

**COUNTY OF EAU CLAIRE  
EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN  
"NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING"**

In Accordance with the provisions of Chapter 19, subchapter IV, Wisconsin Statutes, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the following public meeting:

THE GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2018 TIME: 5:00 P.M.  
PLACE: EAU CLAIRE COUNTY COURT HOUSE Room 302  
721 OXFORD AVENUE EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703

**OPEN SESSION**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order
2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law
3. Public Comment Period
4. Review/Approval of past meeting minutes
  - September 6, 2016 (Needs approval)
  - December 6, 2016 (Lack of quorum-no action taken)
  - March 7, 2017 (Lack of quorum-no action taken)
  - June 6, 2017 (Lack of quorum-no action taken)
  - September 5, 2017 (Lack of quorum-no action taken)
  - December 5, 2017 (Lack of quorum-no action taken)
5. Report on Committee Membership Appointments
  - Introduction of Sham Anderson, the Town's Association nominee.
6. Report from Sub-Committee on Grant Application Goals/Groundwater Information (Discussion only)
  - Topics discussed
7. Report from DNR – Anna Mares (Discussion only)
  - DNR Information and Availability for Groundwater Plan Development
8. Report from Land Conservation Department
  - Grant opportunities (Discussion only)
  - Other topics of interest (Discussion only)
9. Report from City-County Health Department
  - Update on Nitrate Investigation Grant
  - Other topics of interest (Discussion only)
10. Report from Regional Planning Commission
11. Report from Planning and Development Department
12. Report/discussion on Website/Groundwater Information Site Development
13. Next Meeting Date (March \_\_, 2018)
  - Items for the Next Agenda
14. Adjourn

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710, (Fax:) 839-1669 or 839-4735, tty: use Relay (711), or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.*

RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

POSTED \_\_\_\_\_

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

**MEETING MINUTES – December 5, 2017  
EAU CLAIRE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 3312  
720 2<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE, EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Dunning, Mary Kenosian, Jennifer Eddy, Sarah Vitale

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Glory Adams, Anna Mares, Gordon Steinhauer, Katy Forsythe

**STAFF PRESENT:** Chris Straight (West Central WI Regional Planning Commission), Rod Eslinger (Director of Planning and Development)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dexter Zebro (Eau Claire City- County Health Department Intern), Sham Anderson (Supervisor Town of Fairchild)

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jim Dunning at 5:05 pm. A quorum was not present at the meeting. No formal action will be taken.

**2. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law**

**3. Public Comment Period**

No public comments were made.

**4. Review of Minutes**

(Quorum was not present)

**5. Report on Committee Membership Appointments**

Introduction of Dr. Sarah Vitale, UWEC Professor of Physical Hydrogeology as a new member of the committee ,and Sham Anderson as a proposed member.

**6. Report from Regional Planning Commission: Chris Straight**

St. Croix County completed its report including groundwater and surface water triggered in large part due to a failure of manure storage at a CAFO in the town of Emerald. The report was a group process that focuses on eight core recommendations. The watershed implementation team is continuing to meet on a monthly basis, if interested contact Chris. They have received a grant to conduct soil health workshops with area farmers in Thorp and Augusta next summer working with Land Conservation in Clark and Eau Claire Counties. UWEC student leadership group approved to make placemats of watershed map and educational information to distribute to local restaurants, bars, etc.

<https://www.sccwi.gov/313/Ground-Surface-Water-Quality-Protection->

**7. Report from Planning and Development Department**

The 2018 capital is \$0, but planning for 2019 (\$100,000) and 2021 (\$20,000). The County Administrator will be looking for a plan to implement a budget for potential projects by June/July. The task will be to focus on ideas/direction for the budget. A task force of Chris Straight, Sarah Vitale, Greg Leonard, and Jim Dunning will meet in January to develop a focus for the grant.

**8. Report from Land Conservation Department**

Land Conservation is looking for a UWEC Erosion Control Intern to primarily working on projects related to erosion control, monitoring storm water sites, maintenance and inventory. The intern could also contribute to the website in order to get information out to the public.

**9. Report from City-County Health Department**

The Nitrate Source Investigation Project is nearing the end of its sixth quarter. The six UWEC students have now collected 97 samples from private wells in six townships. Of the 97 samples; 16 have tested positive for agricultural contaminants, 6 for human waste water indicators, and 3 for both. The project has been extended through the spring and students will take samples from the remaining townships.

