

The LIA Water Committee met at the clubhouse on Tuesday, April 26. Present were Darrell Aders, Don Cleary, Perry Draper, Steve Garbaciak, and Mike Johnson. Dennis Watson was unable to attend.

Brief discussion about the Illinois EPA Public Water Supply evaluation of the LIA water treatment plant which contained non-compliance advisories but no notice of violations. Concurrence we will wait for ERH response before determining any additional steps needed. A tour of the water plant will be conducted for members which will include any chemicals used in the process. There was concern about liability of directing ERH to change treatment process so we will focus on addressing any deficiencies.

Discussion about belief that the issue is caused by residue (sediment) buildup in the water lines and there may be inadequate hydrants to flush the lines properly especially at dead ends. This could also affect fire-fighting and home insurance rates. Don Cleary to check placement of hydrants and valves against locations listed on the map.

Agreed issues mostly started when chlorine levels were raised by Illinois EPA. Unknown if there were past practices that could have contributed to the sediment buildup. Suggestion that an independent lab be sought for verification of ERH water test results and to test for presence of other chemicals. Dennis Watson, ERH, and LIA to continue collecting samples from those households experiencing issues. ERH would like to try an air system for removal of iron from the water and also advised poly phosphates could be added to help mitigate the issue but would not be a short-term solution.

LIA has three wells but draws mostly from the primary which is at 235 feet. LIA and ERH should exercise the back-up wells consistently to ensure their function in case of an issue.

Suggestion to review the flushing plan from ERH. The flush in April was the first since October due to the winter which resulted in lots of sediment to remove. This flush took five days to complete and committee discussed keeping future flushing as short as possible for less inconvenience on members.

Discussed the need for more detailed information on the issues and the committee decided to conduct a survey of all home owners to determine what, where, and how often problems are occurring. This information will be added to the spreadsheet that Dennis Watson created for a more thorough analysis and follow-up can be conducted as needed. Mike Johnson will draft the survey utilizing Survey Monkey tools which can be sent electronically through the notification program. Darrell Aders might be able to map the results utilizing Easy-Map-Maker.

Summary of possible courses of action:

1. Look into the pH of the water and see if it can be modified to help the situation.
2. Conduct trial using air to remove the iron from the water supply.
3. Consider adding poly phosphate to coat and treat the water mains.
4. Determine if there are sufficient hydrants and flush valves in place to accommodate the proper flushing of the water mains for effective removal of sediment buildup.

Next meeting – Tour of water plant on Monday, May 16, based on committee member availability.