Members Present: Joe Abbate - South Barrington (alternate); David Parro - Tower Lakes; Al Pino - North Barrington; Amy Nykaza - Barrington Township; Karen Darch - Barrington; Colleen Konicek-Hannigan - Barrington Hills (alternate).
Members Absent: Cuba Township; Lake Barrington
Staff Present: Janet Agnoletti, Executive Director
Others Present: Senator Dan McConchie, Kurt Bihler, Natalie Karney

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pino at 7:00 pm. There were no community reports.

On a motion by Darch and second by Parro, the minutes of June 28, 2016, were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Abbate and second by Darch, the Treasurer’s Reports of July and August 2016 were unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

The FY2015-16 audit had been distributed with the packet. On a motion by Parro and second by Abbate, action on the audit was tabled to the September 27, 2016, board meeting to allow more time for members’ review and discussion.

Invited State Legislators
Senator Dan McConchie was welcomed by Chairman Pino. McConchie noted his appointment to the General Assembly seat in April when Dan Duffy resigned. He reviewed the 6-month budget that will take Illinois through the fall election, and that working groups are developing budget plans for leadership to consider when they meet again. He was appointed to the Governor’s Task Force on Education Funding Reform and wants to ensure that any funding formula does not take money from districts that are operating well and send dollars away to other areas.

Darch said that local government revenues such as LGDF (Local Government Distributive Fund) are not the same as funds that go to agencies and programs, and that there is a long history regarding how and why LGDF is owed to municipalities. McConchie said he supports this position and his philosophy is that local governments govern best and he wants to empower them to do their job. Pino asked about charter schools, to which McConchie replied that there will be more discussion about charter schools vouchers in the coming months in the legislature. He said the Governor has reduced his core turnaround agenda to 5-6 items that include pension reform. McConchie agreed that there are too many unfunded mandates and there must be relief in order to put forth a property tax freeze bill and this will be on the table for a while. Agnoletti thanked the Senator for his time in Springfield in April, his participation in meetings there about groundwater, and his interest in helping with long-term funding for BACOG’s monitoring program.

Presentations
Kurt Bihler representing BioMicrobics Wastewater Recycling Systems presented this wastewater treatment system. It is an alternative to septic systems that uses a bio-filtering membrane that allows water molecules through but not bacteria, viruses, or anything else. The resulting product is pure water and safe for human use and consumption. This new technology, in use for about three years, allows building where it would not have been allowed prior because it does not require septic-appropriate
soils. Many counties allow this technology in their codes, but Lake County does not. Natalie Karney, engineer for South Barrington and North Barrington, discussed legal authorities for using the system. If a municipality is in Lake County, it cannot adopt a village code allowing this system. In Cook County, it is allowed. Other communities nearby such as Inverness have this system in place for several years and they are working fine according to their village engineer. Bihler said that septic systems put metal, sludge and other chemicals back into the ground, whereas the Bio-microbics system is better stewardship of water resources.

Committee Reports
Agnoletti reviewed the Bylaws Committee recommendations for revisions to the bylaws, including removal of Deer Park as a member, elimination of the residency requirement for the Treasurer, and adding a new withdrawal payment process. The staff memo distributed with the board packet described these changes. Parro added that the withdrawal payment change started from a lack of clarity in the existing bylaws and resulted in more discussion about a withdrawal payment. Pino said a payment cannot be a penalty, and Darch said BACOG membership is a type of contract. There was consensus to put both the bylaws revisions and the suggested policy on member dues payments and schedule on the September board agenda.

Darch moved and Nykaza seconded to appoint Bonnie McLeod to the office of Treasurer provisionally subject to the bylaw revision and a background check (underway); motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Resolution #16-04
On a motion by Darch and second by Abbate, Resolution #16-04 recognizing retiring Treasurer Carol Rolfs for her contributions to BACOG and the regional community was unanimously approved. A plaque for Rolfs was shown to the board and will be delivered to her next week.

There were no Finance Committee or Policy & Long-range Committee reports as they had not met.

For Legislative Committee, Agnoletti reviewed bills in the Illinois legislature, House Bill 1455/Senate Bill 797, regarding electronics recycling. The bills reform the funding plan to pay for recycling. People are not doing as much recycling because they now must pay for it because manufacturers have met their goals and are no longer providing adequate funding to maintain the recycling programs and jobs. Darch will follow up with SWANCC. Parro noted that Cuba Township used to provide electronic collection but no longer does.

Water Resources Initiative and Committee Reports
Agnoletti reviewed the “Interim Report” she had developed for the BACOG Aquifer Water Levels Monitoring Program. It contains background on the program, facilities being used, and data collection that includes monitoring wells, municipal pumping wells, stream gages and precipitation. The report is a data compilation and not an analysis; the next analysis will occur in 2019 and result in mapping and a first look at trends in water levels in the shallow aquifer system. She acknowledged and thanked the agencies, municipalities, State and U.S. Surveys, and individuals who made contributions to the program and to the data development. Agnoletti will distribute the Interim Report to participating municipalities (pumping wells), the State Surveys and others. She asked board members to distribute the Interim Report to their boards. Two staff hydrologists from the U.S. Geological Survey will be present at the September board meeting to answer questions about the BACOG data.
There was no report on the Northwest Water Planning Alliance.

