

**COUNTY OF EAU CLAIRE
EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN
GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES – April 24, 2018
EAU CLAIRE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Room 302
720 – 2ND AVENUE, EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Dunning, Heather Deluka, Nancy Coffey, Mary Kenosian, Glory Adams, Sham Anderson, Sarah Vitale , Jennifer Eddy (arrived at 5:05 pm) , Anna Mares (arrived at 5:07 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: (none)

STAFF PRESENT: Audrey Boerner and Matt Steinbach (Eau Claire City-County Health Dept.); Chris Straight (West Central WI Regional Planning Commission); Liz Fagen and Greg Leonard (Eau Claire County Land Conservation)

OTHERS PRESENT: (none)

1. Call to order by Chair pro tempore

The meeting was called to order by Chair pro tempore Dunning at 5:01 pm. A quorum was present.

2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Dunning confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair/Discussion – Action

Dunning called for nominations for Chair. Adams nominated Jim Dunning. Dunning called 3 more times for nominations. None were received.

ACTION: Motion by Deluka to close nominations and a unanimous vote be cast to elect Jim Dunning as Chair of the Groundwater Advisory Committee. Motion carried, 7-0-0. Dunning thanked everyone and accepted the position.

Dunning called for nominations for Vice Chair. Coffey nominated Heather Deluka. Dunning called 3 more times for nominations. None were received.

ACTION: Motion by Adams to close nominations and a unanimous vote be cast to elect Heather Deluka as Vice Chair of the Groundwater Advisory Committee. Motion carried, 7-0-0. Deluka thanked everyone and accepted the position.

4. Appointment of Committee Clerk/Discussion – Action

ACTION: Motion by Kenosian to appoint Greg Leonard as Committee Clerk. Motion carried, 7-0-0.
(Eddy arrived)

5. Public Comment Period

(none)

6. Review/Approval of February 8, 2018 minutes

ACTION: Motion by Kenosian/Anderson to approve the February 8, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried, 8-0-0.
(Mares arrived)

7. Introduction of New Board Members

Dunning announced that the entire membership of the Groundwater Advisory Committee was present. Everyone introduced themselves.

8. Report from Sub-Committee

Chris Straight updated the Committee on the sub-committee scope of the report currently entitled "The State of the Groundwater in Eau Claire County". Draft versions of sections will be forwarded to Fagen for compiling. The report will be watershed centric, with the plan to complete this by July. Eddy wondered how technical does the committee want to go with this report. What can individuals or policy makers do? Vitale replied some of the gaps in policy may become evident upon completion of the report. Groundwater quantity data is lacking. Private well drilling provides data, but private wells may often be drilled shallow to keep costs down, and this can potentially test higher in nitrates. Priorities are expected to be the primary outcome of the report. Grant sources can be limited.

9. Committee Priority Recommendations on Outstanding Issues

Priority recommendations on outstanding issues include groundwater nitrates not get any worse, not just agricultural sources, but also septic. Quantity of groundwater is also a concern, including the influence of high-capacity wells on local wells and groundwater. Straight mentioned the work his organization did with St Croix and Dunn Counties.

10. Report from Sub-Committee on Grant Application Goals/Groundwater Information (Discussion only)

Most items discussed previously by sub-committee.

11. Report from Land Conservation Department

Leonard reported on the collaborative efforts on the EPA Environmental Education grant and the DNR Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grant applications, which both included the same groundwater education component targeted at area high-school FFA groups.

12. Report from City-County Health Department

Boerner reported the nitrate source study will be finished by the end of June. Nearly 400 surveys were sent out, with approximately 100 samples being taken. Initial results are either low- or non-detections on the tracers. Final report will be completed soon. Matt Steinbach again introduced himself as the new Environmental Sciences Division Manager and looks forward to working with the committee.

13. Report from Regional Planning Commission

Beyond what was reported earlier, there was no additional report.

14. Report from Planning and Development Department

The entire zoning code is in the process of a comprehensive review and update.

15. Report from Planning and Development Regarding Town of Washington Groundwater Study

No formal report was given.

16. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be June 19, 2018 at 5:00 pm in the Eau Claire County Courthouse, Health Department room TBD.

17. Adjourn

Dunning adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Greg Leonard
Land Conservation Manager