

**DRAFT**

## **Minutes from the Mahomet Aquifer Task Force Meeting**

March 26, 2018

Place: Champaign County Board; Brookens Administrative Center; 1776 East Washington Street  
Urbana, Illinois.

Time Started: 10:00 AM

Time Adjourned: 12:04pm.

### Members Present:

Teresa Barnett, DeWitt County Emergency Management Agency

Lynn Karmer, Illinois Pipe Trade Associates

Claudia Lennhoff, Champaign County Healthcare Consumers

Charles Hostettler, PDC Technical Services

Alec Davis, Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group

Donovan Griffith, Illinois Manufactures Association

Jim Risley, Mahomet-Seymour School District

Representative Carol Ammons, 103<sup>rd</sup> District

Mayor Deborah Frank-Feinen, City of Champaign

Mayor Charles Smith, Village of Rantoul

Mayor Chris Koos, City of Normal

Steve Turner, Illinois Farm Bureau

Senator Chapin Rose, 51<sup>st</sup> District

Director Alec Messina, Illinois EPA

Mayor Diane Marlin, City of Urbana

George Roadcamp, Illinois State Water Survey/Prairie Rivers Institute

Andrew Rehn, Prairie Rivers Network

Senator Scott Bennett, 52<sup>nd</sup> District

Mayor Todd Zalucha, City of Heyworth

Mayor Julie Moore-Wolfe, City of Decatur

Eric Ballenger, Republic Service

Jay Timm, Illinois EPA

Rick Cobb, Illinois EPA

## **TOPICS DISCUSSED:**

### **Approval of the Minutes from February 23, 2018 Meeting**

Chairwomen, Deb Feinen calls the meeting to order and asks everyone to please sign the attendance sheet as that is how for record purposes, the task force will be keeping track as to who is attending the meetings.

First order of business was to pass minutes from the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks for a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teresa Barnett makes a motion and Claudia Lenhoff seconds the motion. There was no discussion or corrections to the minutes and the motion passes.

### **Adoption of Rules of Order for the Task Force**

Chairwomen Deb Feinen opens the floor for discussion how the Task Force should be ruled. Representative Carol Ammons makes a motion that the Task Force use Roberts Rules of order to govern the structure of the meetings. **The motion was second, however audio and video was not able to capture-Deb do you have that on your notes?** Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks if there are any additional discussion on the structure of meetings. Representative Carol Ammons comments that the Task Force have a minority report that lists legislatively all that the items the Task Force wasn't able to complete and come up with even with the extension to produce. There was general discussion that there would be space in the minority report. Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks if there are any additional discussion on the minority report. There was none. There was the motion on the floor of the adoption of Roberts Rules for governing the Task Force. The motion does pass.

### **Adoption of Sub-Committees based on statutory responsibilities for Task Force**

Chairwomen Deb Feinen begins the discussion that the Task Force would try to look at sub-committees by the legislative breakdown. She first off references the item marked "Draft for Discussion" This document duck tales with the sub-committee discussion. Chairwomen Deb Feinen opens the floor for discussion on sub-committees. Steve Turner comments that even in subcommittee format they will have to meet more than once per moth to achieve the deadline. Steve Turner makes a motion to not have sub-committees. Donovan Griffith echoes Steve's comments and concerns. The issues do not stand alone. The Task Force can not move forward without the other. You can't have a sub-committee developing a state plan separate from a sub-committee developing the legislative recommendations. I would second Steve's motion to not have sub-committees as they drafted.

Chairwomen Deb Feinen comments that a Task Force member would not be prohibited from attending any of the sub-committee meetings. This is just a goal to have a workable number of individuals in a room to get some work accomplished. The reality is there isn't legislation in place

to extend the deadline from June and there is a lot of work to be completed. Senator Bennett updates the Task Force on the legislative extension that he feels confident of a December extension.

