

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
March 7, 2019

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CDT, March 7, 2019. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from February 7, 2019, were reviewed. Robin moved approval and Sharon seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Updates

- Martina reported that she had reached out to all of the newsletter authors and plans to follow up again next week.
- Jerry presented the press release on the NELAP ABs' timeline for implementation of the 2016 standard. Lynn proposed two editorial changes and moved approval of the article with edits. Robin seconded. All present voted approval for Jerry to post the article.
- Steve reported that a thank you email had been sent to all of the newcomer states who attended the Milwaukee meeting.

4. Questions for NELAP ABs regarding use of the TNI recognized NGABs

As a follow up to discussion at the last meeting, the committee brainstormed questions to ask the NELAP ABs about their ability to recognize accreditations issued by TNI recognized NGABs. One particular area of concern seemed to be in the area of reciprocity, e.g. if one state accepted an accreditation from a TNI recognized NGAB, but another state cannot. It was also noted that TNI had looked at third party assessor credentialing in the past, but decided it would take too much manpower to implement. Jerry suggested that we ask the question anyway, so we would have the information for strategic planning.

After discussion, the group agreed on the following questions:

- If a laboratory applies to your program for accreditation and as part of their application package provides you with the required fee, PT results, an assessment report from a TNI recognized NGAB and their corrective action report, would you consider granting accreditation based on that information, or would you need to perform your own assessment? Is there other information you would require?
- Would a third party assessor credentialing program be helpful or useful to your state program?
- Do you see TNI recognized NGABs playing a role in accrediting labs that do not do business in your state? If so, how?
- Can a lab accredited by a TNI recognized NGAB report data to your state?

Next steps for presenting the questions to the NELAP ABs will be determined at the next meeting.

5. Small Laboratory Advocate

Steve reviewed the history of the Small Lab Advocate position and asked members to review the job description. Jerry noted that we have a volunteer to serve in this position and we may not need to post it. Robin Cook has been actively working with small labs in California and in some respects, is already performing some of the duties of this position. There was consensus approval to recommend Robin to the TNI Board for the Small Laboratory Advocate position.

6. Cannabis labs - Ambassador Report

Lee Wolf, TNI ambassador to Washington State, advised the committee that a recent report the state legislature has recommended that their cannabis testing program be moved to the Department of Ecology. The report to the legislature also recommends writing a new standard for cannabis labs since WA Dept of Ecology doesn't believe the TNI Standard or ISO 17025 is adequate for these labs. Unfortunately this signals Ecology's lack of desire to move towards TNI in any way (or be consistent with ORELAP next door). Lee will continue to follow this activity. The report can be found at <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Scientific-services/Lab-accreditation/Cannabis-labs-report>

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 4, 2019, at 12 Noon Central time.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Absent
2.	Steve Arms	Other	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4	Martina McGarvey	AB	Present
5.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Absent
6.	Zonetta English	Lab	Absent
7.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Present
8.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
9.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Absent
10.	Robin Cook	Lab	Present
11.	Sharon Mertens	Lab	Present
12.	Teresa Coins	Lab	Present
13.	Ron Coss	Lab	Absent
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Present
	Judy Morgan	Lab	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Celeste Crowley	AB	Absent

	Keith Chapman	Other	Present
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Lily Sanchez	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Silky Labie	Other	Absent
	Elizabeth Turner	Lab	Absent
	Stephanie Drier	AB	Absent
	Erin Consuego	Lab	Present
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present