**10. Report/discussion on Website/Groundwater Information Site Development**

There is currently a template for the website, but goals include consolidation and organization to be user friendly for the public. To further develop the site, more information is needed for each title on potential groundwater concerns. These concerns need to be categorized and specific to Eau Claire County. Also, would like to develop a user-friendly map interface by consolidating multiple maps into one.

**11. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date will be February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5:00 pm in the Eau Claire County Courthouse room TBD.

**12. Adjourn**

Chair Jim Dunning adjourned the meeting at 6:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dexter Zebro*

Draft

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

**MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 6, 2016  
AG & RESOURCE CENTER, ROOM 103  
227 1<sup>ST</sup> ST. WEST, ALTOONA, WI 54720**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Dunning, Katy Forsythe, Gordon Steinhauer, Mary Kenosian, Duane Merritt, John Paddock, Glory Adams

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Stacy Steinke

**STAFF PRESENT:** Greg Leonard (Eau Claire County P&D – Land Conservation), Audrey Boerner (Eau Claire City-County Health Department), Chris Straight (West Central Regional Planning Commission), Steve Sellwood (UW-Eau Claire Geology Department)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** (none)

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jim Dunning at 5:00 pm. A quorum was present at the meeting.

**2. Introduction of new member**

Glory Adams will be joining the Advisory Committee board, replacing Brad Berg.

**3. Election of Officers**

A motion was made to nominate Jim Dunning as chair. The motion passed and Jim Dunning was elected as Committee Chair.

A motion was made to nominate John Paddock as Vice Chair. The motion passed and John Paddock was elected as Committee Vice Chair.

A motion was made to appoint Shane Sanderson as Clerk. The motion passed and Shane Sanderson was appointed Committee Clerk.

**4. Approval of meeting minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from March 1, 2016 and June 7, 2016. The motion passed and the minutes were approved

**5. Report on Committee Member Replacement for Dr. Grote**

Dr. Steve Sellwood, Associate Lecture at UWEC Geology Department, will serve as a technical advisor to the Committee and help the Committee to stay connected with student involvement opportunities through UWEC.

**6. Report from City-County Health Department**

The Nitrate Contamination grant from the Wisconsin Environmental Public Health Tracking program wrapped up in June 2016 with a meeting of the Eau Claire Nitrate Taskforce. This group prioritized future water quality goals including increased testing.

The Health Department is partnering with faculty and students from the UWEC Watershed Institute for a Nitrate Source grant (2016-2018). Students will be collecting water samples from wells with a record of 5 ppm nitrate or higher. Samples will be analyzed at the Health Department lab for human wastewater and agricultural indicators.

The group discussed interest in making nitrate sample bottles available at polling sites for the November election. An ambitious goal would be to have 10% of the rural wells tested for nitrate. Audrey will identify strategic areas to target for this sampling effort. Students may be recruited from UWEC Geology and SNEHA Clubs to staff the stations.

**7. Report from Planning and Development Department**

Update on U.S. Silica sand mine and other permits. Staff is not aware of any activity at the U.S. Silica site; a conditional use permit for a rail spur was allowed to expire last month.

Hi Crush was approved for a 40-acre expansion in the Town of Bridge Creek.

Hi Country Sand permits are closed and financial assurance has been released.

Five Star Telecom Properties has filed its annual report and fee.

The Trillium Estates plat in the Town of Washington has been approved; it will be a 38-lot subdivision.

The Winter Haven plat in Town of Pleasant Valley has received preliminary approval for a 66-lot subdivision.

#### **8. Report from West Central Regional Planning**

Chris Straight reported on the development of the Eau Claire River Watershed plan, available at <http://wcvrpc.org/Eau-Claire-Watershed-Plan.html>. Healthy soils and subsequent improvement to water quality is the key focus of the plan.

This plan increases eligibility for funding implementation projects. Appendix B of the plan lists water quality grant and assistance resources.

#### **9. Report from Land Conservation Department**

Well-Intel units are now installed in 15 wells throughout Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn counties and collect water level data every 12 hours. Next steps include working with the USGS to add water depth monitoring at locations with a shallow and deep well in close proximity to measure changes in the shallow and deep aquifers, and making data available online.

High nitrate levels in one Village of Fairchild well appears to be associated with fracture bedrock. Next steps include working with the local farmer to decrease nutrient runoff in the vicinity of the well.

