Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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# Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group

March 25, 2008 9:30 a.m.

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Cook County Conference Room
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

**Delegates Present:** Robert Abboud, President, Village of Barrington Hills; James Bilotta, Will County Board; William Borgo, Mayor, Village of Manhattan; Conor Brown, Government Affairs Director, Illinois Assoc. of Realtors; Jerry Dudgeon, Director, PB&Z, Kendall County Government; Jeffrey Edstrom, Project Planner, Geosyntec Consultants; Jeff Greenspan, Project Manager, The Trust for Public Land; Tom Hyde, Mayor, Village of Island Lake; Martin Jaffe, Director and Associate Professor, University of Illinois Chicago; Alan Jirik, Director of Corporate Regulatory Affairs, Corn Products International, Inc.; Mike Kenyon, Farmer and Kane County Board; Ken Koehler, McHenry County Board Chairman; Karl Kruse, Kankakee County Board Chairman; Daniel McLaughlin, Mayor, Village of Orland Park; Joyce O'Keefe, Deputy Director, Openlands; S. Louis Rathje, Chairman, DuPage Water Commission; Lynn Rotunno, Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter; Jeffrey Schuh, Senior VP, Patrick Engineering, Inc.; Sergio Serafino, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago; Jack Sheaffer, Principal, Sheaffer International; Patrick Smith, General Counsel, Deer Point Homes; Bonnie Thomson Carter, RWSPG Chair and Lake County Board; Ruth Anne Tobias, DeKalb County Board Chairman; Peter Wallers, President, Engineering Enterprises, Inc.; Catherine Ward, Boone County Board Chairman.

**Delegates Absent:** Karen Darch, President, Village of Barrington; Scott Goldstein, Principal, Teska Associates, Inc.; Robert Martin, RWSPG Vice-Chair and General Manager, DuPage Water Commission; Karen McConnaughay, Kane County Board Chairman; Heidi Miller, Grundy County; William Olthoff, Farmer; John Spatz, Jr.,

Commissioner, City of Chicago; Thomas Weisner, Mayor, City of Aurora.

**RWSPG Vacancies:** Cook County Government, Boone-Grundy-Kankakee County Mayors

**Others Present:** Steve White, Ken Ritter, Steve Barrett, David Leslie, Ed Coggin, Mary McConn, Lorence Brown, Cassandra McKinney, Nick Spittlemeister, Mike Klemens, Julia Wozniak, John Petro, Terry Megher, Tom Ratzki, Jeff Henson, Lisa Frede, Arun Heer, Alec Davis, Dennis Sandgnist, Tim Lealy, Jack Gallogher, Cathy Ward, Larry Thomas, Sarah Beazley, Debra Stone, Josh Ellis, Candace Billek, Joe Johnson, Phillip Rovang, Jack Knight, Howard Hamilton, Paul Schuch, Ricca Slone, Kay Whitlock, Ed Glatfelter, Ben Dziegielewski, Matthew Schmidt, Kama Dobbs, Chris Staron, Dale Schepers, Randy Blankenhorn, Ylda Pineyro, Tim Loftus, Sandy Perpignani, Hala Ahmed, Amy Talbot, Jill Leary, Don Kopec, Anja Claus, Brooke Hecht.

**I. Welcome and Roll Call:**

Chairwoman Bonnie Thomson Carter called the meeting to order shortly after 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Cook County Conference Room located at 233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

**II. Agenda Changes and Announcements**

Dr. Loftus informed the RWSPG that there will be one agenda change; the residential survey BMP to be presented by Sandy Perpignani, CMAP, has been moved to the RWSPG April 22, 2008 meeting and will not be presented today.

Dr. Loftus also made several announcements. 1) The RWSPG will begin to start taking roll call at the monthly meetings to establish quorum status, starting at this meeting. 2) Today the RWSPG will be providing lunch given our meeting will be extending into the lunch hour. 3) The DuPage Water Commission and the RWSPG mailed out their letters of support to the federal government in regards to the lobbying effort in Washington for funds to support additional geological mapping research in Northeastern Illinois. 4) There will be an intermittent April 15, 2008 at the offices of CMAP from 9:30-Noon. The meeting will discuss the water demand report and any related questions and comments. 5) The March meeting packet contains the revised project timeline, submit any questions or comments to Dr. Loftus. 6) Water utility surveys will be mailed out this week. The general public survey is currently in the working group for further revision.

Mr. Jirik, Corn Products International, Inc, sent out a document to the RWSPG earlier in the month with questions from his caucus group about the draft water demand report from Dr. Ben Dziegielewski, ISWS. Mr. Jirik requested a slot on the agenda at the special meeting set for April 15, 2008 at the offices of CMAP in order to have a utility

representative present the caucus's concerns to the RWSPG members present and Dr. Ben Dziegielewski, ISWS.

Peter Wallers, Engineering Enterprises, Inc, distributed brochures for the Northeastern Illinois Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee, an entity directed by the Illinois EPA under the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act of 1987 to establish regional groundwater protection planning programs and designate priority groundwater protection planning regions.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve last meeting's (February 26, 2008) minutes as written.

