

Chippewa County Community Well Drilling Ad Hoc Committee
March 15, 2023

The meeting was called to order by L. Schweikert (LCFM) at 12:00 p.m. Ad Hoc Committee members present were R. Bowe (Town of Eagle Point Supervisor), A. Droske (Town of Wheaton Supervisor), A. Mares (DNR – via Webex), K. Masarik (UWSP & UWEX – via Webex), M. Parsen (WGNHS), and K. Walters (Chippewa Co. Public Health).

Agency staff advisors present were K. Clow (LCFM), L. Richardson (LCFM), L. Schweikert (LCFM), and J. Schemenauer – Recorder (LCFM).

Others present, as identified, were D. Hauser, C. Kaiser, P. Popple, and K. Schmitt.

Item #1 – Recap of 2/9/2023 meeting

L. Schweikert provided a recap of the 2/9/23 meeting and information obtained as a result of questions that arose from the meeting.

Item #2 – Discussion on Municipalities that test for NN/TN

A. Mares provided a list of municipal community wells in Chippewa County (copy on file & attached). She suggested that the municipalities in the areas of greatest need could be contacted to assess their interest in providing safe water to participants through their community wells.

Item #3 – Identify priority areas to target for refill stations

A. Droske indicated that the Town of Wheaton Board has discussed and supports the project. They would like a refill station to be placed at the Wheaton Ball field, close to the frontage road.

R. Bowe indicated that the Town of Eagle Point Board did not take a position on this as they have a lot of questions.

Both Boards' questions were:

1. Will the refill station building be heated?
2. What will accessibility and security be?
3. Will there be a shut-off valve available?
4. Is using city water a better option than refill stations?

L. Schweikert and K. Masarik reviewed a map titled: Groundwater Nitrate Concentrations that Exceed 10 mg/L, (LCFM – Distributed 3/8/2023 – copy on file & attached). The map shows areas in the County that had wells that tested 10 mg/L or higher, as part of the 2016 well testing project.

K. Masarik indicated that he is currently working on a nitrate risk assessment model which could be used for the County. He could provide updated maps as well as a draft of the 2022 water testing results, when available.

There was general discussion regarding information already available for priority areas (well construction information, historical water testing). Discussion also focused on other locations for this project (Village of New Auburn and Lake Wissota).

Item #4 - Identify criteria needed to locate refill stations

M. Parsen introduced the Modflow program (Groundwater Flow Model for Western Chippewa County, Wisconsin), which will be used by LCFM staff to simulate the flow of groundwater through aquifers in Chippewa County.

There was general discussion. Discussion focused on:

1. Existing municipal wellhead protection plans and the possibility of Chippewa County or individual towns implementing a plan.
2. Use of an educational approach to make people aware of the project.
3. Information needed to identify criteria, such as well construction logs, inventory of land use practices, testing history, and Modflow results.

Item #5 - Discussion on survey questions and timeline

L. Schweikert reported that she had contacted UWEX to develop a survey and timeline regarding interest in the project. Chippewa County administration was not in favor of developing a survey as the money is to be used for refill stations.

Discussion was held regarding a survey being sent out at the town level regarding community interest.

Item #6 - Discussion on additional sampling needs

K. Masarik provided a report on the data that is currently available for Chippewa County private wells as well as future testing opportunities.

There was general discussion. Discussion focused on:

1. Working with DNR to perform similar tests as TN/NN testing requirements, and providing information on a public interface.
2. Placement of wells in flood risk areas.
3. Location of refill stations on a route that would be used frequently for residents.

Item #7 – Set Date and Time for Future Meetings

The next meeting for the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

Item #8 – Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Please Note: This public informational meeting is being conducted by the Dept. of Land Conservation & Forest Management. This is not an official Committee or County Board meeting.

AGENDA

Community Well Drilling Ad Hoc Committee
12:00 p.m., Wednesday March 15th, 2023
Room 3, Lower Level - Chippewa County Courthouse

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 12:00 p.m. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Recap of 2/9/2023 meeting – L. Schweikert<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Liability-Existing Refill stations
•Discussion on Municipalities that test for NN/TN – A. Mares
•Identify priority areas to target for refill stations – L. Schweikert<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Wheaton/Eagle Point Comments – A. Droske/R. Bowe
•Identify criteria needed to locate refill stations – M. Parsen
•Discussion on survey questions and timeline – L. Schweikert
•Discussion on additional sampling needs – K. Masarik
•Set Date and Time for Future Meetings. |
| 2:00 p.m. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Adjourn. |

Chippewa County shall attempt to provide reasonable special accommodations to the public for access to its public meetings, provided reasonable notice of special need is given. If special accommodations for a meeting are desired, contact the County Clerk's Office at 715-726-7980.

Members of the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors are entitled to attend this meeting. It is possible that the attendance of one or more Supervisors may create a quorum of a county board committee, board or commission. Such a quorum is unintended and the Supervisors are not meeting for the purpose of exercising the responsibility, authority, power, or duties of any other committee, board or commission.

