

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM TASK FORCE
McHenry County Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock IL 60098

MEETING NOTES OF TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009

The meeting began at 2:00 p.m. Attendees and participants included representatives from municipalities, townships, various organizations/agencies and interested public. Ms. McKinney welcomed participants and thanked them for their continued support.

"Policy" Discussion: Ms. McKinney joined committee to discuss what the recommendations that are brought forward from this committee should be called. Concern was noted by various entities regarding the County setting "policy" on the water issues. They stated that if the "recommendations" are set as "policies", Municipalities and Villages may feel like they are required to follow the policies as presented instead of viewing them as model policies that can be adapted to each. It was stated that the County does not want to scare anyone away from using these suggestions and questioned what the "policy" should be named. It was noted that water is a lot larger of an issue than just what we see in the County. It is likely that eventually there will be some kind of "authority" that regulates water issues, as it has been discussed at the regional, state, and national levels. In the mean time, it is important to stay on top of the issue and assist the communities in assessing their water concerns and addressing the amount of water their community will need to sustain their communities for the next 30 to 50 years. It is not the intent of the County to "bully" anyone into using the recommendations developed by the Task Force. Instead, it is important to inform that there is a finite amount of water available and that the use of these recommendations can help to protect both the quality and quantity of water needed countywide. Ms. McKinney stated that as the model policy recommendations are created it is important to pay attention to how the information is presented. Task force members noted that if this is not called a "policy" it would not be accepted or paid attention to, the work would be filed away and not used. Members stated that a lot will depend on how the information is presented. As long as the "book" states what is included in the contents, it would not matter what the name of it was. Task force members were reminded that the County is not directing policy and these are the recommendations developed by the task force for the municipalities and townships in McHenry County to protect and maintain good quality water. Numerous suggestions included "recommended policies", "model policies", "recommended guidelines to establish policy", and "policy recommendations". Ms. McKinney requested task force members email her their suggestions for consideration at the next task force meeting. She stated that if any Municipality feels threatened by what is being done to please have them call her so that she can schedule a meeting to have a discussion of what is being created.

Discussion about the Pollution Prevention Policies.

ADJOURNMENT at 4:00 PM.