

**Minutes from the Sub-Committee B Meeting**  
**“Identifying actions that might be taken to ensure the long-term protection of the Mahomet Aquifer”**

September 17, 2018

Place: Illinois State Capitol Committee Room 212, 401 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Springfield, Illinois

Time Started: 9:30 AM

Time Adjourned: 11:00 AM

**Members Present:**

Charles Hostettler, PDC Technical Services  
Alec Davis, Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group  
Jim Risley, Mahomet-Seymour School District  
Donovan Griffith, Illinois Manufacturers Association  
Sen. Chapin Rose, 51<sup>st</sup> District (by phone)  
Mayor Diane Marlin, City of Urbana  
Mayor Deb Feinen, City of Champaign  
Steve Turner, Illinois Farm Bureau  
David Zimmerman, Tazewell County  
Claudia Lenhoff, Champaign County Health Care Consumers  
Teresa Barnett, Dewitt County Emergency Management Agency  
George Roadcap, Prairie Research Institute, Illinois State Water Survey  
Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe, City of Decatur  
Mayor Charles Smith, Village of Rantoul  
Director Alec Messina, Illinois EPA  
Barb Lieberoff, Illinois EPA  
Rick Cobb, Illinois EPA

**TOPICS DISCUSSED:**

**Discussion of Minutes from 9-4 Meeting**

Sub-Committee Chairmen Mayor Larry Stoner opened the meeting and asked if there were any comments on the minutes. There were none.

## **Work on MAPTF**

Prior to beginning that discussion Jim Risley comments that he would like to call in and make some comments. Senator Rose begins by discussing the HTEM and that was the top priority by everyone's results. He'd like to recommend that be its own category b/c of the price tag and b/c of two reasons. Local Champaign Co has been to Washington DC talking to federal gov't and could be work in progress to get that paid for. Hate to take the place of some of the things would could be working on immediately. Second item is People's Gas issue be included in our report. I know second sub-committee may be bringing that forward. Charles Hostetler has a comment to Sen Rose's People's Gas comment. Charles Hostetler comments that is on their draft report and will be bringing that forward. Charles asks Senator Rose if the existing legislation that has been passed is enough to address or if they should add something else? Sen. Rose comments on the regulations on DNR that they have been drafting. We could get DNR's view on that as well. Andrew Rehn comments on the fine limits from DNR. Rick Cobb comments DNR working on the SB2706 DNR's fines. Senator Rose comments local governments taking control of their own destiny. Ex. Tazewell County. Zoning overlays. Side topic in report to encourage that. Create a state advisory panel. Chris Stohr had very interesting presentation to train field staff in landfills. My last comment is to enhance monitoring legacy landfills and modern landfills and studied and made available. Mayor Larry Stoner asks if anyone has comments to Sen Roses call. Claudia Lenhoff agrees with Sen Rose's comments in general and agrees regarding Chris Stohr's suggestions on landfills and wrap those into our recommendations. Rick Cobb comments on his GPSI intern's presentation on 807 landfills (prelaw landfills regs) extensive evaluation of those- Chris Stohr methodology) details inspection, monitoring, closure, 5 are as high recharge-lidar data-train modeling-finishing up for Task Force to see. Teresa Barnett echo's Senator Rose's comments-local government control their own destiny. Share data only don't supersede. Jim Risley comments on Chapin's comment on forming a permanent entity makeup something similar of this Task Force. I think everyone would agree that that that may give some red flags. I've read all the comment letters about that fear of this task force going above and beyond. I've got a statement about that fear and I'll take a stab at reading that now. Develop a group similar to the Mahomet Aquifer Taskforce and a blend of selected individuals that serve with an advisory capacity to provide leadership maybe administrative structure and processes for regional water supply and logistical advisory management. That way maybe the group shouldn't dissolve in December and it can evolve later on. This group can be helpful and useful. Charles Hostetler comments that this gets back to a point that's been raised before. There is a recommendation that is worded on that matrix and I said a couple meetings ago I could be supportive or not supportive based on how it worded. I think Donovan and Alec commented that they had to talk to their group and I would to raise that not as an objective but we have been fiddling with that a lot but those details do matter. Alec Davis comments my rankings are based on my constituency and based on the language as it is and I can't change those rankings b/c we are changing some things here today. Steve Turner comments on the different groups and their recommendations and will that be confusing? Rick Cobb comments on the statutorily group Groundwater Advisory Council and recognize that group and possibly point recommendations to them. Western side you have the regional groundwater protection committee. Claudia Lenhoff comments that she supports advisory group focusing on aquifer ready to make recommendations to legislature and hopes it gets pursued-no harm in advisory group. Mayor Diane Marlin has question on the GAC and who they advise and who does MAC report to and who does the Regional Groundwater Advisory Council Report to? Rick Cobb comments the Governor appointed GAC has their own

