

Note: Minutes are not official until approved by the Committee.

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

Mears Park Centre, 390 Robert Street North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Meeting of the **METROPOLITAN AREA WATER SUPPLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** May 24, 2007

Committee Members Present:	Peter Bell	Metropolitan Council
	Dennis Berg	Anoka County, Commissioner
	Tom Furlong	City of Chanhassen, Mayor
	James Japs	DNR, Assistant Director, Waters - Alternate
	Peggy Leppik	Metropolitan Council Member
	Linda Loomis	City of Golden Valley, Mayor
	Doug Mandy	Dept of Health, Director, Drinking Water Protection – Alternate
	Gaylen Reetz	PCA, Division Director – Alternate
	Steve Schneider	St. Paul Regional Water Services, General Manager
	Barry Stock	City of Savage, Administrator
Committee Members Absent:		Department of Agriculture
	Chuck Haas	City of Hugo, Council Member
	Joe Harris	Dakota County, Commissioner

Call to Order

Chair Bell called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Chair Bell welcomed Steve Schneider and Gaylen Reetz as new members of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee.

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Loomis, seconded by Berg, to approve the 3/1/07 minutes of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee meeting. **Motion carried.** It was moved by Berg, seconded by Leppik, to approve the 5/24/07 agenda of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee meeting. **Motion carried.**

Legislative Update

Mr. Japs provided an update to the status of legislation introduced in response to the recommendation presented in the 2007 Report to the Legislature. The recommendation relating to clarifying community water supply plans was included in the DNR's technical bill, S.F. 1131. The vote passed 65 to 0 in the Senate and 116 to 15 in the House. It was then on its way to the Governor's office.

Planning Activity Update

Chris Elvrum, Manager of Water Supply Planning, discussed the Committee schedule and the activities that are underway including: resource evaluation, drought response, Mississippi spill response, safety and security, water conservation toolbox, and future work groups. Chair Bell asked the Committee to provide feedback on the schedule either at the meeting or in the near future.

Environmental Quality Board Reports

John Wells and Princessa VanBuren, Environmental Quality Board, presented two reports recently adopted by the EQB.

First Report:

Water supply & demand assessment (*Use of Minnesota's Renewable Water Resources: Moving Toward Sustainability*)

The EQB worked with DNR and other partners to evaluate current and future water demand, as well as the quantity of water that could be removed from the system on a long-term, renewable basis. It was a statewide assessment which compared current and projected demands on a county basis to what is locally available from rainfall within each county. Of note was Ramsey County, which appears to be appropriating more than what is available from rainfall within the County.

Second Report:

Biennial water priorities (*Protecting Minnesota's Waters: Priorities for the 2008 – 2009 Biennium*)

Minnesota Statutes, section 103A directs the EQB to develop a biennial water policy and priorities report. This report reflects the vision that the Governor's Clean Water Cabinet has laid out. The priorities in the recent report focused on impaired waters, drinking water supplies, and protecting wetlands.

Water Supply Availability Analysis

Lanya Ross, Senior Environmental Scientist, discussed several aspects of the availability analysis currently underway including the regional benefits of a water availability analysis, regional water resource questions defined by stakeholders, the scope and use of a regional groundwater flow model, and regional benefits of web service technology. The Council has contracted with Barr Engineering to construct and calibrate the groundwater flow model; it will be complete by December 31, 2007. In early 2008, the Council will use the model to quantify future water supply limitations and recommend alternative water supply options.

Water Re-Use

Deborah Manning, Principal Engineer, presented a recent Council study evaluating the possibility of reusing treated wastewater for industrial use. Interest in reusing treated wastewater for industrial use has grown due to potential discharge limitations and water supply concerns. The purpose of the presentation was to summarize the project and key findings, and discuss coordination efforts with the Master Water Supply Plan.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.