

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting  
July 7, 2011

1. Call to order

Judy Duncan called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CDT on July 7, 2011. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of the June 2, 2011, meeting were reviewed, but not approved, due to lack of a quorum.

3. Newsletter

Lynn Bradley reported that all newsletter articles had been submitted except for the article about the Quality Manual template and the AB task force report. The AB task force report article will be submitted after the Board takes action on Wednesday. Editors for the next three newsletters will be determined at the summer meeting in Bellevue.

4. APHL Task Force Update

Ken Jackson and Michael Wichman were not on the call, but Judy Duncan reported that Ken was surveying the current NELAP ABs with two questions:

- Would they be willing to accredit a state environmental lab?
- What would be the cost for accrediting a state lab for the full suite of drinking water analytes?

The purpose is to counter arguments that NELAP accreditation is too expensive.

5. Accreditation Table

Judy presented the table of state accreditation bodies that Jerry Parr had asked Suzanne Rachmaninoff to prepare. Judy noted that the table contained a great deal of information that could be used for outreach to states that were not involved in TNI. Ideas and suggestions from the committee included:

- Add the names of state contacts to the TNI mailing list
- Send newsletters to state contacts whether they are members or not (it will give them a sense that things have changed)
- See if we can find out how many of them use TNI PT providers
- Jerry suggested that we send them a hard copy mailer stating that we will put them on our mailing lists.

- We should also try to get the names of the state DMR contact persons. Patrick Yellin should have this information but he has changed jobs. Lara will try to get the name of the new EPA DMR person.
- We could also publish or advertise in WEF and AWWA publications where these state contacts are more familiar. Keith Chapman will send Carol the contact information for WEF's Lab Solutions. Carol will contact them to see if they are willing to accept an article. The article in TNI's previous newsletter about the EMMC committee could be a good choice with minor changes.
- APHL also has a weekly newsletter. An article about the joint TNI-APHL committee could be submitted there.

What is the process for making this list of state ABs available? Jerry indicated that he did not want to release this list until we make sure it is correct. We could then turn it into a database that could be accessed through the TNI website by TNI members only. If we put it on the website, we will need to make sure to keep it updated.

Additional discussion on this table could include: a comparison of state fees, the cost of one round of PTs vs. two rounds as required by TNI standards, and review of the scope of work for state health labs.

Judy indicated this would be put on the agenda for further discussion in Bellevue.

## 6. Planning for Bellevue

Advocacy will sponsor three meetings in Bellevue. The meetings will be:

Wednesday afternoon: SLAG and APHL efforts. We will need to have facilitators for these meetings. Carol will ask Keith, Ken and Michael for agendas.

Thursday afternoon: The regular Advocacy Committee meeting will be from 1:15 to 3:00 pm. The agenda will include a discussion of any items that come up during the week that need Advocacy Committee attention, a review of the accreditation body table, review of the new brochures along with discussion of approval process for TNI materials, and newsletter editor assignments for the next year.

## 7. Other

Jerry noted that the Small Lab Handbook is being processed by Jan W. and should be ready by the Bellevue meeting.

## 8. Next meeting

The next regular meeting should be on August 4, 2011, but the committee decided to cancel this meeting since the Bellevue meeting will be later in the month. The next meeting will be August 18 at 1:15 pm PDT in Bellevue, WA.

### Attachment 1

#	LastName	FirstName	Stakeholder Group	Present	Term
1	Autry	Lara	Other	Y	1
2	Coats	Kevin	Other	N	2
3	Bradley	Lynn	Other	Y	1
4	Duncan	Judy	AB	Y	1
5	Jackson	Kenneth	Other	N	2
6	Wyatt	Susan	AB	N	1
7	English	Zonetta	Lab	Y	2
8	Perry	Michael	Lab	N	3
9	Hogg	Paula	Lab	Y	1
10	Turner	Elizabeth	Lab	N	
11	Ward	Gary	AB	Y	2
12	Wichman	Michael	Lab	N	3
13	Keith	Chapman	Small Lab Advocate	Y	
14	Parr	Jerry	ED	Y	
15	Batterton	Carol	PA	Y	
			ASSOCIATE MEMBERS		
	McCracken	Kirstin	Lab	N	
	Morgan	Judy	Lab	N	
	Steve	Arms	AB	Y	
	Shields	Aurora	Lab	N	
	Boyd	Jo Ann	Lab and FAC	N	