FAXED/POSTED: Bloomer Advance, Eau Claire Leader, Chippewa Herald, Chippewa Valley Post, Clear Channel, Cornell Courier/Cadott Sentinel, Fox 25/48, Maverick Media, Public Access TV, WEAU TV-13, WQOW TV-18

Chippewa County Community Well Drilling Ad Hoc Committee
February 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by L. Schweikert (LCFM) at 1:00 p.m. Ad Hoc Committee members present were R. Bowe (Town of Eagle Point Supervisor), A. Droske (Town of Wheaton Supervisor), A. Mares (DNR), K. Masarik (UWSP & UWEX), and M. Parsen (WGNHS – via Webex),

Agency staff advisors present were K. Clow (LCFM), L. Richardson (LCFM), L. Schweikert (LCFM), and J. Schemenauer – Recorder (LCFM).

Others present, as identified, were W. & K. Burcaw, V. Drath, D. Gullickson, C. Kaiser, M. Mahr, T. Piercy, P. Popple, K. Schmitt, and B. & B. Zabel.

Item #1 – Welcome and Introductions

L. Schweikert welcomed the group.

Each committee member introduced themselves and the organization that they represent.

Item #2 – Purpose of Ad Hoc Committee

As noted under Resolution #57-22, approved by the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors on 11/8/22, the purpose of the Committee is as follows:

1. Locate areas in the County that would benefit from a community well to provide safe drinking water for those affected by high nitrates in the groundwater.
2. Analyze existing permitted non-transient, non-community wells to see if those wells could be utilized as refill stations.
3. In the absence of existing wells, identify locations to drill community wells in priority areas that will have the highest success rate of producing safe drinking water.

Item #3 – Discussion on Scope of Project

A. Mares provided a brief report on NN & TN systems in Chippewa County. The report was supported by the following materials:

1. Email correspondence from A. Mares (DNR) to L. Schweikert (LCFM), (9/26/22), regarding NN and TN systems in Chippewa County. (Distributed 2/2/23 – copy on file and attached).
2. Table titled: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Drinking Water System, Abbreviated Inventory, (DNR - 9/26/22, Distributed 2/2/23 – copy on file & attached).
3. Handout titled: Public Water Transient Non-Community County Contracted, (DNR–2022 – Distributed 2/2/23 – copy on file & attached).

There was general discussion.

Item #4 - Discussion on Information Needed to Develop Proposal

L. Schweikert distributed and the Committee reviewed a map titled: Groundwater Nitrate Concentrations that Exceed 10 mg/L in Proximity to Permitted Manure Storage Structures, Associated Cropland with a Nutrient Management Plan & TN Well Locations, (LCFM - copy on file & attached).

Discussion focused on:

1. The differences between NN and TN wells, community and non-community wells, and what category a proposed community well would fall into.
2. Possible liabilities and risks to the County and municipalities that host a community well.
3. Required testing of the community wells by DNR.
4. Information and education presented to the public on prior and current water sampling projects.
5. The use of Modflow to delineate areas for new wells, based on the nitrate footprint.
6. The use of existing wells for this project and looking at the available testing data for any other possible areas.
7. The use of year-round faucets at municipal facilities (talk to plumbers/well drillers what that look like).
8. The DNR ARPA Well Compensation Program. Several people from Chippewa County have applied and received funding from this program.
9. Reach out to UWEX Community Resource Agent to complete a survey to send to people in high nitrate areas to see if they would use a community well.

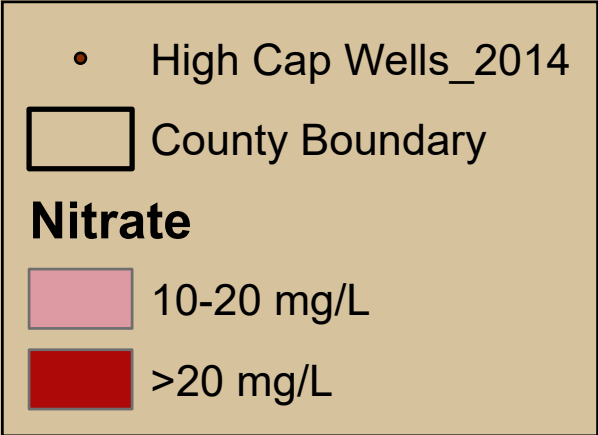
Item #5 – Set Date and Time for Future Meetings

