

## METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the METROPOLITAN AREA WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 26, 2009

390 N Robert Street, Council Chambers

9:30 am – 11:30 am

Purpose: The purpose of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee is to assist the Metropolitan Council in its water supply planning activities.

Committee	Peter Bell, Chair	Metropolitan Council
Members Present:	Peggy Leppik, Vice Chair	Metropolitan Council District 6
	Dennis Berg	Anoka County, Commissioner
	Tom Furlong	City of Chanhassen, Mayor
	Chuck Haas	City of Hugo, Council Member
	Dale Homuth	Department of Natural Resources, Alternate
	Linda Loomis	City of Golden Valley, Mayor
	Karla Peterson	Department of Health, Alternate
	Steve Schneider	St. Paul Regional Water Services, General Manager
	Barry Stock	City of Savage, Administrator
Absent:	Joseph Harris	Dakota County
	Gene Hugoson	Department of Agriculture
	Paul Eger	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

### Call to Order

Chair Bell called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

### Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Members moved and seconded to approve the agenda. The agenda was adopted. Members moved and seconded to approve the 1/22/09 minutes. The minutes were approved.

### Master Plan Report Discussion

Goal of meeting is to review and adopt master water supply plan, and determine if this group should continue and, if so, the charge of group.

Discussion took place on changes made to draft master water supply plan following the last meeting of the committee. There were a few editorial revisions made to the plan and the only substantive change that was made was the recalibration of the model, which refined assessments of some communities. A question was raised regarding what process communities can take if they do not agree with an issue identified on its community profile. Staff assured the committee that local studies will be reviewed in addition to the analysis conclusions contained in the master plan when communities request additional appropriations. In some cases, the local studies may suggest that the issue identified in the master plan is not of concern or they may suggest the situation is more serious than previously thought. In either case, local studies will help to inform the regulatory process and the master plan will be updated accordingly.

As the discussion of the master plan continued, several members expressed concern that Appendix 3 did not meet their expectations. They felt that the appendix should provide a clear “menu” of appropriation permit requirements communities might expect to receive given specific water supply issues. After speaking with their city staff, committee members were concerned that appendix 3 did not provide sufficient detail. Chair Bell suggested approval of the plan for a provisional six-month period to allow staff time to track how accurately the plan informs communities of requirements they may face when requesting appropriation permit amendments given specific water supply issues.

Committee members agreed to a six-month provisional approval of the plan and discussion followed on activities that will occur during the next six months. Over the next six months, staff agreed to develop a report tracking appropriation permit requests and resulting requirements. The report will provide committee members with information on how the master plan has improved the water supply planning process and what changes may need to occur to the plan to further improve the process. Where appropriate, staff will recommend revisions to Appendix 3 at the next committee meeting.

Staff reiterated that it is their intention to keep the master plan a living document. Once adopted, the plan will be kept up-to-date with current information to ensure the effectiveness of the plan to inform communities and regulatory agencies. Future updates to the plan will be brought to the committee for their review and approval.

Haas moved for provisional approval of the Master Water Supply Plan until the next meeting of the committee in approximately six months. Schneider seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair Bell stated that he will reconvene the committee on a six-month basis to monitor issues.

### **Adjournment**

At 10:10 a.m., Haas moved and Furlong seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.