

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MEETING OF THE DUPAGE WATER COMMISSION  
HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2008  
600 E. BUTTERFIELD ROAD  
ELMHURST, ILLINOIS**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rathje at 6:36 P.M.

Commissioners in attendance: E. Chaplin, L. Hartwig, W. Maio, G. Mathews (as of 6:42 P.M.), W. Mueller, A. Poole, F. Saverino, J. Vrdolyak, G. Wilcox (as of 6:40 P.M.), and L. Rathje

Commissioners Absent: W. Murphy and D. Zeilenga

Also in attendance: Treasurer R. Thorn, R. Martin, M. Richter, M. Crowley, C. Johnson, T. McGhee, R. C. Bostick, F. Frelka, E. Kazmierczak, and Geosyntec Consultants Bill Ward, Jeff Edstrom, and Hollis Ude.

Bill Ward provided a brief introduction and background of Geosyntec Consultants, which included 25 years of service with over 600 employees focusing on engineering, science, and planning issues. Jeff Edstrom then presented a PowerPoint on a proposed three-year water conservation program consisting of various strategies. After the presentation concluded, the floor was opened to questions.

Commissioner Maio, referencing the last two slides of the PowerPoint presentation with respect to the projected budget, asked what "municipal assistance" meant. Mr. Edstrom explained that municipal assistance involved meeting with various customer utilities to develop materials and identify options that would best suit their needs and would also involve educational activities. Commissioner Maio confirmed with Mr. Edstrom that the dollars proposed to be budgeted in the second and third year of the program were not as fixed as those proposed to be budgeted in the first year.

Commissioner Hartwig recommended coordinating with member communities and the various councils of government that were already considering water conservation programs, strategies, and environmental actions.

Commissioner Wilcox expressed his concern with adopting a program that offered nothing different from what has been done in the past, noting that costs frequently escalate without commensurate results when a sponsoring entity such as the Commission is so far removed from the implementers. Commissioner Wilcox added that each community has already done the research on the various ways of conserving water within their own areas and that Commission funds would be better spent on grants to members for programs developed by the grantees and specifically designed for each individual community's needs.

In an effort to stress the importance of water conservation, and not just with the utility customers but more countywide, Commissioner Chaplin suggested the Commission should promote water conservation through a general, public awareness campaign involving newspaper ads, informational flyers, and school involvement.

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Commissioner Vrdolyak questioned the reference in Geosyntec's presentation to the stormwater management activities of DuPage County. Hollis Ude responded that DuPage County was the first County to get involved with a stormwater management stakeholders group of municipalities and others in developing a program of permits and forms that fit the needs of each community.

Commissioner Hartwig stated that the Village of Addison has a point person designated for environmental services, as did most communities, and suggested that the Commission gather these point people together, along with their respective City/Village Managers/Administrators, to discuss specific needs in order to develop a better plan.

Village Manager Joe Breinig of the Village of Carol Stream agreed that any plan should be customized by community. Mr. Breinig stated that the Village of Carol Stream has environmental programs in place designed to meet the needs of its community, and he would like to see a specialist from each community to get together to discuss ideas on how to improve their plans.

In response to Commissioner Poole's question, Mr. Edstrom stated that the most effective water conservation measures are leak detection/repair programs and outside recreational watering restrictions. Commissioner Poole then thanked the representatives from Geosyntec and General Manager Martin for the presentation material provided, but advised that it would be more appropriate for the Commission to seek proposals from several consultants, select a committee to review the proposals received and to interview the responding firms, and then award a contract in accordance with the Commission's standard purchasing procedures.

In response to Commissioner Mathews' question concerning what Geosyntec could offer the Commission that would be different from other companies, Mr. Edstrom provided details of his experience in the implementation of a water conservation and protection plan with the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and with various environmental groups he currently works with.

To avoid duplicating the ongoing water conservation efforts of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and other councils of government, Commissioner Maio suggested spending Commission funds on a half dozen 60-second commercials that would educate the public on the importance of water conservation.

General Manager Martin stated he would like to work with the DuPage County Environmental Services Department and the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference to discuss strategies on the most effective way to use any Commission funds allocated to water conservation efforts.

Though acknowledging the efforts of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, which encompasses 273 communities, Commissioner Mueller noted that the Commission has the advantage of being able to move faster than the Caucus and also having a "captive audience" of 25 Caucus members who are also customers of the Commission. As a

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result, Commissioner Mueller urged the Board to take the lead and move forward with capturing the attention of the residents of DuPage County as to the importance of implementing water conservation programs.

After agreeing with Commissioner Mueller, Commissioner Hartwig stated that the Commission does not have to reinvent the wheel and suggested getting utility customers involved to compare ideas before any Commission funds were budgeted.

After Commissioner Chaplin also expressed her agreement with Commissioner Mueller's and Commissioner Hartwig's comments, Chairman Rathje, referencing the fifth slide of the PowerPoint presentation, suggested that the Commission's program be expanded to include Fox Valley. Commissioners Poole and Wilcox disagreed, noting that any Commission program should be limited to the Commission's territory. Commissioner Saverino also disagreed, noting that he would only be in favor of spending money to implement a water conservation program within the territory of the Commission's customer communities.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Hartwig moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 P.M. Seconded by Commissioner Vrdolyak and unanimously approved by a Voice Vote.

All voted aye. Motion carried.