

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

MEETING MINUTES – November 3, 2022, 4:00 pm, Rm 3312, 721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Dunning, Nancy Coffey, Jodi Lepsch, Sham Anderson, Glory Adams, Mark Kaeding, Anna Mares, Mary Kenosian, Sarah Vitale

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Chad Berge, Christina Rauh (Land Conservation Division); Rod Eslinger, Regan Watts (Planning & Development); Matt Steinbach, Audrey Boerner (Eau Claire City/County Health Department)

OTHERS PRESENT: Andrew Werthman (City of Eau Claire City Council), Sherri McCormick (Town of Lincoln), Jane Mohler, Claire Schoenemann, Rachel Klinkner

1. Call to order by Chair.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Coffey at 4:01 pm.

2. Roll call of members present

Roll call was taken. A quorum was present with 8 members in attendance. Kenosian joined via remote access at 4:16 pm.

3. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Coffey confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

4. Public Comment Period

None

5. Review/Approval of August 4, 2022, meeting minutes

ACTION: Motion by Kaeding/Second by Anderson to approve the August 4, 2022, meeting minutes. Motion carried on a voice vote with none in opposition, 8-0-0

6. Review Groundwater Advisory Committee Technical Advisors.

DISCUSSION: Coffey reviewed the Technical Advisor members as shown in the agenda packet. Berge provided an update at the November 1st Towns Association Meeting explaining that the municipal Chairs and Clerks were added to the email list and would receive the Groundwater Advisory Committee agendas. Kenosian joined via remote access at 4:16 pm.

7. Creation of groundwater protection educational materials for citizens with private wells.

DISCUSSION: Vitale led the discussion and introduced Schoenemann and Klinker who presented their findings to the committee. They shared it was hard to find local educational resources related to private wells. Watts suggested contacting her to add educational information to the recycling flyer if individuals were interested.

8. Update regarding ARPA Groundwater Private Well Testing Grant proposal.

DISCUSSION: Vitale provided an overview of the grant which would entail measuring the water quality of 200 private Eau Claire County wells. Coffey shared that there are unappropriated ARPA funds, and the grant could potentially be funded in the future.

9. Groundwater Basics presentation.

DISCUSSION: Vitale gave a groundwater basics presentation to the committee. Vitale left the meetings at 5:10 pm.

10. Review the 2018 State of the Groundwater Report.

DISCUSSION: Coffey opened the discussion with Eslinger sharing the groundwater flow model is budgeted for 2024. Lepsch suggested the group contact the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Public Assistance to States grant to see if they would be able to assist with a model. The group discussed community septic systems and high-capacity wells and examined regulations pertaining to each.

11. Members, Staff and Agency Updates

- a. **Committee Members** – Nothing to add.
- b. **Regional Planning Commission** – Not present.
- c. **Planning and Development** – Eslinger shared P&D recently hired an intern.
- d. **Land Conservation** – Berge shared the Land & Water Resource Management Plan is complete and will be presented in December.
- e. **Health Department** – Steinbach shared the Health Department analyzed 175 well water samples. A significant increase from prior years.
- f. **County Municipalities** – Werthman provided an update regarding the City of Eau Claire’s water utility program. The city is looking into creating a comprehensive water plan.

12. Set next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting date is February 2, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in room 3312.

13. Future Agenda Items:

14. Adjourn

Coffey adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chad Berge, Land Conservation Manager
Groundwater Advisory Clerk