



Technical Advisory Committee

September 23, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, Chairman representing MWCOG; Kurt Thompson, BACOG; Walt Kelly of ISWS; Ed Coggin, McCOG; Bob VanGyseghem, City of Geneva; Josh Ellis, MPC; Mike Harvey, Donahue and Associates; Tim Loftus, CMAP; Angela Zubko, Kendall County; Amy Gahala, USGS; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Dave Schumacher, City of Aurora; Angie Smith, EEI; Victor Ramirez, City of Crystal Lake; Kyla Jacobsen, City of Elgin; Jennifer Hughes, Village of Oswego and John Dillon, City of Batavia.

Pete Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

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

Agenda Changes and Announcements: Pete noted that we will not be meeting in October, however all NWPA members are invited to attend the joint meeting with the Illinois Groundwater Association that will be held on the same day as regularly scheduled meeting.

Approval of July Meeting Minutes: David Schumacher made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Ed Coggin seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

General Discussion on Current Water Use in the NWPA Area:

Josh Ellis, MPC reported that MPC has received the green light from IEPA to do a survey to all of the municipal folks regarding State Revolving Loan fund. He will be sending that out shortly and he will be looking for feedback on the program and the ease of use, etc.

Bob VanGyseghem reported that all is normal at Geneva.

Ed Coggin reported that Marengo will be working with ISWS to do some modeling in the near future for drilling of a new well.

Jodie Wollnik reported that Kane County has put together a 15 second commercial on water conservation and it will run in the Elgin movie theater. They will be putting it on their website soon and possibly put it in other theatres and the Cougar stadium.

Victor Ramirez reported that it's business as usual in Crystal Lake as well. He commented on the power plant in Oakwood Hills, nothing recently, but it did create quite an issue with their Village Board and



President. They actually had people resign and they closed village Hall down. ISWS did get contacted for just basic information.

Dave Schumacher reported that it was business as usual in Aurora too. He also mentioned the global changes for placards, etc.; he will bring the information to the November meeting to share with everyone.

Kurt Thompson reported that they just finished their water level collection in the Barrington area and the report should be ready in a month or so. He will report at a later meeting when it is finished.

Walt Kelly reported that they are working on water level measurements. It's something that can be presented on early next year.

Jennifer Hughes from Oswego reported that they have just completed their water study; recommendation to look at pulling water out of the Fox River.

Kyla Jacobsen reported that the water quality is good and everything is going smooth in Elgin.

Presentation: "Trends in Groundwater Levels and Chloride Concentrations in McHenry County: A Comparison of a 1979 Groundwater Network to the Current Groundwater Network" by Amy Gahala, USGS – Amy went through her presentation which compared 1979 to 2010. In 1979 they only sampled 25 wells vs. 49 wells in 2010. Statistical analysis of the wells in 1979 showed a geometric mean was 5.40 vs. 49 wells in 2010 showed a geometric mean of 27.55. All data shows a significant increase of chlorides in the system. In summary, shows that water levels haven't changed significantly over time. It does show concentrations 5x higher though.

The next steps are to go back and see how many wells we can get approval to go back and re-measure. They will also be using the wells that already have monitoring wells in them. Amy is working on a report that can be distributed to others in 2016 and trying to determine the cause of the higher chlorides. If you come across anyone that wants their wells sampled Amy can get them in touch with the correct people to do that.

NWPA/ISWS Water Use Reporting System – Pete gave an update on the Water Reporting tool; there's been no change since the last meeting. Doing some follow-up with Walt He is working with Walt, ISWS, on a joint letter to go out to remind everyone it will take the place of their 2014 IWIP.

NWPA – Communication/Outreach – Pete reported that MPC is working on the newsletter now. We are waiting on contributing editors at the moment. Pete reported that there was discussion at the last Executive Committee meeting in order to put together some funds for an intern. They are currently working on putting together a budget to give to the Executive Committee for discussion and approval. The newsletter mailing list was expanded so please follow-up with you fellow co-workers, village/city



staff to make sure they are receiving it. When you receive the newsletter send it on to others so that they can see it and then that way they can subscribe as well.

Strategic Planning – Tim Loftus reported that he made the NWPA presentation to BACOG and McCOG. He will be going out to Sycamore to present to DeKalb County and he also has two presentations lined up in February; Industrial Waste and Sewage Group, Feb. 17th and South Suburban Water Works Association in Orland Park in Feb. 19th. He also noted he'll be making this presentation at the IGA Joint meeting on October 28th.

Tim noted that in regards to the topic of education – Margaret will be contacting Pete to discuss some brochures that she is working on. He reached out to a couple of places to get a video put together for K-12. In order to accomplish this we have to know who our target audience is – which school districts, etc. TAC and the EC need to think about this approach and we're going to need a budget in order to accomplish the task of getting this task accomplished for this item on our Strategic Plan.