The next meeting for the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

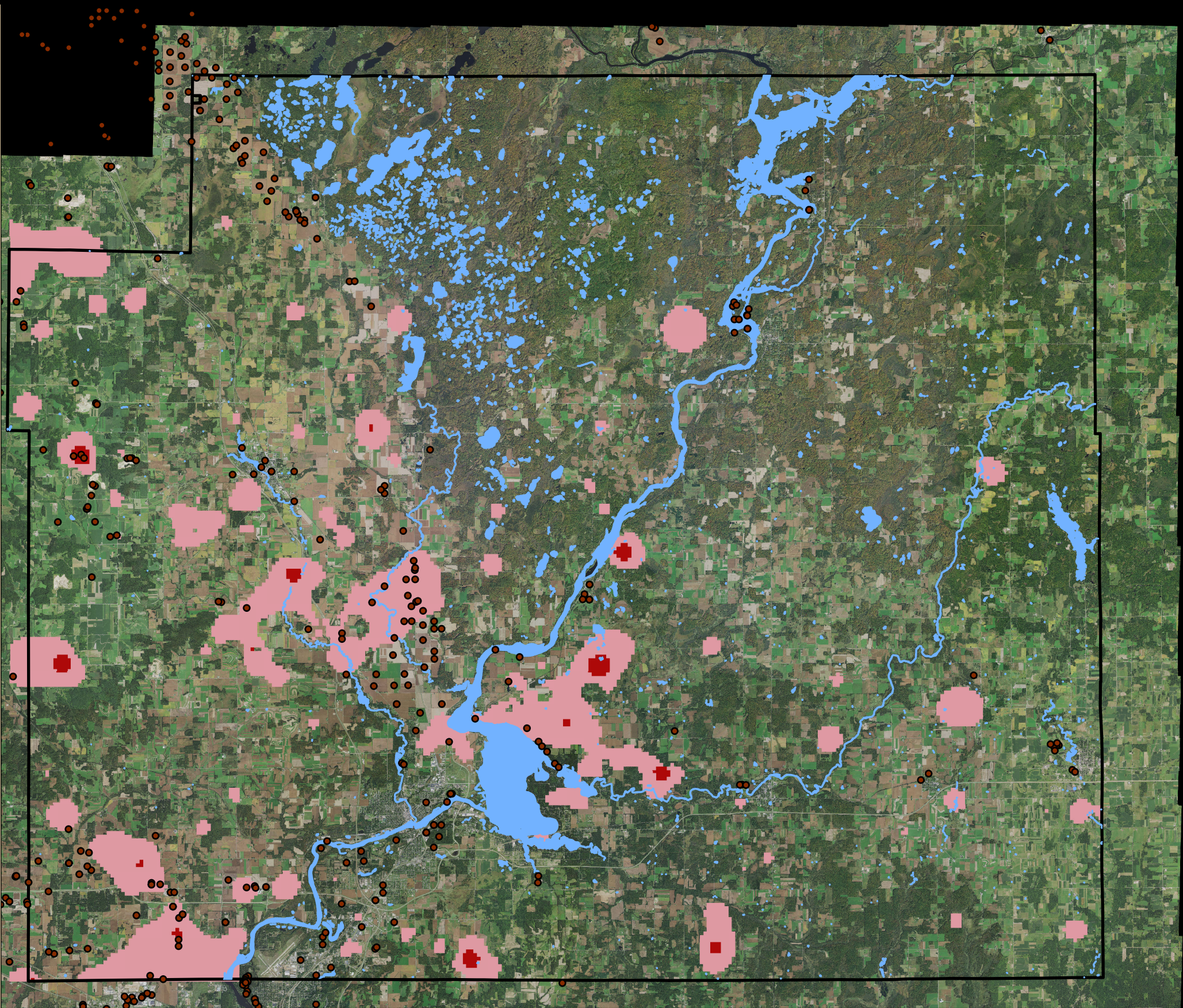
Item #6 – Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

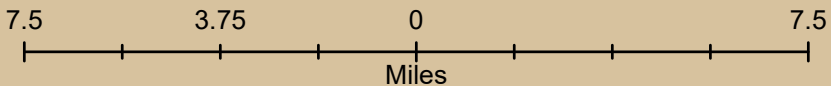
Groundwater Nitrate
Concentrations
that Exceed 10 mg/L



Source: Nitrate information provided by K. Masarik, 2016 UWSP Groundwater Study



1 in = 4 miles



Aerial Photo 2015



Region: West Central Region (6)
 Type: MC - Municipal Community
 Cnty: Chippewa (9)

<i>PWS Id</i>	<i>PWS Name</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Type</i>
60904481	BLOOMER WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	BLOOMER	A	MC
60904492	BOYD WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	BOYD	A	MC
60904503	CADOTT WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	CADOTT	A	MC
60904569	CHIPPEWA FALLS WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	CHIPPEWA FALLS	A	MC
60904580	CORNELL WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	CORNELL	A	MC
60908496	LAKE HALLIE WATERWORKS VILLAGE OF	West Central Region	Chippewa	CHIPPEWA FALLS	A	MC
60904613	NEW AUBURN WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	NEW AUBURN	A	MC
60904624	STANLEY WATERWORKS	West Central Region	Chippewa	STANLEY	A	MC

Total Systems in Group: 8