

South Sangamon Water Commission  
Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
November 12, 2020  
via Zoom

**Commissioners:**

Present: Cindy Morris, Dave Johnson, Jim Roth

Absent: none

Quorum: yes

**Others Present:**

Stephen Bivin & Laura VanProyen (SSWC), Max Middendorf (MECO Engineering), Jamie Headen (Benton & Associates), Bill Brown (Crawford, Murphy & Tilly), Pat McCarthy & Dustin Patterson (Village of Chatham), John Bartolomucci & David Cook (IEPA)

**Proceedings:**

- The meeting came to order at 11:00 a.m.
- Max Middendorf opened the meeting by stating its purpose was to allow for discussion and address questions among the Commission, its member communities and IEPA regarding the possible conversion to chloramines.

**Discussion:**

- General discussion regarding types of water sources and types of disinfection involved with the Commission and backup water providers for its member communities.
  
- EPA rules had changed since the construction permit was issued in 2018 regarding lead and copper rules. The construction permit is good for five years.
- Once an operating permit application is submitted, an EPA workgroup would be assigned to review; they may then require a corrosion study. Until then, they could not say which disinfection method(s) would be acceptable. They said having no lead lines in a community's distribution system did not mean there is no chance of lead and copper corrosion.
  
- A new section in the EPA standards stated all water supplies serving a community must use a consistent type of disinfection, whether free chlorine or chloramines. In answer to questions, they said they would never deny short-term use of an emergency water source using different disinfection than the Commission's, but it would not be acceptable for long-term, and we could be cited. They could not quantify the length of short-term versus long-term use.
  
- EPA stated the goal would be for the Commission to become independent with the addition of its own elevated storage. They cannot recommend our solution. The decision is the Commission's; they can only tell us of possible problems.

**Summary and Next Steps:**

- Commissioner Roth suggested, and EPA agreed, applying for the chloramine conversion operating permit is a good place to start, along with continuing to work on the Chatham backfeed connection. Jamie Headen would have an update regarding this for the upcoming regular meeting.
- Pat McCarthy reminded the Commission that there are yet no intergovernmental agreements in place regarding the backfeed connection and that the Village of Chatham wants the chloramine conversion to move forward to address odor issues they were experiencing.

**Adjournment:**

- Middendorf thanked the EPA representatives for their guidance. He thought the meeting provided good communication that would be important as the Commission is its decisions.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Laura VanProyen, Clerk