

MEETING
DATE/TIME

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLANNING COMMITTEE
Friday, October 31, 2008 – 10am – Sangamon Co. Farm Bureau

PRESENT

Jeff Smith, Robert Betzelberger, Morris Bell, Ron Schultz, Rick Twait, Alec Davis, Tom Berns, Ellis Sanderson, Gary Clark, Dorland Smith, Derek Winstanley, Bob Duvall, Mel Pleines, Raymond Poe, Stacey Bishop, Robbie Berg, Dave Larson, Steve Wegman, Brad Uken, Sharon Martin, Jay Henry, Bill Smith, Dwain Berggren, Frank Dunmire, Nancy Erickson, Rich Brauer, Naomi Jakobsson, Al Wehrmann

ABSENT

Evelyn Neavear, Mark Sheppard, Shannon Allen,

WELCOME
LEGISLATOR

Raymond Poe Representative of the 99th district.

- Basically represents City of Springfield.
- City continually talking about Lake 2
- He is a farmer and very interested in water and how we control our right of water useage
- Probably the biggest discussion this century will be the natural resource of water.
- Glad that the RWSPC is looking ahead and starting to plan
- He wonders if water retention areas should be built to get ready for a shortage in case there is one.

Thank You

MAC AND RWSPC

Chairman Uken asked Mel Pleines the Chair of the MAC to give an overview of where RWSPC are at, what the committee is doing and a brief history of the MAC.

Mel said that MAC was formed in 1998 at the Illinois water conference in Champaign. The reason it was formed to make sure there was a good study of the Mahomet Aquifer.

A power point was presented to give an overview of the committee members, funding, demand/supply report, the 15 Counties involved & why RWSPC was formed.

Please refer to packet for presentation.

WELCOME
LEGISLATORS

Naomi Jakobsson representative 103rd district.

- Represents all Urbana, most of Champaign and a small section of Savoy.

- Rich Brown representative 100th district.
- Represents Big C around Springfield. Raymond has the interior part of Springfield and Rich takes in Lincoln, southwest corner of Logan, Menard and the southeast part of Sangamon County.
- He stated that it is important to do the water study work now and get planning done now to really be able to monitor what is going on.
- There are a lot of questions with that aquifer that has been unanswered. It's exciting to be taking these steps that need to be taken.

Mel Pleines said that RWSPC also takes in the surface water supply in groundwater.

Chairman Uken said that one of the RWSPC charges is to look at surface water and the demand side. The Demand study has which been completed. WHPA of Bloomington Indiana completed that. The Executive Summary is a 36-37 page document provided to the Legislators. You may review that at your leisure. Chairman Uken gave a brief overview on highlights of the document (historical withdrawals and future withdrawals).

Al Wehrmann talked briefly about the supply side. Water to 2050 as a charge of the State Geological Survey and the Water Survey to look at the resource side and say not how much is available but what would the impacts be on our resources. So as of right now the survey is taking the demand numbers and applying it to the models and resource and see if there will be enough water to 2050 to meet those projected demands. Al said that they are a little bit behind schedule due to the funding being cut starting in July 2008. The Survey is using their own resources to get it done. The survey will be generating results probably in the next couple months. They will get the RWSPC as much information as possible ahead of time so the committee knows what the surveys will be presenting by July. Al will be showing the committee very preliminary results later during the meeting.

Chairman Uken said that the committee's charge is to come up with regional water supply planning and management options. This is what the committee needs to do so that water demands can be met moving toward the year 2050. The committee is starting to discuss that later today. Chairman Uken said one of the things in the report will be the need for the continuation of the study with a need for revisiting demands and supply every 5 or 10 years. After June 2009 that's it. There is nothing authorized for the committee

past June 2009 to do or money allocated. The Committee's charge is to produce a scientific regional water supply planning and management recommendations report. Chairman Uken's personal opinion is they need to continue this beyond 2009. RWSPC is funded by a grant through the Governor and his Executive Order. The Committee got the first 2 years of funding from the MAC grant and the 3rd year has been cut. The Committee has been conservative and has not spent all of the grant money. The Committee will be able to produce a report even with funding being cut for the 3rd year; however, one of the charges for education (educating the public of the results of the report and the planning and management options) can not be done without future funding. A recommendation needs to be made to revisit this and to create some sort of group that would continue forward after June of 2009. That's sort of the future funding that needs to be done. So there is a need for future funding on this and that is an area where each of you can perhaps help the committee with some of that. Education will be sacrificed with the budget cuts. There is a great deal of need for the 3rd year of funding to be restored on this project and future funding past June 2009.

Representative Poe said that being in Sangamon county they're concerned with surface water. A few years ago there were some recommendations on straitening the river, creating space along the river and ways to control surface water better. Is RWSPC going to make a recommendation on controlling surface water better? Being from Sangamon County and just experiencing a lot of flooding they are quiet interested in controlling surface water.

Chairman Uken said that surface water is something the committee is looking at. Right now the committee has very few recommendations put together but that is something the committee will have by June of 2009. Could surface water be part of the report, absolutely.