chairperson interact with the state committee and I am Dir Messina designee on that. Regional Committee's designate local stakeholders and have own committee and we don't mandate and have own direction. They come back to the Illinois EPA, but they have own officers etc. local input as well. Director Alec Messina comments on Diane Marlin's question. I think what you're wanting to know is to whom do these groups' recommendations go to and to who acts on those decisions. Rick Cobb continues explaining the roles of state agencies with GAC, MAC and groundwater councils. Tied together in coordinated fashion. Been going on since 1988. George Roadcap explains the role of MAC-stakeholders and more of water quantity. Diane Marlin comments on GAC and if it's permanent council? Rick Cobb comments that they are appointed every 2-3 years. Andrew Rehn comments that there is something that there isn't something like this group specifically dealing on Mahomet Aquifer specifically? Rick Cobb comments that is true. Jim Risley comments that the Gen Assembly necessary to create the Task Force. PRI felt it was necessary to create recommendations. Strengthens my thoughts that something like this is necessary. Charles Hostetler comments on GAC 1988 MAC 20yrs and now Mahomet Aquifer Taskforce now we have some wording that is different than the intent of the legislation. I could be support on some ways but it's based on how it's written I just want to be very clear. Jim Risley comments we need to be clear on as is. Larry Stoner comments wouldn't it do us better to put our info into the report and give to full committee and then let them debate it and adjust later. Jim Risley comments that he agrees. Larry Stoner comments that a draft is a draft we need to get moving on something. Comments on what Rep Aamons emailed the group this morning. Jim Risley comments and the group moves to prioritizing recommendations. The group discusses and individually gives their priorities to get to 10.

Sub-Committee B's 10 recommendations fell out as follows:

1. **AQUIFER CHARACTERIZATION:** Better define the extent of the Mahomet aquifer by using helicopter borne, time-domain electromagnetics (HTEM) to characterize the aquifer to aid in identifying connections with other aquifers and to surface water.
2. **AQUIFER CHARACTERIZATION:** Better define surface water and groundwater conditions.
3. **AQUIFER CHARACTERIZATION:** Integrate results of new studies into a next-generation groundwater flow model that can be used as a dynamic tool for simulation of aquifer condition and responses.
4. **WATER QUALITY AND PROTECTION:** Improve protection of water quality.
5. **WATER QUALITY AND PROTECTION:** Improve understanding of ambient water quality.
6. **COMMUNICATION:** Improve education and outreach so that all stakeholders are better informed about water resources, water demand, and water supply planning and management, particularly when plans are made, reviewed, and updated.
7. **COMMUNICATION:** Plan cooperative research and data collection, analysis, management, and exchange by academic institutions, units of government, the private sector, and other stakeholders.
8. **WATER QUANTITY AND SUSTAINABILITY:** Empower a group to provide leadership, administrative structure, and processes for regional water supply planning and management of the Mahomet aquifer.

9. WATER QUANTITY AND SUSTAINABILITY: Use the established regional water supply planning process to review and update regional and local water supply plans at least every five years.
10. WATER QUANTITY AND SUSTAINABILITY: Ensure comprehensive water use reporting and data assessment with additional emphasis on irrigation. Consistently and fully fund the Illinois Water Inventory Program.

### **Subcommittee Comments**

Mayor Larry Stoner discusses the top 10 and how they will proceed. The Illinois EPA and PRI will move forward with this piece in writing the draft report to have available at the next Task Force meeting. Donovan Griffith comments on others that narrowing recommendations the ones that are lower. Larry Stoner agrees and that this is just a starting point. Jim Risley comments that there are 17 of the 25 members committee have voted and motions to move forward with this, that whoever else would of voted has. Jim Risley comments that we have an appendix of all the recommendations from everyone ex Chris Stohr's comments. Jim Risley comments on Sen Rose's comments regarding taking HTEM and separating it. Proposing HTEM as a standalone item. George Roadcap keep as is. Mayor Deb Feinen wants to keep as is. Mayor Diane Marlin seconds that as well. Mayor Deb Feinen comments on Rep Aamons email and just wanted to bring it forward to the group. Claudia Lenhoff comments how do we reconcile our rankings with the items from Sub-committee A and has there been a plan discussed? Charles Hostetler comments I don't know if it has been discussed but I did ask the Task Force chair if it was an idea that we would be forwarding information to the subcommittees to the Task Forces as a whole and then hand them to the writers. So, there is further interaction to be held. That's my understanding. Andrew Rehn comments and just want to make sure we include DNR's new regulations as well and include and we support. Mayor Larry Stoner asks for any other comments. There are none.

### **Public Comments**

Nancy Holm with Sustainable Technology Center, part of PRI comments on the HHW issues and they would be willing to help with that.

Randy Lock with PRI comments on recommendations that these are historical recommendations not from PRI so if you feel like should go forward verbatim that's fine but you do have flexibility.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourn 11:00am