Emergency Management
Agnoletti noted that the upcoming tabletop exercise will be October 14, and she had distributed a list of emails for who would be invited. She asked members to forward the tabletop announcement to others who are not on the list. She noted that EPA, CNRR, Metra, UPRR, Lake County EMA and Cook County EMA responded that they will participate.

Resolution #16-05
On a motion by Darch and second by Konicek-Hannigan, Resolution #16-05 endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Greenest Region Compact 2 was unanimously approved.

Alternates and Committee Rosters
Agnoletti noted that according to the bylaws there must be an additional board member, i.e., village president or township supervisor, on the Legislative Committee. Parro said he will consider it. Adjustments to the roster can be made at the next meeting. On a motion by Abbate and second by Darch, the Roster of Designated Alternates and Roster of Committee Memberships were unanimously approved.

FY2016-17 Work Program Priorities
Agnoletti reviewed the summary of the on-line survey responses for the coming year’s work program. The order of priority was slightly adjusted during the discussion and determined to be, in order of highest to lowest priority: 1) Groundwater, 2) Planning & Land Use/Environmental, 3) Liaison & Partnering with Other Agencies, 4) Emergency Management, 5) Legislative/Lobbying, 6) Programs, Training & Networking for Members, 7) BACOG Mission & Long Range Planning/Unity Dinner & Klein Award. Sub-categories of these work program areas were discussed and adjusted by ranking as well. For emergency management, members agreed on one tabletop for an event such as a natural disaster or flooding and to continue the VEOCI training. Ideas for training programs included a model sign ordinance meeting, to be based on an anticipated national template for such. Also discussed was consolidation or sharing of services with an occasional session for members and staff together, to consider a purchasing summit for various contractual goods or services, or to pick topics to discuss best practices. For such a session, it was agreed that 5:30 pm, possibly on the day of a BACOG meeting would best accommodate both staff and officials. On a motion by Darch and second by Abbate, the FY2016-17 Ranking of Priorities for the Work Program was unanimously approved.

Staff and Board Reports
Agnoletti reported on her participation in the Leadership Summit and follow-on activities locally and the Advance Barrington Initiative for positioning Barrington as a best place in the state. Darch and Konicek-Hannigan (or McLaughlin) were interested in participating in Advance Barrington and Agnoletti will forward their names to the group. Steve Wilson from the Illinois State Water Survey had offered to provide a webinar on lead in water for the Board. Members agreed to proceed with a webinar and asked if others (trustees, staff, etc) could be invited to participate in the webinar from remote locations; Agnoletti will follow up with Wilson. The webinar would occur during a board meeting. She also reported on progress on the annual member dinner on November 11.

Konicek-Hannigan had no report from Barrington Hills.
Darch invited all to attend the memorial ceremony in downtown Barrington on September 11. The Governor is expected to attend.

Abbate reported on new stores in the Arboretum, including Talbots, a bridal salon, and a massage studio. South Barrington is finishing their road program. Niche.com ranked South Barrington as 4th best suburb in Illinois. Their tree program will eliminate 50 parkway trees, and the village is painting the dry hydrants for greater visibility. On August 27, SWANCC will host a shredding event at village hall.

Pino said North Barrington is finishing its road program and was pleased to save money.

Parro reported the Tower Lakes office was informed by the teamsters union that they are protesting unfair labor practices by a contractor and he did not know the details yet. September 4th will be a celebration of Tower Lakes’ incorporation at the island.

Nykaza had no report for Barrington Township.

Executive Session
Darch moved to go into closed session for purposes of personnel and consideration of release of closed session minutes and destruction of closed session recordings. The motion was seconded by Parro, and unanimously approved on a roll call vote, and the meeting was closed to the public at 9:30 pm.

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At 9:50 pm, Parro moved and Darch seconded to resume the open session of the meeting; all voted in favor.

FY2016-17 Budget & Member Assessments
Agnoletti noted possible revisions to the budget to adjust for hiring a new Administrative Assistant and in relation to the GIS Analysis position. There was discussion about the hourly rate for each of these positions. Members discussed whether to send this consideration to Finance Committee. Agnoletti said the Finance Committee has always reviewed, and the Executive Board has set, the compensation for the Executive Director, but that the Director has set the staff compensation based on comparative rates for those positions in other organizations and communities, with assistance from the Village of Barrington and other members. The Board agreed that this was appropriate. Agnoletti asked for more time until the September meeting to make recommendations for the staff positions hourly rates, and this was agreed by the Board. Agnoletti will bring a revised budget to that meeting.

Pino mentioned that there are new regulations governing closed sessions and suggested Agnoletti talk to Attorney Bill Braithwaite for more information.

On a motion by Parro and second by Darch, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Submitted by:
Janet L. Agnoletti, Executive Director