



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group

November 27, 2007 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:

William Borgo, Mayor, Village of Manhattan; Karen Darch, President, Village of Barrington; Joe Deal, Mayor's Office – Administrative, City of Chicago; Jerry Dudgeon, Director, PB&Z Kendall County Government; Jeffrey Edstrom, Project Planner, Geosyntec Consultants; Scott Goldstein, Principal, Teska Associates, Inc.; Jeff Greenspan, Project Manager, The Trust for Public Land; Martin Jaffe, Director and Associate Professor, University of Illinois Chicago; Mike Kenyon, Farmer and Kane County Board; Ken Koehler, McHenry County Board Chairman; Karl Kruse, Kankakee County Board Chairman; Robert Martin, General Manager, DuPage Water Commission; Karen McConnaughay, RWSPG Chair and Kane County Board Chairman; Daniel McLaughlin, Mayor, Village of Orland Park; Joyce O'Keefe, Deputy Director, Openlands Project; William Olthoff, Farmer; 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; Bonnie Thomson Carter, Lake County Board; Ruth Anne Tobias, DeKalb County Board Chairman; Peter Wallers, President, Engineering Enterprises, Inc.; Catherine Ward, Boone County Board Chairman; Thomas Weisner, Mayor, City of Aurora.

### Delegates Absent:

Robert Abboud, President, Village of Barrington Hills; James Bilotta, Will County Board; Conor Brown, Government Affairs Director, Illinois Assoc. of Realtors; Tom Hyde, Mayor, Village of Island Lake; Alan Jirik, Director of Corporate Regulatory Affairs, Corn Products International, Inc.; Patrick Smith, General Counsel, Deer Point Homes

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

**Others Present:** Colin Duesing, Robert Martin, Ken Klick, Chalen Hunter, Candace Billek, Gary Clark, Daniel Injerd, Tony Speciale, Ed Glatfelter, Hala Ahmed, Deb Perryman, Jesse Elam, Mike Klemens, Don Kopec, David Mullan, Philip Rovang, Deborah Shore, Michael Davidson, Karla Teasley, Derek Winstanley, Paul Schuch, Bill Christiansen, Mary Ann Dickinson, Ricca Slone, Aly Kochanek, Karen Krueb, Christine Zime, Kathryn Lees, Sam Tykol, Giselle Bruskewitz, Sara Wilson, Dennis Cook, Ylda Pineyro, Tim Loftus, Jill Leary, Sandy Perpignani

**I. Welcome:**

Karen McConnaughay, Chair, 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**

There was one agenda change. The delegates were asked to discuss the process for nominating the chair and vice-chair for the next year. Ms. McConnaughay announced she will not be running again and asked if there were any nominations for either position at this time. No nominations were made at the meeting. It was decided the group will take nominations from the floor during the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Dr. Loftus made three announcements. 1) The CMAP Sustainability Snapshot will be released December 11th. 2) The 2008 RWSPG meeting schedule is included in the meeting packet. Please note the different times and longer meetings. 3) The Innovation and Integration Summit on Climate Change is taking place on December 11, 2007 and has free booth space available for interested parties. Please contact Tim Loftus or Kerry Leigh.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve last month's (October 23<sup>rd</sup>) meeting minutes as written.

**IV. Outreach and Education**

Dr. Loftus informed the group about the two data collection efforts planned for the region to support RWSPG understanding of the region's needs. The first effort is planned to be a mail-questionnaire survey aimed at water utilities to collect metering, infrastructure expansion plans and conservation practices data. Staff will share potential survey questions and ask for input from the group at the January meeting. The second effort is another mail-questionnaire survey of the general public designed to measure attitudes, behaviors and perceptions about water use and conservation. Sample survey questions for this effort are planned to be available for discussion during the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. A few questions were addressed by Dr. Loftus and Sandy Perpignani. Ms. Perpignani will lead the survey development efforts. It was noted that the utility survey will be targeting

water utilities only. Staff assured the group that the sample size would be sufficient enough to make inferences about the region with a 95% confidence level. Design and other methodological issues for collecting scientifically valid data are being developed.

