservation. They are free; they run from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Water Reporting – ISWS Update: Walt Kelly, ISWS, cleared up some misconceptions. There was an amendment to the Environmental Protection Act; makes the eMor project requiring electronic filing.

NWPA Update: Pete Wallers, gave a brief update on the status of the water reporting project. We will be working with ISWS to work on the IWIP component and Aurora, Batavia and Elgin to discuss.

NWPA Executive Committee Update: Pete Wallers stated that we will refine our information and present it at the Executive Committee meeting on Sept. 12th. At a minimum if we get the strategic plan approved at the September meeting. We will then be able to take the implementation plan to the November meeting. We really need to work on the most important elements to utilize Kaitlyn’s time while we have her.

Other Business:

Next Meeting: Tues., Sept. 24, 2013

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Submitted by _____ Angie Ford, Recorder