Introductory Business

1) **Call to Order** – Chair Steven Nass called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

   Attendance

   John Tramburg, Harlan Baumgartner and Sue Martin, Columbia County; Garland Lichtenberg and Dave Neuendorf, Dodge County; Orrin Helmer, John Brennan and Jeff Hoffman, Green Lake County; Steven Nass, John Molinaro and Gary Petre, Jefferson County; Judy Ashford, Kathy Schauff, and Jenny Erickson, Sauk County. Also present were: Dean Perlick and Nate Olson, Dodge County Land Resources & Parks Dept.; Ken Bradbury, Wisconsin Geologic & Natural History Survey; and Jamie Sellen, Wisconsin Counties Association.

2) **Certification of Open Meeting Notice**

   The Secretary confirmed that the requirements of the Wisconsin open meeting law were met.

3) **Adoption of Agenda**

   Motion by Green Lake County, second by Columbia County to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

4) **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

   Motion by Columbia County, second by Green Lake County to approve the minutes of the June 19th, 2006 meeting of the Intercounty Coordinating Committee. Motion approved.

5) **Reports from Visiting Officials**

   No legislative officials were present.

6) **Report on Legislative Issues Affecting Counties—WCA**

   Jamie Sellen reported for the Wisconsin Counties Association

   - **ATCP 51**: Model ordinances are on the WCA website
   - **Jackson Co. Landfill Decision**: The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that Jackson County could not give back land that was taken for nonpayment of taxes even though the decision to take the land was made by the County Clerk without formal authorization by the county board.
   - **State Labor Contracts**: The legislature has ratified contracts with the state employee unions @ 2.1% and 2.7%.

7) **Open Discussion of County Issues**

   - **NACCO Dues**: It was reported that the WCA is considering paying the national association dues for all Wisconsin counties. As a 100% membership state, the WCA will get a one-time $2,000 bonus and a 12.5% rebate. There are questions about counties that have already paid their national dues, and whether WCA will raise state dues to make the national payment.
   - **Greatest Issues Facing Counties**: Garland Lichtenberg asked what counties felt were the biggest issues facing them right now. He felt that the Family Care Extension program was the biggest issue. Green Lake felt that increasing health insurance cost was also a major issue.
8) **Program: Regional Groundwater Issues & Programs**

*Ken Bradbury, Wisconsin Geologic & Natural History Survey:*

Ken started his presentation by giving an overview of the Wisconsin Geologic & Natural History Survey:

- Created in 1853
- Studies primarily the bedrock geology, quaternary geology, and hydrogeology of the state
- Performs studies and creates reports

Ken then provided some background on hydrogeology:

- Hydrogeology is the study of the distribution and movement of groundwater in soil and rocks
- Tools used include data and maps for water table elevation, soil & geology, recharge areas, water use, groundwater flow, surface water recharge, etc.

Ken showed examples of groundwater flow maps (Sauk County), depth to bedrock maps, and maps and cross-sections of geologic formations and major aquifers in Wisconsin.

Ken discussed Wisconsin’s glacial geology and its impact on groundwater. Glacial deposits can be good sources of groundwater where they are deep and sandy. They can act as barriers to recharge where they are clayey. The WGNHS is currently studying Glacial Lake Oshkosh and its impact on groundwater. It created large deposits of clay and large flat plains which can be seen in some areas of Columbia County.

Ken then talked about the current major regional groundwater issues in Wisconsin, including:

- Drawdown of the water table by municipal and industrial wells
- Groundwater / surface water relationships including springs
- Groundwater quality issues including both man-made and natural contaminants
- Wellhead and aquifer protection

Ken showed how computer models are being used to study groundwater flow and to predict the impact of different types of development. The two models being used are GFLOW and MODFLOW. They are mathematical models that can predict water levels, flow paths, drawdown from well pumping, recharge areas, and discharge areas. He showed examples of how these models were used to predict impacts of wells on surface water levels at Eagle, Wisconsin, and to help locate new municipal wells in the City of West Bend.

*Dave Neuendorf, Dodge County UW-Extension:*

Dave reviewed a private well water testing and education program that the Dodge County UW-Extension office has been running since 1994. Over 1,800 water samples from 1,015 private wells have been tested through the program. The program is conducted with the Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center and the Water & Environmental Testing Lab at UW-Stevens Point. Private well owners in a town(ship), around a lake, or in a watershed are invited to test their drinking water through the program. Participation is voluntary and the well owners pay for the tests they choose to have performed. The cost is between $22 and $90 depending on the test packages selected. Samples are collected on the same day and processed as a batch by the lab. The results are returned to the participants about a month later at a 2-hour educational program.

In addition to providing valuable information to well owners about the quality of their drinking water, the program has also provided useful data about groundwater supplies in Dodge County. The test results have drawn attention to areas in the county where groundwater is very susceptible
to contamination from surface activities, and has heightened awareness of the need to consider the impact of development on the groundwater in these areas.

9) **Open Discussion of County Issues (continued)**

Columbia County raised the problem they are experiencing with cost overruns in the Meals-on-Wheels program. The program is seeking an additional $22,000. They did get a donation from an individual, but they still need more money to meet growing demand. They are concerned about the lack of sufficient contributions at the congregate meal sites. Green Lake indicated that they do not have any problems with the program. Dodge County indicated that they levy $60,000 for their meal program. A question was raised about whether the meal site coordinators have to be county employees.

10) **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on August 21, 2006 in Jefferson County. The topic will be on the economic impact of county parks and open space.

11) **Adjournment**

The ICC meeting was adjourned at 12 Noon on a motion by Columbia County and second by Green Lake County.

Respectfully submitted

Dave Neuendorf
Community Development Educator
UW-Extension, Dodge County