

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

**MEETING MINUTES – June 19, 2018
EAU CLAIRE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Room 302
720 – 2ND AVENUE, EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701**

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Dunning, Heather Deluka, Nancy Coffey, Mary Kenosian, Glory Adams, Sarah Vitale, Sham Anderson (arrived at 5:07 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anna Mares, Jennifer Eddy

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: Beth Ivankovic

1. Call to order by Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair pro tempore Dunning at 5:02 pm. A quorum was present.

2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Dunning confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

3. Public Comment Period

Beth Ivankovic encouraged the committee to move forward with the State of the Groundwater report that is being drafted. She also asked about the possibility of a Confined Animal Feeding Operation ordinance based on soil type with enforcement authority, high capacity well ordinance, an outline of who has responsibility for groundwater protection, and mapping of environmentally sensitive areas.

4. Review/Approval of April 24, 2018 minutes

ACTION: Motion by Adams/Anderson to approve the April 24, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried, 7-0-0.

5. Report by Sub- Committee on Groundwater Report/Discussion/Action

The draft of the State of the Groundwater in Eau Claire County as prepared by the ad-hoc committee was reviewed. Dunning wondered if the basics of groundwater principals should be included as an appendix, fact sheet, a short section, or referenced to a web link. Also discussed to potentially be included in the report were wastewater irrigation, septage and sludge spreading, locations of sand mines, sensitive areas for groundwater protection, bedrock elevation, and sand and gravel deposits. The degree of accuracy of all the data sources will need to be referenced. The ad-hoc committee will work on incorporating the discussed topics.
(Anderson left the meeting, 6:15 pm).

6. GW Committee Priority Recommendations on Draft Report/Discussion/Action

Priority recommendations for the report were discussed. Recommendations will be based on items in the following table.

UNDERSTANDING GROUNDWATER	PROTECTING	VALUING / EDUCATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and map Environmental Sensitive Areas (ESAs) and constraints (ie lot size, land use regs) • Continue well testing and increase the number of tested wells • Need additional groundwater sample data • Understand polyacrylamide concerns • Create flow model including flow, depth, recharge to better understand sustainability (climate impacts) and susceptibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential grants for updating model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore how to consider water quality/quantity as part of subdivision plat review (land use regs/policies) • Explore county regulatory options RE: high cap wells • Increase the number of farmers with Nutrient Management Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase cost share ○ Continue planning assistance ○ Increase face-to-face ○ TRM grants ○ 5+ acres of lawn • Explore citation authority for LCD – NR 151 – Farming/CAFO Ordinances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist or fact sheet for homebuyers/builders/realtors • Share water testing results with public in a form that is accessible • Complete website with theory or principles of groundwater (Appendix in report) • Partner with towns to education public on how to keep water safe and the importance of residential well testing • Clarify regulatory responsibility and roles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What can local government do? ○ Local government tool kit

7. Projected Planning and Development/Land Conservation Budget and grant Requests/Discussion/Action

Leonard discussed that submitted as a capital budget project was a request for groundwater study. The report will help support this request and any potential grants pursued.

8. Report on Testing Surveys from City-County Health Department

This item was tabled until a later date.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be July 17, 2018 at 5:00 pm in the Eau Claire County Courthouse, Health Department room TBD.

10. Items for the Next Agenda

Review and discussion of the State of the Groundwater report will be the main item for the next meeting.

11. Adjourn

Dunning adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Greg Leonard
Land Conservation Manager