Teresa Barnett supports the need for sub-committees and realizes the Task Force has a magnitude of work to do and a lot of research to do as well. Donovan Griffith comments to the conversation that may happen on sub-committee level that he may not be aware of. Alec Messina comments that everyone has an interest in each of the sub-committees and that either way would work, with or without a sub-committee. Senator Chapin Rose comments the need for sub-committees to get the work completed but agrees that the sub-committees as drafted in the Agenda need to be rearranged. Mayor Todd Zalucha agrees that the sub-committees as drafted need to be rearranged. Alec Davis (microphone is not turned on and unable to hear his comments). Representative Carol Ammons agrees the bullet points a b c d need to be rearranged. Mayor Chris Koos asks if the sub-committees come back to the full Task Force. Charles Hoestetler asks if there will be logistical support for sub-committees? Alec Messina comments that it will be a challenge but the Illinois EPA will support the Tasks Force overall vote and make it work. Jim Risley comments that he believes the sub-committees are necessary and would you just self-identify with a sub-committee? Chairwomen Deb Feinen agreed that you would self-identify what sub-committee you would like to be on. There would be nothing precluding you from going to any meeting. There would be a need for a sub-chairperson as well. Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks for a show of hands how many Task Force members would attend all the sub-committee meetings. Half of the Task Force members raised their hands. George Roadcap suggested the rearrangement of the bullets a b c d in the drafted sub-committees. Donovan Griffith asks if a Task Force member can be active in all the sub-committees. Chairwomen Deb Feinen agreed that yes that you are more engaged in the sub-committee level and get more work done and the Task Force level is where you do the organizing and it hard to get to the meat of the issues. Alec Davis comments (microphone is not turned off and unable to hear his comments) Steve Turner (microphone is turned off and unable to hear his comments) Chairwomen Deb Feinen states that there is still a motion on the floor for no sub-committees by Steve Turner and second by Donovan Griffith. Vote of 4-0 that motion does not pass.

Senator Bennet makes a motion to adopt 2 plans

Stage 1 Sub-Committees

B. Identifying potential and current contamination threats to the water quality of the Mahomet Aquifer

C. Identifying actions that might be taken to ensure the long-term protection of the Mahomet Aquifer

Stage 2 Full Task Force

A Developing a state plan to maintain the groundwater quality of the Mahomet Aquifer

D. Making legislative recommendations for future protection of the Mahomet Aquifer

Andrew Rehn comments that he doesn't want the issues to fall by the waste side. When does the Task Force transition focusing on Stage 1 to Stage 2 and does the Task Force have a plan up front at looking at legislative options? Senator Bennett proposes that Stage 1 Sub-Committees original date June 1 is the deadline and Stage 2 is everything after that. Representative Carol Ammons supports the bullet recommendation of rearranging the bullets B and C (Stage 1) and A and D (Stage 2). Donovan Griffith asks if we are keeping A and D as whole and the consensus is yes. Senator Rose comments that Emergency Response deserves its own sub-committee. It cannot be covered under bullets A and D alone. Alec Messina concurs with emergency response importance but that the Task Force needs to get the ball rolling on other topics and as the Task Force proceeds can decide what areas need more attention. Representative Ammons comments that perhaps the Mahomet issue could fall under bullet B contaminate issues. Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks if George Roadcap would like to amend is recommendation of rearranging the draft sub-committees? Senator Bennett interjects that he made a motion to layout Stage 1 (B and C) for Sub-Committee chairs could rearrange or create additional sub-committee as they see fit. Senator Bennett will not amend his motion but change the date from June 1 to September 1 for Sub-Committee work completion. That would give the whole Task Force 3 months to complete the state plan. Alec Messina seconds Senator Bennett's motion. Mayor Diane Marlin notes that she assumes the Illinois EPA will take the lead logistical support for the Sub-Committees. Alec Messina notes that is correct.

Chairwomen Deb Feinen called for a show of hands as to who is favor of Roadcap Plan as amended signify by raising your hand. Senator Bennett's motion passes All in Task Force Members were in favor minus Senator Rose who was against.

**Discussion and Approval of Assignment of Areas of Interest identified at 2/23/18 meeting to Sub-Committees (See "Draft for Discussion" Document)**

Chairwomen Deb Feinen opens the floor for discussion about how to move items around. Alec Davis (microphone is not on and unable to hear his comments). Chairwomen Deb Feinen sees the document as guidance to get sub-committees started. The task force has a small amount of time to do a lot of work and this document is a kick off point. Alec Davis (microphone not on and unable to hear his comments). Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks the task force if anyone has any other suggestion on how to move items around on the document. Alec Messina wants to make sure that when the Agency revises this document bases on comments today that we have it correct. Senator Rose comments that he would like to see emergency action plans under one heading instead of two. Alec Messina wants to make sure that the understands what the general discussion has been so that the Agency can reformat the "discussion document," bullets one and three under A will move into heading B and bullet 2 under D will move to C. Public education component along with legislation piece will move to the end. George Roadcap comments that under B, 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet groundwater restriction ordinance under C and under C move first bullet under B recharge. Under D move first bullet into B and 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet under C as well. Chairwomen Deb