Jodie Wollnik reported that they had their water conservation display in various libraries in the area. Pete is thinking that maybe an expansion of this program would be easier than trying to get into the school system. It is something to look into and have future discussion on.

ISWS Update – Daniel Abrams went through his slides that were running the numbers that were discussed at the July meeting. He has ran numerous scenarios to see what the numbers would need to be in order to stop the desaturation. He developed four scenarios based off of Aurora's pumping amounts (55% surface water and 45% groundwater).

Scenario A: Aurora pumps baseline and other communities excluding Joliet and industries.

Scenario B: Same but include Joliet and industries.

Scenario C: running 70:30 ratio not including Joliet and industries. A significant increase in avoiding desaturation especially in Kendall County.

Scenario D: running 70:30 ratio including Joliet and industries. If they buy in then we are closer to avoiding the desaturation of the aquifer.

Scenario E: running 70:30 ratio of SW:GW including Joliet but not industries.

Daniel is working with some folks in Will County and industries, but they are concerned with this and they are aware of the issue because they've had to lower wells, etc. Josh suggested that a way to get to the industries is through the Will County Economic Development and educate them on what is going on.

It is interesting that the Sandwich Fault is acting like a barrier and I'm sure it plays some role. Some of these industries fall right onto the Sandwich Fault. It is an issue, but I'm not sure if it's that much worse



than what the 2005 data showed. Although there is one area in the St. Peter that has complete desaturation. Daniel is going to look at that and will report back to the group. The Water Operators are willing to talk about it and they are concerned about it. George Roadcap has had a phone conference with Caterpillar and Exxon to discuss these matters.

Discussion was had by the group about the possibility of using Lake Michigan water, Des Plaines River water, or another source that is available.

Walt, they are doing new demand scenarios in Kankakee area. Tim, reported that we are a couple of years away from updating their demand scenarios. Right now they are focusing on the implementation side of things vs. doing more research. He questioned what about the communities that is willing to switch vs. those that won't switch. Daniel, we are not suggesting that this is the answer, but what we're suggesting is that communities are going to have to go into together to do it.

Ed, brought up that there are modular systems out there that can be used by small communities. There's another option aquifer charge and re-charge, when we have excess water can we keep it in the aquifer until it's needed. Would that be something that could be simulated in your model? Daniel, from a flow perspective looking at drawdown – yes. Bob expressed that there would be concern with the water quality at this point and the Water Operators could struggle with this. It's being done in other areas of the countries. Dave, it would have to be done in a group basis. Pete, correct and how do the other surrounding communities benefit from it. I think it's a strategy that should be considered. It gets to be a little bit tricky, but it is one of our items on our Strategic Plan for a global solution.

One final thing to point out he's only running it until 2050 if he continues to 2100 with Scenario D keeping pumping rates constant it is going to start to desaturate again.

Josh, surface sharing, currently Montgomery, Yorkville and Oswego have a CMAP LTA grant that they are working on. Now might be a good time to explore this idea with them.

Water Loss Accounting – Tim Loftus reported that “Train the Trainer” is underway and Tim and Pete had both participated yesterday in Arlington Heights. The first one is scheduled for October 16th, there is a website that you can check on and will be rolling out soon. There will be a brochure out very soon that will be announcing the program.

Jeff Freeman gave an update that ISAWWA will do everything north of I-80 and IRWA will do everything south of I-80. They will be starting in October and ending in February. They will be interactive, bring your computer and your data and actually do it in the afternoon. They are also going to put together three sample sets of data so that people can see how it works.

State and Regional Water Supply Planning – Update: Tim Loftus reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Thurs., Oct. 2nd. They will be reconvening the committee for water planning in Illinois. The



first meeting will start in January 2015 which will be five years ago from the last meeting. He attended his first State Water Task Force meeting last week. The Drought Report has become a list of action items. They are also looking for funding to support State and Regional water supply planning. These are two topics that will be discussed at the meeting.

Josh Ellis commented that the \$2.5M in the document that Tim just spoke of is not ambitious enough for everything that needs to be done. They've been looking at some simple tax on bottled water to create a new revenue stream for the area. If anyone else has any ideas/suggestions please share them.

Pete Wallers inquired of Walt Kelly what are the numbers that you have given IDNR for budgeting? He's working on it now, but mainly it's for funding and salaries. Pete suggested that it should be increased to think outside of the "basics". This is based off of a matrix that was developed several years ago. Pete suggested adding money for modeling and IWIP, etc.

Other Business:

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held with the Illinois State Groundwater on October 28th. NWPA members will not have to pay. Walt handed out a draft agenda for the meeting.

Just a heads up on the November meeting since it falls on the week of Thanksgiving and we will most likely be talking about things that we are going to need to focus on for next year. Most likely will not have the meeting in December.

Josh Ellis stated that on Tues, Oct. 14th MPC will be hosting a luncheon on water reuse at their office. He will send something to Pete and ask him to forward it on.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 AM.

Submitted by _____ Angie Smith, Recorder