

Minutes from the Mahomet Aquifer Task Force Meeting

August 6, 2018

Place: Jeld-Wen Windows and Doors 201 Evans Road Rantoul, 61866

Time Started: 11:30 AM

Time Adjourned: 12:20 PM

Members Present:

Charles Hostetler, PDC Technical Services
Alec Davis, Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group
Donovan Griffith, Illinois Manufactures Association
Jim Risley, Mahomet-Seymour School District
Mayor Charles Smith, Village of Rantoul
Senator Chapin Rose, 51st District
Director Alec Messina, Illinois EPA
Andrew Rehn, Prairie Rivers Network
Mayor Julie Moore-Wolfe, City of Decatur
Mayor Larry Stoner, City of Monticello
Mayor Deb Feinen, City of Champaign
Mayor Diane Marlin, City of Urbana
Andrew Rehn, Prairie Rivers Network
Barb Lieberoff, Illinois EPA
Rick Cobb, Illinois EPA

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

Approval of the Minutes from June 18, 2018

Chairwomen Mayor Deb Feinen calls the meeting to order. Chairwomen Deb Feinen states that first item on the Agenda is approval of minutes from June 18, 2018 and asks if there any discussion or comments. Motion from Mayor Larry Stoner to approve. Second by Mayor Charles Smith. Chairwomen Deb Feinen asks for any other corrections or comments? All those in favor signify by saying "I" those not in favor. The motion to approve the minutes passes.

Presentation: Chris Stohr: Illinois' Legacy Landfills, and Implications for Mahomet Aquifer Groundwater Resources

Chris begins his presentation and shows a slide with Figure – 1970 this shows the construction of the legacy landfills. There are 3,430 legacy landfills in Illinois. 3,430 unlined, thin covered landfills; 1,524 lie over shallow aquifers within 20 inch surface; 94 lie within karst areas this a place where there are sink holes and caves developed; 44 actively operating landfills; 80% - ½ km high and medium intensity development; 95% - ½ km H/M/L Intensity development—people are living fairly close to these landfills...more than likely poorer people; 218 locations over the Mahomet aquifer; 94 lie over shallow grounds; Why are old landfills important? 50% of annual precipitation infiltrates the covering of the landfills; 36” per year of precipitation of Illinois of which 18” infiltrates the covering. Precipitation creates a mound and then gases escape and water leachates out. It costs 4 million to put a new covering on. Where does the leachate go? Fluids or water travels laterally or vertically or both and it then may go into the aquifers. This isn't an issue until contamination occurs and this is often discovered by accident. Some communities have 5 years left of water from their aquifer. What is being done? Passively==wells are being monitored, field walkover inspection. Walkover inspections have some issues. The entire landfill will not be traversed in an hour. Human perception is obscured by vegetation. Observations skewed by season, rainfall and access. Paper tracking can be an issue as well as remembering what was observed. Active==better way to achieve inspections. Sustainable asset management, remote sensing technology. Ariel traverses can give a good look from above to all the way down. Can be done in the office prior to going onsite. Focused field inspection for preventative maintenance. GIS based sustainable management. How can technology help? LiDAR is an example. LiDAR takes a pulse of light and scans it across a flight path. The 3D image can be draped over an ariel photograph or can be put into a model. Ariel photography can be useful as well. A digital mapping camera is used and it consists of 6 lenses, 4 cameras. This removes relief displacement and it can be put into GIS format. It's been asked why not use Google Earth? It's okay however it's just not good enough. Drones and satellites are too expensive. Sustainable Legacy Landfill Management- Identify, measure, check and assess. Which legacy landfills pose the greatest risk to the Mahomet Aquifer? All of them. Identify defects on earthen covers for field verification; prioritize maintenance and repair those defects. Sustainable maintenance is very important. Update the training of field inspectors. This can be a problem b/c of lack of resources. Collect landfill data and information into a geodatabase. Subsequent use of forest and park districts are helpful. Assist in recommending what to do with the old landfills; can it be used as a natural area? Minimized deferred maintenance risk—find out where the threats are. Maintenance is a very big aspect of keeping these older landfills in check. There were no questions from the Task Force for Chris Stohr after his presentation.

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Sub-Committee A Update “Identifying potential and current contamination threat to the water quality of the Mahomet Aquifer”-Charles Hostetler

Charles Hostetler comments that Sub-Committee A is in the process of making sure what the final work product will like. We have a vision up front in the form of a narrative explain what we did and how we did it. We will have the template and worksheet that I’m asking all the members to look at. This will also be posted to the website. This is the Threat Matrix from George Roadcap. We will accept all comments on that. There was discussion on terminology...high quality work product that has everyone’s input on the word threat. Charles Hostetler will be working with George Roadcap on that. There were more general issues will be focusing on such as roadsalt in addition to the Manlove 4, groundwater assessment etc. I feel we are in a good spot to get our work product completed by September.

Sub-Committee B Update “Identifying B Update “Identifying actions that might be taken to ensure the long-term protection of the Mahomet Aquifer”-Larry Stoner

Mayor Larry Stoner comments and explains what they did this morning and points to the board behind him and Jim Risley’s presentation. Mayor Stoner asks Jim Risley to come up and give a brief review of what the sub-committee did earlier. Jim Risley comments and say that the sub-committee looked at 138 recommendations and prioritized 7 categories that they have. We put themes together. We spent about 30 minutes discussing how to prioritize, categorize and even eliminate recommendations. Talked about proceeding 40 appendix A items that we need to condense. We want to put that into a working document to present to general assembly. After they’re done condensing the recommendations. Will be having the board behind me put into a working powerpoint so that we can continue working on it as a group at the August 20 meeting. Mayor Stoner comments that we will continue to work on this process at the next meeting.

Future Sub-Committee Meetings

Chairwomen Mayor Feinen comments that the next meeting will be held August 20 and we will be working to find a location. September meeting is on the 17th. Andrew Rehn asks if conference call will be available for the next meeting. Barb Lieberoff comments that yes that will be set up.

Committee Comments

Senator Chapin Rose comments and thanks Chris Stohr for his presentation and that it was very informative. He is worried about the lack of knowledge of what is in those old landfills and how that is affecting our aquifers.

Public Comments

Susan Adams with Illinois East Central Regional Water Planning Committee. She comments that she is a member of MAC and there was a meeting twice a month. She references a presentation from the July 26th meeting and how it relates to the Task Force. Encourages others to come to MAC and how it can help the Task Force.

Adjourn

Prior to adjourning Chairwomen Mayor Feinen updates the public of what will be going into the final report. Encourages the public to come see the board that Sub-Committee B was doing and that a picture of it would be on the webpage. Additional comments made from member of MAC (didn't identify himself) regarding the drought report that they put out and how disappointed they were in the comments from local government. Thinks this report would be helpful in the final report. Motion to adjourn Mayor Larry Stoner Seconded by Mayor Charles Smith. Meeting Adjourned.