#### **10. Report on Website Development**

Jim Dunning reported that he contacted Dan Masterpole, Chippewa County, to inquire about their groundwater study and grant, and their associated web site. Eau Claire County may be able to follow that model with our data.

#### **11. Next 3 months direction**

Mary Kenosian reported the La Crosse County Board passed a resolution in response to the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau's report on the DNR's lack of enforcement of wastewater permits. The committee will research this to see if follow up by Eau Claire County is necessary

Chris Straight mentioned that in the past University students had the opportunity for group projects, and possibly this would be a route to work on the web site. He thought the deadline for submission of the projects was sometime in November, with the projects being completed in the spring semester. He will try to find the information and share it with the group.

With the November elections coming before the next committee meeting, the group thought it would be good to see if there is response to Election Day nitrate sampling, and if there is a way to try to achieve the 10% testing goal.

#### **12. Next meeting date**

The next meeting date will be December 6, 2016 at 5 pm.

#### **13. Adjourn**

Jim Dunning adjourned the meeting at 6:16 pm.

## GROUNDWATER INFORMATION

Available for Website and Other Uses

Updated January 15, 2018

Re-formatted January 15, 2018

Item	Data Type	Status	Need Source
<b>A. Maps: Eau Claire Co:</b>			
1	USDA Soil Survey and Wisconsin NR-151: Susceptibility to Contamination		
2	Depth to Bedrock Map of Eau Claire Co. : UWEX/GNHS		
3	Generalized Water-Table Elevation Map of Eau Claire Co.: UWEX/GNHS		
4	Groundwater Contamination Susceptibility Map: WDNR		
5	Soils of Eau Claire County and Their Ability to Attenuate Contaminants: UWEX/GNHS		
<b>B. Maps: Wisconsin or Other Co.:</b>			
1	Page-Size Maps of Wisconsin: UWEX/GNHS		
	a. Groundwater Contamination Susceptibility in Wisconsin		
	b. Landforms of Wisconsin		
	c. Ice Age Deposits of Wisconsin		
	d. Thickness of Unconsolidated Material in Wisconsin		
	e. Early Vegetation of Wisconsin		
	f. Soil Regions of Wisconsin		
	g. Bedrock Geology of Wisconsin		
	h. Bedrock Stratigraphic Units in Wisconsin: UWEX/GNHS		
<b>C. Technical Data:</b>			
1	Eau Claire County Nitrate Levels 2005 to Present (2014): ECCCHD		
2	Eau Claire County Nitrate Levels 2005 to June 2016: ECCCHD		
3	Permitted DNR High Capacity Water Withdrawals (as of 2012): LCD		
4	Permitted DNR High Capacity Water Withdrawals-volume: LCD		
5	Bacteriologically Unsafe Samples 2005 to Present (2013): ECCCHD		

<b>D. Groundwater Studies:</b>	Status	Need Source
1 Chippewa County Groundwater Study-Interim Report		
2 Managing Chippewa County's Groundwater-Today and Tomorrow		
3 The Wisconsin Roots of Ground Water Hydrology: Groundwater Organization		
4 A Guide to Understanding the Hydrologic Conditions of Wisconsin's Lake Superior Watersheds		
5 A Guide to Groundwater Quality Planning and Management for Local Governments: WDNR/GNHS		
6 Hydrogeology and Simulation of Groundwater Flow in Sauk County, Wisconsin: GNHS		
7 Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan-2009 (Portions)		
8 Washington County Groundwater Plan: 2014-2024(Portions)		
9 Portage County Groundwater 2010: (Portions)		
10 Protecting Local Ground-Water Supplies Through Wellhead Protection: USEPA		
11 Impact of Nitrate-Nitrogen from Unsewered Subdivisions on Groundwater: Tinker		

<b>E. Other Data from various sources:</b>	Status	Need Source
1 Well Dispute Settlement Program: Wisconsin Farmers Union		
2 Groundwater Survey Manual Development: Richard Smith		
3 Protecting Groundwater for Future Generations: Wisconsin Farmers Union		
4 2017 Status of Fracking in the US and Threat to Drinking Water: Food & Water Watch		
5 Environmental Human Health & Safety Risks from CAFOs: Town of Sylvester, WI		
6 Environmental Impacts of Industrial Silica Sand Mining: Orr and Krumenacher, Heartland Institute		
7 Kewaunee County Public Health and Groundwater Protection Ordinance		
8 Residential Development and Groundwater Resources-2002: Wisconsin Groundwater Coordinating Council		
9 Groundwater: The battle over "free" water in Wisconsin: Wisconsin Counties		
10 Acronyms and Initials (2015)		
11 Web Links to DNR Regulations (Needs to be Updated)		