## **V. Sustainability and Water Conservation**

There were three speakers for this meeting's topic: Dr. William Shilts, Chief, Illinois State Geological Survey; Dr. Derek Winstanley, Chief, Illinois State Water Survey; and Ms. Mary Ann Dickinson, Executive Director, Alliance for Water Efficiency. There was a suggestion to hold all questions till the end of all three speakers.

Dr. Shilts's presentation highlighted the need to understand the whole water cycle as well as the water's point of origin to efficiently develop a sustainable water program and to assure we are using water in a sustainable way. He noted that Illinois is one of the only states to have both a State Geological Survey and a State Water Survey. The Geological Survey deals with the vessels that hold water and the Water Survey deals with the water itself. It is essential to understand how water moves through the different vessels as well as securing proper recharging of these vessels. In addition, Dr. Shilts discussed the varying rates of recharge for the different types of vessels, comparing shallow and deep aquifers as well as the role of power plants, glaciers and quarries in relation to recharge rates. Questions and comments after the presentations included the following topics: deep aquifer water usage, ground water usage and monitoring in terms of sustainable use, ground water loss due to displacement of water to surface water resources, recharging vessels at a local level vs. a regional level, alternative options for power plants (Mt. Simon) and the availability of data to support sustainability efforts.

Dr. Winstanley's presentation highlighted the need for a more concrete and clear definition of reasonable water use and challenged the RWSPG to provide a framework to guide the group's water management recommendations(ex: limits for withdrawals-accumulative). The concept of sustainability is one potential opportunity for a framework base. A framework is needed to hold the different interests and complex water issues together. Water issues are generally viewed from a local perspective, one aquifer; they need to be viewed from a regional scale such as watersheds and water bodies. We need to identify the resources that should be preserved and for what purpose. It is important to understand all water withdrawals to a system not just the one that supplies one city, town, or village. Every time a water withdrawal takes place, there are impacts, consequences and costs; the region should define what is acceptable and what is not. Questions and comments after the presentations included the following topics: safe withdrawals, the impact of withdrawals on stream flows, conservation as a part of the answer but should be combined with other strategies, renewable vs. non-renewable water sources (rivers, shallow aquifers, deep aquifers), role of power and water use-recharge process (source-ground, release-surface) and establishing a framework to move forward from this point.

Dr. Loftus addressed inquires about establishing a framework to move forward by suggesting the group meet for an informal meeting in December. The group approved the suggestion. It was noted that the RWSPG group is on a limited timeline and needs to produce a plan in a year and half.

Ms. Mary Ann Dickinson, Executive Director of the Alliance for Water Efficiency, followed with a presentation that highlighted the benefits of conservation and current strategies to achieve water-use savings. Conservation programs need to be presented in a positive light and will always be the least expensive new water one can buy if one considers the full acquisition costs. Ms. Dickinson's presentation touched on examples of cities and programs, water saving statistics, conservation pricing, SFE funds, role of commercial use, irrigation as a major issue to address, permit hooks and sample first steps to starting a program. Ms. Dickinson suggests capitalizing your conservation programs to reduce the initial loaded costs. The benefits of a water conservation program benefit many aspects of the community and the region. Questions and comments after the presentation included the following topics: the connection between water savings and energy savings, the city of Atlanta, who should be the lead implementer for conservation programs, newer developments shown to use more water, difference between educating or informing the public, setting a specific percentage goal for group and regional water saving(ex: 15% reduction in water use by certain date), bottled water and politics, the relationship between income and water use, H2Ohouse website, issues with multiple communities and one water supplier, and the debate that conservation actually promotes growth and just delays future needs for new infrastructure.

#### **VI. Other Business**

Dr. Loftus acknowledged a letter written to Mr. John Henriksen, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers; a copy of which has been included in the meeting packet. No response to that letter had been received at this time. The letter generated a positive response offered by several members of the RWSPG.

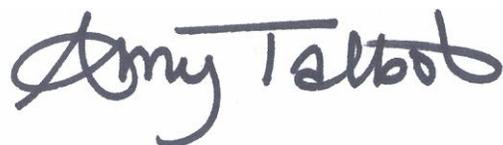
#### **VII. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

Next meeting will be held on January 22, 2008 from 9:30-1:00 p.m. at the offices of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) located at 233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Talbot". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy Talbot  
CMAP Staff Liaison

11-30-07