Feinen asks task force if we have a consensus and states that the sub-committees can add or subtract as they go as well. Alec Messina repeats the “Draft Discussion” layout:

Bullets 1 and 3 move into subgroup B

Public Education will move down to legislative/state planning at the end with full task force

First bullet in C move into B

Second bullet in D move into C

Donovan Griffith comments that we made a motion to create two sub-committees and it would be surprising if we didn't have the entire task force participate in both sub-committees. Senator Ammons comments that you still have a sub-committee to do the legislative planning plus the full task force to take care of the additional work. It serves its original purpose.” You can select to participate on both subcommittees. Chairwomen Deb Feinen comments to make sure that when putting the survey monkey out to make sure the Agency has a question for asking if anyone wants to chair a sub-committee. Andrew Rehn asks for clarification on the sub-committees vs. full task forces is that its short-term planning vs long term planning. Consensus to that question is yes. Alec Messina comments that as we go we will adjust accordingly in the sub-committees and the full task force to accomplish the needs of each. Senator Rose comments that administratively Chairwomen Deb Feinen could assign various items to the sub-committees to avoid overlap. Sub-committee chair should not be legislative led but citizen led. Senator Ammons agrees with Senator Roses comments. Chairwomen Deb Feinen comments that on survey monkey to provide dates for first round of sub-committee dates.

### **TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS**

Randy Locke and Jason Thomason both from Illinois State Water Survey/Prairie Research Institute presented technical presentations to the Mahomet Aquifer Task Force Members and members of the Public. The topics of the presentations included:

#### **Randy Locke: An Introduction to Natural Gas Storage in Illinois**

Prairie Research Institute (PRI) Natural Gas Working Group goals are to assist stakeholder and consider natural gas storage activities. Their “Introductory Guide” includes basic info on the Mahomet Aquifer and natural gas storage and a list of potential aquifer protection issues for task force consideration.

Natural Gas Quick Facts in Illinois

Gas Storage Reservoir Types in US-Oil/gas reservoirs, mature reservoirs, saline aquifers or saline reservoirs

Gas Storage in IL-24 active sites in 24 counties-1186 active gas storage wells

Top 5 counties with most wells-Kankakee, Champaign, LaSalle, Livingston, McLean

About 75% of natural gas storage wells were constructed in the 1970s or earlier

Federal Task Force Recommendations-Ensure Integrity, Risk Management, Research and Data Gathering, Immediate Regulatory Actions

IDNR-OOGRM: Ensure that oil and Gas operators comply with regulations; Issue violations for non-compliance; 3 districts; 12 inspectors; Conducted 32,00 inspections in 2017

#### Manlove Gas Storage Field Leak

- McCord#2 well (4,000 feet deep)
- Leak first identified: Dec. 6, 2016
- Leakage through the well casing at 500 ft below land surface
- Reported to IEMA
- Groundwater sampling identified private wells with thermogenic methane
- In active litigation with Illinois AG, DNR and EPA

#### **Jason Thomason-ISWS: The Future of Science of the Mahomet Aquifer**

Why a new Vision?

- Mahomet Aquifer Workshop held June 2017 UIUC
- Summary; Identify/Revisit Stakeholder Needs
- Science Research
- Communicate

How do we map aquifers?

-Traditional Methods: drilling/historical records; sample analyses; 1-D, 2-D geophysical imaging; cross-section interpretation; single county-scale 3-d mapping (4-5yrs)

How do we m

-New Methods: Airborne geophysics; efficient/targeted ground-based geophysics; 3-D visualization; single county-scale 3-D mapping (months)

Transient Electromagnetics-TEM

- Airborne Profiling Tool Helicopter TEM (HTEM)

#### **Future Meetings**

Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks the task force if there is anyone who would like to host future meetings? Steve comments that June will work better, planting will be completed but irrigation will be going on.

#### **Public Comments**

Steve Bridges private citizen from Dewitt County. Overall wants to thank the task force for coming together to protect the Mahomet Aquifer and asking the Illinois EPA to review some their procedures for permitting and enforcement.

Chairwomen Deb Feinen asked for any other tasks force comments. There were none. Also asked for next agenda items to be sent to her for the next full task for meeting. Asked for a motion to adjourn (did not see or hear who made motion to adjourn but I believe Sen Bennet 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion)