STATE WATER PLAN TASK FORCE MEETING

October 17, 2022

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Web-Ex Meeting Minutes

Task Force Members Present:

> IDNR–OWR: Loren Wobig, Wes Cattoor, Terra McParland, Megan McKinney, Rick Pohlman,
> Steve Altman, Ania Bayers
> IDNR–ORC: Seth Love
> ISWS: Laura Keefer, Walt Kelly, Trent Ford
> IEPA: Scott Twait, Jeff Edstrom, Christine Davis,
> IDOA: Michael Woods
> IDPH: Brian Cox
> IEMA: Zachary Krug,
> IDOT: BJ Murray
> IWRC: Yu-Feng Forrest Lin
> Agencies not in attendance: IDNR–OMM, DCEO, IPCB,

The Meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M. The meeting agenda, meeting recording and minutes are posted on the State Water Plan Task Force (SWPTF) website. The website also contains general information about the State Water Plan's history and current activity. (https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/Pages/StateWaterPlanTaskForce.aspx)

Welcome:

Loren opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to this afternoon's meeting. Loren stated that this was not the end yet, there was still work to be done as was conveyed to the stakeholders during a meeting this very morning. Loren turned it over to Wes.

Items Needed from Topic Leaders:

Wes began by saying we were going to start something new. In an effort to make things more official, we're going to approve/deny the minutes from the 9/17/22 meeting. Everyone should have received a copy of the minutes from the 9/17 meeting to review. Michael Woods made a motion to approve the minutes, Terra McParland seconded. Minutes were approved.

Terra brought up her list of who needs to send committee members to Terra. Several are still missing. Terra also would like anyone who has had anything to do with or contributed to this report to let us know who they are, so we can get their name added in the report acknowledgements.

Some committees have members and there may be some that need to make committees. Now is the time to start forming one to help each leader implement their recommendations as we move forward. It

may not look as favorable if some of these sections haven't reached out. Laura asked for more clarification on who this "committee" is. People who have been helping so far? Anyone who has touched this plan? Anyone she's reached out to help develop this? Terra said it could be any or all of the above.

Next item is photos. Terra is going to give to Halloween to send any photos to her so she can add those to the report. She reiterated that photos really do add visual interest to each section. The other thing was there are some gaps at the end of sections. If there are pictures there that you don't remember sending Terra, she may be requesting something else to go there. Perhaps something to enhance the report.

Third item is measurable results table. All this information is available in the OneDrive and all topic leaders should have access to this drive. Terra brought up her measurable results table. Terra used Wes' section as an example. She gave the example of "priorities services to underserved communities". The way to measure that progress is percentage of underserved vs normal communities served. Filling out this table provides a good way to look back and see what things were achieved. How much funding was received? But by looking at these, have you maybe bitten off too much? Are these measurable at all? The measurement can be anything at all to show progress. Wes chimed in that tracking these measurement goals will be the bulk of the work in future meetings. Laura asked if we were talking about % complete in one year? Depends on if we're tracking it in annual time. Laura asked another question, what do we put if we can't complete the task without funding? Wes suggested putting in "Awaiting funding". BJ asked that his section "Navigation" be brought up. Wes suggested not getting hung up on the percentage, but maybe there was X number of reports written, Y number of funding established, Z number of master plans written.

Each individual section is also posted in One Drive and that is the version you should use to make final changes to your section. If you do make changes, please turn on Track Changes.

Lastly, stakeholder and public review comments were discussed. We took all the comments from everyone and put them all into two spreadsheets, the combined Public Comments and combined Stakeholder comments. Terra did try and organize which comments should go with who needs to address each comment but people can modify those as needed. The assignments can be sorted by person or topic. Document your response. You don't have to change the report just because someone suggested it, but please review the comments and address items that will enhance the report.

The public response comments were broad. Some of these comments are just too late to the game.. Some issues/recommendations were ones that perhaps your sections didn't think about and can be added now or could be incorporated next go around. If you don't include a recommendation or change, please make note and bring it to your committee for future consideration, if it is warranted.

Terra will send an action list around to the topic leaders which tracks which items still need to be completed.

Report Unveiling:

How should we publicize the report and recommendations to the General Assembly and to our stakeholders to have them help garner legislative support. Wes segued to the idea brought forward by Michael Woods to have a Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) roundtable. Michael Woods gave

a brief overview of how they could be a partner for us. Loren said they were talking about doing a legislative breakfast or in person coordination. But we could ask SSWCD to host us during legislative session and we can pitch the report to them featuring specific points. Loren also reached out to the Governor's office, and they're ok with a press release. The roundtable idea might be a good way to introduce the water plan to the public. Loren likes more of an event tied with the report release vs. just submitting the report itself. Michael would also like to engage with the public more. There might be a way to open it up to sponsors to support the roundtable.

Wes wonders if we have one group sponsor us and another asking why they weren't invited? Could we unintentionally offend someone, or should this be more state government oriented? How should we use this roundtable idea? Loren and Michael will coordinate and will develop the idea further. Loren thinks it would be a great opportunity to showcase the report. Loren would like to remind us that the Legislative sessions are 11/15-17, and 11/29-12/1. We should avoid 11/30. Terra reminded the group that we might want to have one-page summaries for each topic and a summary of the entire report for any potential roundtables or other outreach events.

Wrap up:

Since the water plan is soon to be published, we're now looking at going from monthly meetings to quarterly meetings. Seems like Mondays work the best for everyone. Currently it looks like we'll stick with virtual meetings, but we'd like to have a least one in person meeting per year, but maybe in the summer when the weather is nicer.

Loren moves to close the meeting, Michael seconds.

General:

- Project Schedule:
    - Task Force leaders complete tasks October 31, 2022
    - Final Report published November 15, 2022
    - SWPTF quarterly meeting at the middle of Jan

Schedule: The schedule will be revised and posted on the website.

Next Meeting: It was determined that the next meeting will be set for **January 9, 2023** to be held via Web-Ex.

The meeting concluded at 2:30 p.m.