

(Amy Kahler, Des Moines Water Works, 2201 George Flagg Parkway, Des Moines, IA 50321, 515-283-8760)

Meeting
CENTRAL IOWA REGIONAL DRINKING WATER COMMISSION
Clive City Hall
Tuesday, April 27, 2010
6:00 p.m.

1. Chair Items - Commission Chair E.J. Giovannetti called the meeting of the Central Iowa Regional Drinking Water Commission to order at 6:08 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Present were:

City of Altoona – Vern Willey (EX-O), Karen Oppelt (Alt. EX-O)

City of Ankeny – Tom Strait (Rep), Jolee Belzung (EX-O)

City of Bondurant – Mark Arentson (EX-O)

City of Carlisle – None

City of Clive – Scott Cirksena (Rep), Bart Weller (EX-O)

City of Cumming – None

City of Johnston – Shane Kinsey (Staff)

City of Mitchellville – None

City of New Virginia – None

City of Norwalk – Tim Hoskins (EX-O))

City of Panora – None

City of Pleasant Hill – None

City of Polk City – None

City of St. Charles – None

City of Waukee – Casey Harvey (Rep), John Gibson (EX-O)

City of Windsor Heights – Louise Moon (Rep)

Des Moines Water Works –Robert Riley, Jr. (Rep), David Carlson (Alt-Rep), Randy Beavers (EX-O), Gary Benjamin (Alt. EX-O), Amy Kahler (Staff), and Pat Ripley (Staff)

Indianola Municipal Utilities – None

Polk County – E.J. Giovannetti (Rep)

Urbandale Water Utility – John McCune (Rep), Rich Foust (EX-O)

Warren Water District – None

West Des Moines Water Works – Karen Novak Swalwell (Rep), Jim Wallace (Alt-Rep), Jerry Stevens (EX-O)

Xenia Rural Water – None

Motion was made by John McCune, seconded by Scott Cirksena, to approve minutes of the January 26, 2010, Regular Meeting. Upon vote, the motion carried.

After introductions, Chairman Giovannetti mentioned the Executive Committee has discussed the direction this organization needs to take to operate effectively, stressing that members of this organization need to take ownership.

2. CIRDWC Education Series – A presentation titled “*A Look Back – Historical Highlights of DMWW and CIRDWC*” was given by Mr. Beavers. In response to a question, Mr. Beavers advised DMWW plans to prepare a response to the counterproposal Xenia prepared where they increased the sale price by \$20+ million. DMWW has proposed creating a new entity, with oversight from DMWW, to operate the Xenia system.

3. 2010 Key Initiatives –

- **Governance** – Considering the amount of water being used outside the city of Des Moines, Mr. Giovannetti indicated a change in governance seems to make sense where suburbs buying water from DMWW would have a “place at the table”. This conceptual change has been brought up in the past with City of Des Moines and DMWW representatives, and most recently with the Mayor and City Council, who seemed receptive to discussing the idea. Attendees were asked for their opinions and if they had any concerns. It was noted various governance models were presented to CIRDWC several years ago. The majority of those present agreed this governance change should be investigated as it could potentially be more cost effective, could strengthen the Commission, allow for sharing of resources, allow water users input on policies, assure quality water and sustainability, etc. A few concerns that were voiced involved purchased capacity and whether suburbs would be charged for mains they’ve already paid for. Another concern was that it might take too long to enact such a change.
- **Managing Peak Water Demand** – A handout was distributed which compared pumpage and billing for March and August 2008, indicating a difference of 582,000 gallons which was attributed to irrigation. Mr. Benjamin asked for volunteers to serve on a subcommittee to investigate influencing/reducing the peak to average water ratio, specifically addressing the increase in water usage between March and August every year. The subcommittee could research who is impacting the increase between March and August and identify different ways to meet that demand and balance from a treatment capacity, possibly looking at aquifer storage recovery (ASR). Rich Foust, Jolee Belzung, Bart Weller, and Shane Kinsey volunteered.
- **Legislative/Regulatory Threats –**
 - Copies of a report, *Expectation for Watershed Planning and Management to Improve and Protect the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers*, were distributed. This report was prepared by Linda Kinman and Chris Jones after the watershed grant was awarded to the Missouri and Mississippi Divide Resource Conservation and Development Program. Mr. Beavers stated this is an important issue that DMWW will continue focusing on to make sure drinking water sources are considered on confined animal sites.
 - A lawsuit was mentioned where an individual north of Ankeny tried to limit access of utilities in roadway easements, which is where most water utilities’ facilities are located. State law allows utilities to put facilities in roadway easements.
 - On a national level, Mr. Beavers reported EPA is proposing nutrient standards that could have a profound impact on Iowa, although there has been a lot of pushback. Climate change issues are also a big deal on the national level.
 - Iowa City’s City Council recently dealt with an individual who questioned fluoridation of their water. Another citizen with the same concern had contacted DMWW’s lab supervisor and emailed Board members. Mr. Beavers said he doesn’t know if there’s an anti-fluoridation movement nationally or just in Iowa, but data supports fluoridation of water.

4. CIRDWC Budget Committee Update - Since the Commission’s inception, bylaws have provided for a budget. The need to establish a budget was brought forward at the January meeting. The subcommittee of Ms. Kahler, Mr. Strait, Mr. McCune, Mr. Havey, and Mr. Cirksena met April 9 to discuss approaches to planning a budget. A handout was distributed to attendees defining the process for all entities to support a

budget for the Commission. The proposed formula is basically a \$100 annual buy-in and a penny per water account. Entities were asked to hold the budget in their funds to cover possible future expenditures. Initially, up-front contributions were going to be requested of communities. Ms. Kahler explained, however, that because it is unknown when funds will actually be needed or how they will be used, the Budget Committee was sensitive to public sentiment that resources are limited and funds should therefore be optimally utilized. There was a desire to avoid building up balances when there is no clear plan on how or when the funds will be used. In addition, collecting funds up-front results in increased administrative costs such as banking fees, etc. As a result of these considerations, the Committee proposes that each community sign a Memorandum of Understanding that pre-defines each community's contribution amount based on a formula, but each community will hold those funds until needed. Feedback regarding the formula methodology was requested. Concerns were expressed about small communities and whether those that don't attend these meetings will be asked to contribute. The concept of larger utilities subsidizing smaller utilities was suggested. It was asked if any thought was given to basing the formula on consumption; Ms. Kahler explained using the number of accounts as the cost driver would closely approximate pro rata consumption, and it would be more difficult to compile consumption information each year since not all CIRDWC members are DMWW customers. The next step will be to formalize this, and the Memo of Understanding, which is being reviewed by legal counsel, will be presented for members to bring to their councils. Louise Moon made a motion to move forward with the proposed budget, and Karen Novak-Swalwell seconded the motion. Upon vote, the Commission moved to adopt a tentative budget of \$4,068.93 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 to be spent on worthy projects to be later determined.

5. Executive Committee Report –

- It was asked if Commission members would like to meet more frequently than once a quarter. The consensus was to leave the meeting schedule as is, with the understanding that special meetings can be arranged if necessary, as indicated in the bylaws.

6. General Discussion –

- Bob Riley will conduct a natural utility presentation at the next meeting.
- The next meeting has been scheduled for 6:00 p.m. July 27 at the Altoona Public Library.

7. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 8:00 p.m.