

MINUTES
Technical Committee Meeting
ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF WASTEWATER AGENCIES
Starved Rock State Park, Utica, Illinois
Friday, January 9, 2009

I. Jennifer Hindel, Vice-President – Technical called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. The minutes of the November 14, 2008 meeting were approved as written.

III. Subcommittee Reports

A) Administration – Kim Lytle

No report

B) Legislative – Stan Browning & Steve Davis

Downers Grove submitted a proposal on the bidding process under the Illinois Municipal Code. Kip has lined up support from the IL Municipal League. If any member is interested in having legislation presented, time is short and you will need to submit proposals ASAP for possible legislation to Stan or Steve to forward to Kip.

Announcement came prior to today's meeting on the impeachment vote of 114-1 in the House. Senate is expected to begin their Articles of Impeachment January 15th or 16th, with impeachment probable early February.

Illinois will likely see a Capitol budget and a ½% income tax increase as well as a gas tax increase.

C) Pretreatment – Joe Robinson

No report

D) Water Quality – Rick Manner

During the November Technical Committee meeting, members approved committee continue to collect data from members, and to hire a consultant to evaluate the technical basis for metals limits in NPDES permits, since IEPA has been adding low metals limits in more permits. IEPA is increasing their monitoring across the state. At this meeting, there are no formal proposals or numbers yet to report on the study. One potential consultant, Prof. David Soucek of UIUC, was contacted by IEPA on updating limits on boron, fluoride, and manganese. So IEPA is aware that more of their limits need to be addressed. There is currently money in the budget to cover a study on pollutants that affect IAWA members. Rick will keep members posted.

E) Collection Systems – Tom Meyer

No report

F) TMDL/Nutrients – Tim Bachman

For all practical purposes the carbon footprint report is complete, although Jon Butt will be producing a final copy that includes the data received for the MWRDGC plants. The finished product should be available by February 1 and will be distributed to committee members when it is received. If you do have any remaining comments (which should be minor at this point given our previous reviews) on the copy distributed this week, please get them to Tim within the next two weeks.

A cover letter for transmittal of the report will be prepared by a smaller group of committee members (Fred Andes, Roy Harsch, Rick Manner, Nick Menninga, and Tim Bachman). The draft of that letter will be circulated to the entire subcommittee for review and comment.

To whom and when this report and cover letter will be sent has not yet been decided. That decision will be based on how to get the best impact from the report as more information on the status of nutrient standards becomes available. In that regard, as a starting point, Tim will contact Chris Hornback at NACWA to make him aware of our report and to determine how carbon footprint information is being developed/used with respect to nutrient standard development nation wide and how useful our information might be.

It was also recommended that the Executive Committee schedule a meeting with Marcia Willhite at IEPA to discuss the current status of the development of nutrient standards in Illinois and to emphasize IAWA's continued objection to one size fits all nutrient effluent or water quality standards in Illinois. We do believe that a water quality standard is appropriate where benefits can be shown and that our suggested Combined Scenario A & B which we submitted to them last year meets that objective. IEPA has not officially responded to that submittal and there are no scheduled Nutrient Workgroup meetings coming up to our knowledge.

We will try to schedule the next subcommittee meeting in conjunction with the Mini-Conference to be held March 12th and 13th.

G.) FPA – Dennis Duffield

No report

H.) Stream Use Classification Systems – Nick Menninga

Not much progress made since last meeting, but hope to have a draft report by Mini-Conference in March. Anyone interested in serving on the committee, please contact IAWA office or Nick Menninga at nmenninga@dgsd.org

I.) Dissolved Oxygen Standard – Dennis Streicher

USEPA sent certification letter to IEPA on December 18th, so new standards will be showing up in permits. Dennis suggested committee has completed its task and should be disbanded. Dennis and his committee were thanked for all their hard work. Roy Harsch suggested Association still needs to monitor to make sure the 303 & 305 lists incorporate the new standard.

J.) Energy – Nick Menninga

No report

K.) NACWA Network – Lou Kollias

Should be receiving NACWA updates via e-mail from IAWA. Lou is planning on attending their upcoming conference and informed members NACWA is receptive to what is going on with nutrient standards and will provide feedback at the March Mini Conference.

IV. New Business

Brian Dorn will be scheduling a meeting with IAWA's Executive Committee, Marcia and IEPA staff to discuss a number of issues, one of which will be the potential federal stimulus funding for wastewater projects. Due to the time issue, IAWA has put together an Ad-Hoc committee charged with developing suggestions and strategies for assisting IEPA with creating a procedure and mechanism for the efficient and effective distribution of any Economic Stimulus Money granted the State of Illinois for wastewater infrastructure and compliance projects. **The Committee is open to all and will meet through a series of conference calls to be held at 1:30 p.m. (CST) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 13th, 14th, & 15th.** To participate please call the following Access Number - (888) 621-9540 and enter meeting number *2128424*. The goal of the committee is to formulate ideas on streamlining the Clean Water SRF process and to present those to IEPA.

John Browning reported that the Operator Training Certification Board is promoting a letter writing campaign to the Governor to get him to hire more employees at IEPA.

V. Old Business

The 2009 Mini Conference will be held March 12 – 13, 2009 at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, Illinois.

The 2009 Annual Meeting will be held September 15 – 16, 2009 at Four Points Sheraton in Fairview Heights, Illinois.

VI. Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 11:59 p.m.