Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting of September 27, 2016
At the Tower Lakes Village Hall

Members Present: Paula McCombie - South Barrington (alternate); David Parro - Tower Lakes; Al Pino - North Barrington; Amy Nykaza - Barrington Township; Karen Darch - Barrington; David Nelson – Cuba Township; Martin McLaughlin - Barrington Hills; Christopher Mitchell – Lake Barrington (alternate).

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Janet Agnoletti -- Executive Director


Minutes and Treasurer Report

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pino at 7:10 pm. On a motion by McCombie and second by Parro, the minutes of August 23, 2016, were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Nelson and second by Nykaza, the Treasurer’s Report of September 2016 was unanimously approved on a roll call vote. On a motion by Nelson and second by Nykaza, the FY2015-16 annual audit as reported by Evans Marshall & Pease was unanimously accepted into the record.

There were no public comments or community reports.

McLaughlin entered the meeting.

Legislators

The discussion with State legislators was deferred to a later time. Representative Sullivan was not able to attend the meeting due to a death in his family.

Chairman Pino read Resolution #16-06 into the record, honoring State Representative Ed Sullivan Jr. for his service and contributions to the BACOG region. On a motion by Parro and second by Nelson, the resolution was unanimously adopted. Agnoletti will invite Representative Sullivan to the October or November meeting of the Board.

Groundwater Programs

Agnoletti introduced guest speakers, Amy Gahala and Jon Lageman from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Gahala briefly reviewed her comments that were contained in the BACOG “2016 Interim Report” about the aquifer water levels monitoring program. She noted a steady drop of 70 feet in a monitoring well in the eastern portion of the BACOG area. Gahala said in order to analyze this location she would need the depths of all the monitoring well and the data for all the nearby community and industrial wells and their depths. Agnoletti said the BACOG office will provide this information to USGS, and Gahala and Lageman said they would provide comments after reviewing water withdrawals and depths which would identify wells in the same aquifer units. Lageman recommended that a transducer be placed in that well to better understand going forward what is happening. Agnoletti noted the costs associated with entering this well into the BACOG well network and equipping it with a transducer. She
asked Lageman about the likelihood of USGS granting BACOG the equipment, as occurred for the first three monitoring wells. He noted the merger of the Illinois and Iowa State Surveys and the uncertainty of funding available for this purpose but requested working with Agnoletti to develop a “scope of work” proposal so he could look into it. Lageman said he is interested in the new stream gage data being collected by Flint Creek Watershed Partnership and being used in the BACOG groundwater program, and Agnoletti offered to meet with him and Gahala in the near future. Agnoletti and Chairman Pino thanked Gahala and Lageman for their assistance and support for the BACOG monitoring program.

McCombie reported on the Northwest Water Planning Alliance (NWPA) activities, including that the last meeting was Chairman Mayor Tom Weisner’s last before he retires. An Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) report on water quality in the region was presented at the last meeting.

**Committee Reports**

Darch reported for the Bylaws Committee, which met in August 17. The committee made several recommendations to the Board at the August 23rd meeting, but the vote was deferred to the September meeting due to notice requirements. The August staff memo contained in that meeting packet itemized the proposed revisions, including eliminating Deer Park from membership, eliminating the requirement for the Treasurer to be a resident of the BACOG area in favor of a “preference”, and changing the dues policy for withdrawal from membership. McLaughlin asked if a member board was authorized to commit itself to a 6-month withdrawal payment because that payment might cross into a future fiscal year. Other members noted where their villages or townships participated in such votes/commitments for other purposes with no conflict. Darch and Parro commented on the reasons for the greater time period for withdrawal and payments, which was so as to not penalize the member governments remaining. McLaughlin said he would check with his village counsel. A bylaws amendment requires a 2/3 vote of the Executive Board. On a motion by Darch to approve the bylaws revisions as presented and second by Nelson, the revisions were approved on a roll call vote, with McLaughlin voting no and all others voting yes.

On a motion by Nelson and second by Darch, the “Dues Payment Schedule Policy” was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Nelson and second by Darch, the appointment of Bonnie McLeod as Treasurer of the Executive Board was affirmed on a unanimous vote of the board.

There was no report of Finance Committee or Policy and Long Range Committee, as those committees had not met.

Darch, as Chairperson, reported for Legislative Committee which had met prior to the board meeting. She urged members to sign up for the breakfast being held on October 6 and to encourage their board members as well. Darch presented the issues to be presented at the breakfast, including protecting revenues, pension reform, Constitutional Amendment regarding transportation funding, property tax freeze concerns, and groundwater funding needs. She said the committee will edit the Legislative Platform for the 2017 year. Darch said the committee is recommending that BACOG participate with Lake County Municipal League, at LCML’s invitation, in a legislative breakfast in February. There was consensus of the Executive Board to do so.