**IV. Amend Operational Guidelines, Section 5.2**

In order to avoid possible voting delay due to current quorum guidelines, the RWSPG discussed possible amendments to the guidelines. Currently there needs to be 75% of the RWSPG present to vote on an agenda item. The group has only had 75% present once during this process. In the coming months a large number of big decisions will have to be made and there is concern these guidelines may delay these important decisions. Discussion followed as to how this can be accomplished. It was decided that the percentage drop from 75% appointed members required for a vote to 60%. This will be brought up at the April meeting for an official vote including a provision for the minority voices to be added to the official record. Dr. Loftus and Bonnie Thompson-Carter, RWSPG Chair, also expressed an effort to raise member attendance in the coming months or at least have the members provide a proxy for the meeting to assist the decision-making effort.

**V. Water-use Conservation Measures**

Dr. Loftus introduced today's water conservation measures: conservation pricing, wholesale agency assistance programs and residential plumbing retrofits. He also reminded us that our region is heterogeneous so not all measures will fit well with all parts of the region. For the measures today, the RWPSG will need to decide after the presentation and following discussion whether or not the group wants that particular measure to be included in the plan. If more information is needed to discuss how the measure should be included in the plan, staff will take requests at that time and will provide update at a future meeting.

It is noted that the conservation coordinator measure discussion will be tabled and represented in May due to the lack of delegates in attendance during the first presentation. The RWSPG will decide if conservation coordinator will be included in the plan at that time.

All of the following three presentations are posted on the RWSPG website at: http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/watersupply/minutes.aspx .

1) Hala Ahmed, CMAP, presented on the conservation pricing. Discussion followed touching on the topics of business sector and the effects of conservation pricing, possible need for different rates structures for different sectors, industries and seasonal block rates, industrial reuse of water, private vs. public utilities, water price elasticity, reality of conservation behavior change, water/wastewater billing separation, the price of water in Pittsburgh compared to Chicago, water presented in a similar context as other utilities, water revenue to fund cultural benefits, Will County and private utilities, role of the ICC in the region, flat rates, Orland Park and inverted rate structures, fixed rates, and City of Chicago and water meters. The RWSPG decided that staff should look further into conservation pricing and that it should be included in the plan in some form.

2) Ylda Pineyro, CMAP, presented on wholesale agency assistance programs. Discussion followed touching on the topics of Seattle and Massachusetts water demand drop, clarification of numbers and what sectors they include, DuPage Water Commission as an example of a wholesaler in the region, what a recommendation to the plan means in terms of wholesale assistance. The RWSPG decided that staff should look further into wholesale agency assistance programs and that it should be included in the plan in some form.

3) Amy Talbot, CMAP, presented on residential plumbing retrofits. Discussion followed touching on the topics of retrofits vs. toilet replacement, wide application of retrofit kits, availability of retrofit kits, attractiveness of free retrofit kits to customers, need for more estimates of water savings in case studies and regional potential water savings based on census data and concern over accuracy of presented water savings figures. The RWSPG decided that staff should look further into residential plumbing retrofits and that it should be included in the plan in some form.

**VI. 2009 NE IL Regional Water Supply Plan: Draft Report Outline**

This agenda item was tabled until the April 22nd meeting.

**VII. "Lake Michigan Water Allocation"**

Dan Injerd, IDNR/OWR/Lake Michigan Management Section, presented information about the Lake Michigan water allocation and its complexities. He highlighted system components, diversion breakdown by use, Level of Lake Michigan Act, current conservation practices and requirements for Lake Michigan water users, population forecasts, IDNR demand forecasting, international water cost comparisons, uncertainties and the compact agreement status. Discussion followed touching on the topics of the possibility of expanding the 6 county water -receiving region, point of diversion, returning water directly to Lake Michigan and the potential use of stormwater management(ex: convention center-City of Chicago) to help ease the diversion allocation. Our allocation from Lake Michigan will remain the same over time, however, during the first forty years there are some special terms. We reach our forty year mark in 2020. Mr. Injerd's presentation is posted on the RWSPG website at http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/watersupply/minutes.aspx .

**VIII. Other Business**

Joyce O'Keefe, Openlands, informed the group about an upcoming conference to be held on Friday May 16, 2008: "Beyond Showerheads and Sprinklers: Water Governance Solutions for Illinois". This conference is co-sponsored by Openlands and Metropolitan Planning Council and will be held at the Union League Club of Chicago. The early-registration fee is $45.

Jeff Edstrom, Geosyntec Consultants, distributed registration forms for a Water Efficiency Seminar in Oconomowoc, WI. The seminar will be held on April 17, 2008 and will be an all day affair. The registration fee is $84 for members and $99 for non-members. For more information, visit www.wiawwa.org.

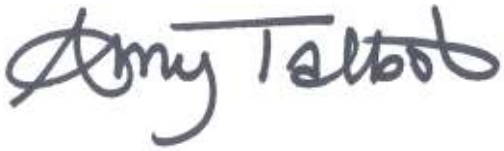
**IX. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**X. Adjournment**

Today's meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The next meeting regular monthly meeting will be held on April 22, 2008 from 10:00-2:00 p.m. in the Boone County Courthouse, *County Board Room*, 610 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois. There will be an intermittent "Special Meeting" held April 15, 2008 from 9:30-Noon at the offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois to discuss the water demand report.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Talbot
CMAP Staff Liaison

3-31-08