<b>F. Student Papers:</b>	Status	Need Source
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1	Fertilizers and Pesticides	On File	
2	High Capacity Wells: Rockweiler and Gray	On File	
3	Junk and Salvage Yards	On File	
4	Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems	On File	
5	Viruses in Groundwater, an Emerging Issue?	On File	
6	Well Abandonment: Mularkey	On File	
7	Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in Groundwater, an emerging Issue?	On File	
8	Storage Tanks	On File	

**G. Further Information Required: (Reference Portage County Groundwater Management Plan)**

1	Groundwater recharge rate-rainfall, runoff, evapotranspiration, plant transpiration.		
2	Aquifer map if not part of available maps.		
3	Land uses within the County by land use and realty classification.		
4	Farm acreage and irrigation acreage.		
5	Groundwater quantity.		
6	Well and high capacity well locations and pumping records.		
7	Monitoring well locations.		
8	Lake level monitoring and stream base flow monitoring.		
9	High capacity well use.		
10	Groundwater utilization and trends.		
11	Groundwater quality-natural vs human affected.		
12	Bacteria, VOC, Pesticides, herbicides, pharmaceuticals, and personal care contamination levels.		
13	Location and size of manure storage structures.		
14	Biosolids landspreading locations.		
15	Spray irrigation of wastewater locations and annual volume.		
16	Landfill locations.		
17	Public perception of groundwater concerns in Eau Claire County.		
18	Develop goals for groundwater management focus based on concerns.		
19	Develop groundwater management plan recommendations based on goals.		

**H. Information Needed(Reference Draft Website Document)**

		Status	Need Source
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1	Wastewater Treatment Plants		
2	Sanitary Sewer Lines		
3	Septic System Sludge Land Disposal Sites		
4	WWTP sewage sludge land disposal sites		
5	Wastewater irrigation systems		
6	Current and closed landfills		
7	Salvage yard locations		
8	Irrigation Well location		
9	Fertilizer sprayer wells		
10	Abandoned wells		
11	High capacity well locations and use		
12	High capacity well production and users	Chip. Co.	
13	Community wells and wellhead protection areas		
14	Community well pumping volumes		
15	Estimated total county groundwater pumping volumes		
16	Estimated groundwater withdrawal by use		
17	Onsite wastewater treatment system locations		
18	Active agriculture by location and type		
19	CAFO locations, waste volume and disposal methods		
20	Atrazine and other herbicide/pesticide zones		
21	Agriculture chemical manufacturing and storage areas		
22	Industrial chemical storage areas		
23	Highway salt storage areas		
24	Underground storage tank location and with contaminated sites		
25	Petroleum pipelines/storage areas/recorded spills/petroleum retail outlets		
26	Hazardous material spill sites and cleanup records		
27	Superfund sites and cleanup record		
28	Manufacturing operations using hazardous materials and storage		
29	Known sites contaminated by viruses, pharmaceuticals and radioactivity		
30	Mine/Sand mine locations (Active and closed)		
	Page 4		
31	Drained wetlands and replacement wetlands		
32	Map of high nitrate areas and relationship to contamination sources		
33	Urban and rural land usage acres	Port. Co.	

34	Agriculture acres and related irrigation acres	Port. Co.
35	Naturally occurring radionuclides	Port. Co.

<b>I. Technical Data Needed</b>		<b>Status</b>	<b>Need Source</b>
1	Annual snow and rainfall volume		
2	Soil maps and depth and thickness		
3	Depth to bedrock and type of bedrock		Chip. Co.
4	Depth to precambrian surfact		
5	Groundwater recharge rates and volume		Chip. Co.
6	Groundwater flow model		Chip. Co.
7	Groundwater flow direction		
8	Depth to groundwater		
9	Groundwater elevation map		
10	Stream flow measurements		Chip. Co.
11	Map of high nitrate areas and relationship to contamination sources		
12	Geophysical loggin of high capacity wells (p10 of Chip Co. Plan)		Chip. Co.
13	Hydrostratigraphic layer		Chip. Co.