Representative Brauer said he feels that the main thing is to keep them informed as it goes through and always feel free to come to their office to discuss any of the process.

Chairman Uken said that this was the reason for this meeting invitation to the legislators. The Committee does have the demand side and the supply side of the equation started and that is why committee wanted to invite legislators. We appreciate you for taking the time!! Thank you for coming out today.

Bill Smith said that the IDNR has helped during this process. Without Mr. Clark and his efforts, we couldn't do without their support. You need to encourage all legislators in Illinois to reinstate funding not only for this project but for the Water and Geological Surveys since they are having to struggle to do something without the necessary resources.

Chairman Uken said that not only was the funding for RWSPC project cut there were also cuts to the surveys budgets and IDNR. That has an effect on what the committee is doing because those are the scientific people that the committee is leaning on in many instances to help with this project.

Naomi Jakobsson asked what she could do when talking about the funding being cut for the education part and looking on how that might suffer. She stated that anyway that she can help she certainly will do so. When meeting around the state at farm bureaus and meeting different places in the state she will help stress the importance of the work surveys doing and the need for the education of their findings.

Chairman Uken thanked the legislators again for coming.

MOTION

MOTION BY BILL SMITH, SECOND BY MORRIS BELL to approve the September 26, 2008 meeting minutes.

On voice vote, MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

INTRO. OF WATER UTILITIES RWSPC MEMBER

The newest member of the committee Steve Wegman. Please refer to the sheets in the packet for all background information and his contact information. Welcome Steve!

MAC TREASURE REPORT

Dorland Smith reviewed the treasure report. Please refer to packet.

Dwain Berggren said thank you to Dorland for being so attentive to this report and the financial statements are clear and complete. Coming up on two years it's a consistent performance. The fact that the committee has any money at all is partly due to the fact that committee has such good reports given to them.

Gary Clark said that they are getting ready to start work on next years budget.

Jay Henry asked if there had been additional contact with the Northeast committee group?

Chairman Uken said yes, he e-mailed Robert Martin and walked through many of the points that had been discussed, that the committee is working with legislators and the university. There was no response to the e-mail.

Dwain Berggren said that the Water Supply Planning in Illinois: Current Status and Future Outlook report by Al Wehrmann was a very nice piece of work.

MAC FINAL
REPORT
WRITER
TERMS

In last months meeting it was approved as a committee and motions were made to instruct the MAC to engage Dr. Derek Winstanley as the RWSPC writer/facilitator for the final report.

Dorland Smith said that after the last committee meeting he spoke with Dr. Winstanley and asked him in addition to his proposal to the group to put together some kind of an agreement that the committee could take a look at, which he did. MAC had the regular meeting on October 16, 2008 and after that there was a special board meeting to consider the agreement in addition to the proposal. The MAC board did agree with Dr. Winstanley to sign the agreement. The letter to IDNR was then put together to let them know and ask for their approval. On October 23, 2008 a letter was sent back saying that IDNR has agreed with the MAC board to hire Dr. Winstanley. Maximum payment would not exceed \$35,000 without the approval of the MAC board. Also, Dr. Winstanley will be putting together some talking points for the committee. RWSPC may go into more than one meeting a month. Conference calls would also be encouraged.

Welcome aboard Dr. Derek Winstanley! RWSPC looks forward to working with you.

WEBSITE
REPORT

Final Report – Posting of Derek Winstanley & Ben Dziegielewski. Chairman Uken got a call from Jack with WHPA after the last meeting. Jack & Susan were concerned that Derek Winstanley's comments could be taken as part as the demand scenario. Which was never the intention. Jack & Susan were concerned that they didn't have the opportunity to respond to Derek's comments. Chairman Uken said that the set up can be changed if it appears to Jack & Susan that it is part of the final report. A comments section

could be created to have comments submitted into. Jack & Susan then wanted to submit their own comments.

Dr. Derek Winstanley's comments were two parts. First part was that WHPA had basically taken care of most of the data problems but there were still some outstanding data problems. Which Dr. Winstanley then identified the errors and inconsistencies & they were all in chapter two. WHPA then made the changes and submitted a revised chapter two for posting on the website. Chairman Uken said they have been posted on the website already.

Second part was the uncertainty on the future demand scenarios. In the executive summary of the report it says "the" range of uncertainty is captured by those three scenarios. In the body of the report it says "a" range of uncertainty is captured by those three scenarios. So just the difference of use in the executive summary and the report would be "the" range and "a" range. Which is what caused all this uncertainty. Ben Dziegielewski then approved the comments.

PRELIMINARY
RESULTS OF
WATER SUPPLY
PLANNING

Presentation. Please refer to packet.

LUNCH

FINAL
REPORT

POTENTIAL
MNGMT.
OPTIONS

RWSPC Potential Recommendations 10/31/08 draft. Please refer to handout in packet.

OTHER
BUSINESS

Committee discussed having Mary Ann Dickerson speak regarding Management options. Dates for January 30th & February 27th meetings are good but location is to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Uken adjourned the meeting at 2:01pm.

MOTION

MOTION BY BILL SMITH, SECOND BY DWAIN BERGGREN to approve the adjournment.