

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMITTEE

NIRPC AUDITORIUM, PORTAGE, IN

October 2, 2014

Members/Guests Present: Meredith Jones, Susan MiHalo, Lauri Keagle, Deb Backhus, Diane Trgovcich-Zacok, Geof Benson, Jennifer Gadzala, Cathy Csatari, Michelle Caldwell, Ashley Snyder, Dorreen Carey, Natalie Johnson, Charlotte Read, Brenda Scott Henry, Chandra Viswanathan, Jack Wittman

NIPRC Staff: Kathy Luther, Meredith Stilwell

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Benson called the meeting to order at 9:12 with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

Approval of September 4, 2014 EMPC Minutes

Upon motion by Charlotte Read and second by Deb Backhus and no opposition, the minutes of the September 4, 2014 meeting were approved.

Presentation:

a. Water and Economic Development in Indiana – Jack Wittman, Ph.D. Principal Geoscientist, Intera Inc.

The 2050 population predictions indicate there will be seven million more people in Indiana and those extra people will have jobs and do work that need water. While there is a pattern of growth for the state, it is not uniform all over the state. Northwestern Indiana has always grown due to its connection to Chicago and a lot of growth is predicted for the southern part of the state. There is a lot of groundwater availability in this part of the state, but not as much in the middle where a lot of growth has occurred nor in the south where more growth has been predicted. One of the problems in the northern part of the state is expanded agriculture use and basin management issues and tracking requirements due to the Great Lakes Compact, which is different than in any other part of Indiana.

Looking forward, the expected population growth is most prominent in the urban center, northwest and northeast Great Lakes basins with some in the southern portion of the state. Although part of the state's population is not changing, their water use is changing with agriculture being the fastest growing user. Looking at everyone registered with the Department of Natural Resources, water usage is very high in the northwest and central areas of the state as well as along the rivers. While there appears to be no water demand changes for Lake and Porter County by 2050, La Porte County does show an increase in demand due to agricultural irrigation. Most parts of the state have enough ground water to meet future needs. A map showing Indiana streams, their flow and the 2050 demand was presented. *During discussion it was commented that it might be nice to include a layer of stream impairments locations.*

Hydrology findings included water resource availability and security is now a requirement of business and industry; central Indiana is vulnerable to drought because of limited groundwater storage; existing local water supplies will not meet future needs in central Indiana; the largest surface water users (power, industry) are not driving growth in demand; and agricultural water use is growing rapidly, mostly in areas of plenty of water. Findings in the planning area included, there is no guidance or coordination of water use in a basin; rules and methods for inter-basin transfers are needed; modern water management requires adequate data on availability; conservation plans need to be promoted or required to protect our future; and while many are beginning to develop plans already, regional plans need to roll up into a state plan. Policy findings indicates that previous statues have not considered the new conditions (needs) and data; existing agencies are all doing their jobs and a new entity might be needed; and funding is needed to collect more data,

consider impacts by modeling future use, direct needed research and perform regional planning. The real problem is funding.

An analysis of government, water users, and planners was reviewed by Dr. Wittman and included the levels of commerce, local, state and federal. The money trail and where water resource data and hydrologic and water use information is passed between the levels. The analysis of what is wrong with that information was reviewed stressing focusing research activities, developing and supporting modeling, coordinating planning all which require funding. A comparison of how other states are doing this work was briefly reviewed.

b. Indiana's E-Waste Requirements – Meredith Jones, E-Cycle Coordinator, IDEM

There are two requirements in the state; 329 IAC 16 for storage and processing facilities and IC 13-20.5 for Indiana E-Cycle. The requirements are for big recyclers of which there are currently about 20.

Indiana E-Waste storage and processing facilities are subject to the Office of Land Quality (OLQ) rule IN 329 IAC 16 if they are collecting and storing more than 23 tons (46,000 pounds) of e-waste in a building or lockable trailer; and collecting e-waste that is not removed from the site within 5 business days, to a registered or permitted facility. Short-term events are not subject to requirements. There are several exemptions for facilities one of which is facilities that hold a valid permit under 329 IAC 3.1 (hazardous waste), 329 IAC 10 (solid waste land disposal), or 329 IAC 11 (solid waste processing), and process and store the e-waste according to those permit requirements. In order to be in compliance the storage facilities must submit registration paperwork and surety bond documentation to IDEM's OLQ after which a compliance assurance visit will take place. An inspector will visit one year after the registration or sooner if necessary and if there is a closure of the facility the owner, operator or registrant must notify the commissioner at least 14 days before the date of permanently ceasing accepting waste and all e-waste and electronic debris must be removed from the building, land, containers and vehicles and disposed of according to rule 329 IAC 16-9-1 within 60 days of the registered facility no longer accepting e-waste. More information may be found at www.idem.IN.gov/5897.htm

The Indiana E-Cycle program falls under Indiana Cole (IC) 13-20.5. The code was signed into law May 13, 2009 and become effective July 1, 2009 and pertains to manufacturers, collectors, recyclers, retailers, households, small businesses and public schools. It also covers the extended producer responsibility (EPR) program which requires a 60% recycling obligation based on sales. There are annual registration and reporting requirements for manufacturers that sell video display devices with screen sizes of at least 4" to Indiana households and are subject to a financial penalty (variable recycling fee) if they do not meet their recycling obligation. A list of covered electronic devices (CED) for the E-Cycle program was highlighted in the presentation. Collectors and recyclers collect CEDs from Indiana households, small business and public schools on behalf of manufacturers and de-manufacture CEDs and separate into commodities for recycling into new products. These entities must be registered with the program if working on behalf of a manufacturer. The code also requires retailers that sell new video display devices provide information to households that describes where and how households may recycle video display devices and advises households of opportunities and locations for the convenient collection of these devices for recycling. At a minimum the retailer must supply IDEM's contact information or website address. As sources of covered electronic devices households, small business, and public schools are covered entities and are prohibited from disposing of these devices in municipal waste that is intended for disposal at a landfill or with any waste that is intended for disposal by burning or incineration. There are currently no fines for households, schools or small businesses that put these electronics out with the trash. Posters and flyers regarding the program are available from IDEM. A report produced for the governor and general assembly with four years' worth of results in available on the website for viewing. More information may be found at www.idem.IN.gov/recycle/2373.htm

Public Comment:

None.

Announcements:

- Nicole Barker is now the co-elect to the Healing Our Waters Coalition and will be reaching out for ideas for presentation, field trips, etc. The next conference is being held in Chicago on September 29, 30 and October 1, 2015 and will feature an emphasis on northwest.
- Upcoming regional meetings were announced.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.