



## Technical Advisory Committee In-Person Meeting

April 23, 2024

### Meeting Minutes

Present: Pete Wallers, MWCOG/EEI; Jeff Freeman, EEI; Amy Gahala, USGS; Tony Speciale, Retired Village of Sugar Grove/Sugar Grove Township Water Authority; Jerry Glogowski, Village of Algonquin; Annie Storey, ISAWWA; Kevin Fecske, Village of Barrington; Cary McElhinney, USEPA; Carolyn Campbell, McHenry County; Dean Farr, Illinois Walton Izzak; Matt Brolley, Village of Montgomery; David Kaptain, City of Elgin; Kelsey Pudlock, CMAP; Daniel Abrams, ISWS; Devin Mannix, ISWS; Jodie Wollnik, Kane County Water Resources; Scott Kuykendall, McHenry County; Joe Munder, City of Aurora; Bob VanGysghem, City of Geneva; Angie Smith, EEI.

Peter Wallers called the meeting to order at 10:17 A.M.

**Agenda Changes and Announcements:** Nothing at this time.

**Approval of March Meeting Minutes:** Tony (Sugar Grove Water Authority) made a motion to approve. Joe (Aurora) seconded. Minutes approved.

**Presentation: “Illinois Water Supply/Demand Estimates, Data Visualization Platform, and Modeling Advancements”:** Devin (ISWS) presented this topic to the group. Supply and demand will be updated annually depending on the information that has been submitted. These numbers are based on the 2017 numbers and will change once the Lake Michigan allocations make the switch.

There is a quarterly report going to IDNR for final approval before this app goes public-facing. It could be within the next month or two unless there’s hesitation or red flags that are discovered.

Everyone should keep in mind that this tells one story and it is going to be up to each municipality in order to determine what exactly is going on within their community. This is a good high-level look at each County level. Encourage the Disclaimer to be moved up to the top of the *About Us* page and have it so it has to be accepted in order to proceed with the app.

The concept of strategy supply could be incorporated into the map. This concept would be that if communities have a sustainability plan, then they could be shown as being sustainable. There will be further discussion on how best to approach this concept.

The agricultural data was collected by direct reporting if it was available. If not, then it was an average with some assumptions in place. ISWS is working with the agricultural and it’s specifically related to the Illinois River Basin and is working on distributing meters as part of that. Looking to get 12 deployed in Mason County before the growing season. The total for the 12 meters and labor is about \$50K.



Climate change is a component of Tier 2 and Tier 3 analysis and will be included.

Presentation: ***“ISWS Brief Groundwater Flow Model Update”***: Daniel (ISWS) presented these updates to the group.

1. The ISWS is going towards a Statewide model. This is the basis that was used for the Will County report.
2. Working toward improved recharge assessments with USGS to improve estimates of recharge in the State of Illinois. These numbers will continue to iterate with statewide, regional, and local scale calibration. An example for DeKalb County sees an initial significant increase in recharge. There will be a report coming out by the end of the year.
3. Working toward the ability to zoom spatially and temporally, within the next year will be ready to go with this model.
4. Working toward High-Performance Computing and Expanded Model Investigations – high-performance computing allows for hundreds of simulations to explore different model inputs and future forecasts; evaluating both realistic and best fits provide insights into sustainability and risk; evaluating hundreds of future conditions can create probabilistic outcomes for planning.

These updates will need to be discussed with IEPA so they are considered with water quality and the requirements that have been set by IEPA in regard to SWPP, emerging contaminants, aquifer vulnerability, etc.?

Statewide model – the structure of maintenance will be funded by IDNR-OWR. The ability to bring in the tools that are coming in through the studies in various Counties. To create the regional tool is in the Tier 1 funding. The challenge of the ISWS is that most of their staff is contractual and they are in transition. The funding for the advancement of the Region and Statewide is there. The funding for Tier 3 and community by community is where strategies are going to be created to get the funding.

Tier 3 planning can be done by municipalities doing a Master Plan in order to do the analysis to determine supply and demand. The ISWS needs to have ample time in order to hire staff to do this work without pulling them off of other projects.

**Presentation: *“Latest WaterSense Program Outreach and Education Tools and Midwest Examples”***: Cary (USEPA, WaterSense) presented this topic to the group. He covered the WaterSense Focus – Three Ps: Practices, Products, and People. WaterSense started in 2006. There are more than 42,000 products that have earned the WaterSense label. Currently, toilets and faucets are being reviewed to be more efficient (<https://lookforwatersense.epa.gov/products/>)

Partnership is free: <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/join-watersense>; there is a multitude of information and tools available to partners instead of just the general public.



**Presentation: “NWPA Water Supply and Sustainability Plan – 2024 Progress and Roadmap”:** Due to time this topic was pushed to the May TAC meeting.

**Sensible Salting Committee (SSC) (Update):** Scott (McHenry County) reported he has been contacted by the Conservation Foundation and they are interested in replicating McHenry County’s deicing workshops that they put on for roads. They are working towards developing a region-wide program for roads as well.

**CMAP (Update):** Kelsey (CMAP) reported there are no updates at this time.

**IISG (Update):** No updates.

**ISAWWA (Update):** Annie (ISAWWA) commented on the Water Ambassador Program and the Water Reuse Conference scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> in Pingree Grove:

<https://www.isawwa.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1827784&group=>

**ISWS (Update):** Daniel (ISWS) shared that Walt Kelly was selected as 2024 Research Scientist of Year for Prairie Research Institute.

**IDNR (Update):** No updates.

**USGS (Update):** No updates.

**SGTWA (Update):** No updates.

**Other Business:** Nothing at this time.

The next meeting will be held on May 28, 2024, via Zoom. It was noted that there will be one more in-person meeting later this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Angie Smith, EEI