

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
April 3, 2014

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CST, April 3, 2014. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of the March 6, 2014, meeting were reviewed, but not initially approved due to lack of a quorum. When a quorum arrived, Michael Wichman moved approval, and Elizabeth Turner seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Update on Future Planning Project

Carol gave an update on the status of the Future Planning Project. She indicated that she had scheduled 16 telephone interviews and would be following up with those states that had not responded. Jerry indicated that he would particularly like to hear from VT, MA, GA, NC, and WI. We also need to follow up with Iowa. On next month's call we will review what we have learned and how that should be factored in to the next steps. Steve asked about the webinars and Jerry indicated that he thought the timeframe should be June and July with Steve, Carol, and Ilona possibly as panelists.

4. Laboratory Practices Handbook

Steve and Carol reviewed the assignments and goals of the Advocacy Committee's project to revise EPA's 1979 HANDBOOK FOR ANALYTICAL QUALITY CONTROL IN WATER AND WASTEWATER LABORATORIES into a "Handbook on Good Practices for Environmental Laboratories". As a result of the call for volunteers, we have received several responses and offers to help. Volunteers were assigned as follows:

History chapter: Andrew Clifton with Jerry

Sampling Handling and Preparation: Rebecca Pierrott

Glassware: Dale Tapp with Sharon Mertens

Safety: Zonetta will check with David Radke on her staff to see if he would be willing to review. Zonetta later confirmed David's participation.

Trace organics: Mandi Edwards with Steve Arms

Lara Phelps, Art Clarke, and Cindy Nettrour will review and serve as overall editors. For the next meeting, chapter editors will review their assigned chapter and report back about the degree of revision needed, that is, whether the chapter needs only minor edits and updates, or whether it needs to be entirely re-written.

5. MDLs

Jerry reported that the Richard Burrows and the Chemistry Expert Committee have totally re-written the MDL procedure and there is a reasonable expectation that EPA will propose this new procedure in the next revision of 40CFR part 136. Jerry suggested that it is appropriate for TNI to publicize this new approach in some way. Ideas proposed included highlighting Richard's presentation in publicity for the summer meeting, putting an article in the newsletter and posting the procedure on the website. Ken Jackson suggested asking Richard how he would prefer this be handled. Jerry will check with Richard.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be May 1, 2014, at 12 Noon Central time. See Attachment 2 for pending items.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Present
2.	Steve Arms	AB	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4.	Stephanie Drier	AB	Absent
5.	Judy Duncan	Other	Absent
6.	Kenneth Jackson	Other	Present
7.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Absent
8.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
9.	Paula Hogg	Lab	Present
10.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Absent
11.	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Present
12.	Gary Ward	AB	Present
13.	Michael Wichman	Lab	Present
14.	Janice Willey	Federal	Present
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Absent
	Judy Morgan	Lab	Present
	Aurora Shields	Lab	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Present
	Keith Chapman	Other	Present
	Karna Holquist	AB	Present
	Sharon Mertens	TNI Board Chair	Present
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present

Attachment 2

Item	Status	Assigned to	Due Date
Small Lab Position Paper	Approved by TNI Board	Carol	
Prioritize future position papers	Agenda for next meeting	Committee	
PT position paper	Pending with Advocacy Comm.		
QS position paper	Pending		
FEM/ELAB response letter: Future Planning for National Accreditation	Letters sent to non-NELAP states for input. Interviews pending.	Carol, Jerry and Committee	DC summer meeting
Good practices handbook: Assign chapters for review/revision	Chapters assigned 3-6-14 Preliminary reports 5-1-14	Committee	
Follow up on Benefits Panel, webinars? Newsletter articles?	Newsletter article assigned	Committee	
Small Lab Handbook revisions	In progress	Carol	
Newsletter assignments	Sent to editor 2/10	Stephanie Drier, ed.	2/28/14