**Emergency Management**
Agnoletti reported on the emergency preparedness tabletop exercise to be hosted by BACOG on October 14th at 8:00 am at the Barrington Public Safety Building. Approximately 50 individuals from EMA, the counties and local boards and officials are expected to attend. The topic is a railroad disaster.

Committee Roster

On a motion by Pino and second by McLaughlin to revise the 2016-17 Committees Roster to include Parro in the Legislative Committee membership, the roster revision was unanimously approved.

Budget and Dues

Agnoletti reviewed the changes to the FY2016-17 budget and dues: 1) as approved by the Board at the August meeting (2% salary increase for Executive Director), and 2) as she is recommending for staff (GIS Analyst increase to $28/hour, Administrative Assistant hire within the existing range with potential increase to $23.50 for part of the FY). The net effect on the budget would be the same as if each staff position received a 2% increase. With no further discussion, on a motion by Darch and second by Parro the roll call vote was unanimous to adjust the budget and dues accordingly. Agnoletti thanked the Board for the increases.

Director’s Report

Agnoletti provided a report on the Annual Dinner set for November 11th. Pinstripes has been selected as the location. Members noted whether they will pay for their boards and how payment will be made. The program will be about the new sponsorship program. She asked if the Board would like to hear from Lake County regarding the Bio-barrier system that is an alternative to septic systems, and the consensus was yes to make the invitation for a future meeting.

Member Reports

Mitchell reported for Lake Barrington that the village comprehensive plan update is underway, and Angel Water has located in the former Fidelity Motors building. He reported on upcoming events including Pepper Fest and the Barn Stomp.

McLaughlin reported for Barrington Hills on the opening of Veterans Bridge and the Longmeadow Parkway project. He noted events including the upcoming Hills Are Alive and a successful polo event. He also spoke to Representative Radogno who will follow up with the Governor regarding our need for funding to support the aquifer water levels monitoring program and he discussed the same request with Congressman Kirk’s office.

Nykaza reported for Barrington Township that their first Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) was adopted, and she was congratulated by the Board. She noted the township website has been revamped and they were pleased to have used Edge Marketing.

McCombie reported for South Barrington that the village is talking with IDOT and holding focus groups with residents about a proposed bike path in the village, which is a plan that came from the CMAP bike path work in the BACOG region. She noted upcoming events including the Scarecrow Walk in the
Conservancy and a program for residents provided by Cook County Recorder of Deeds on disposition of property after death.

Nelson reported for Cuba Township on the Fall Festival and the new Advance Barrington initiative, the latter of which will promote the Barrington area as a good place to locate and do business in these poor economic times in the State.

Darch reported for Barrington that Homecoming is October 1st and Barrington is also having a scarecrow fest. Their board is hosting “coffee and conversation” meetings with the public on some Saturdays in the next few months. She discussed the re-alignment of Lake Zurich Road in the context of the CNRR project and the citizens’ advisory referendum on the November ballot. Oversight by the federal Surface Transportation Board ends in January 2017, and rail traffic will increase.

Parro reported for Tower Lakes that their 50th anniversary event was successful with over 300 people attending.

McLaughlin discussed the effects of recent revisions to FOIA that involve personal emails. Agnoletti noted that she had included in the board packet Attorney Braithwaite’s memo to North Barrington on this subject at the Chairman’s request.

Pino reported for North Barrington on their board’s discussion on closed session minutes under a new interpretation as well as the personal texting. He offered Braithwaite’s memo to his village board to share with BACOG members. Members noted that Zukowski firm had made a presentation at the IML conference on this topic and noted the consideration of police texting in the Laquan MacDonald case.

Pino continued with reporting that the traffic lights at Route 22 and Old Barrington Road are open and the improvements at that intersection have greatly improved stormwater drainage at the intersection. He said the village for a long time has had four entities performing engineering and following a review of their budget and expenditures, the board recently decided to set Robinson Engineering as the sole village engineer.

Agnoletti told the Board that Faye Sinnott, a member of the Water Resources Committee and a long-time community member, had volunteered to fill in during the Administrative Assistant vacancy. She said Sinnott is doing a fantastic job, putting in hours every day, and she has arranged to pay Sinnott for her time. Agnoletti noted her appreciation to Sinnott.

On a motion by Nelson and second by McLaughlin, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Submitted by:
Janet Agnoletti, Executive Director