

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
February 3, 2022 1 pm Eastern

1. Call to Order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm Eastern, February 3, 2022. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of Minutes

The January 21 minutes need to have the correct date in the header. With this edit, William moved to approve the minutes of January 6 and January 21, and Zonetta seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

3. Updates

Ambassadors

The Ambassadors met on January 11. Steve asked that the summary of that meeting be distributed to Advocacy members, so that document will be sent along with these minutes, and also in the future.

Jerry noted that Nevada is now contemplating becoming a NELAP AB. This led to a question about whether the Ambassadors address NEFAP. Initially, the reaction was that the two programs would have entirely different contacts within the state organizations and also, most utility operators are individually licensed (which includes a sampling component) so have no need for accreditation, but a "group" accreditation might be feasible for multiple locations operating under the same quality system. However, the current Ambassadors should be further consulted, and also the Advocacy Charter should be reviewed to include Ambassadors.

Mentor Initiative

No new applicants since August.

Small Lab Advocate

Robin reports 146 members to the Small Lab Advocate Group (SLAG). She has been in contact with Jerry Thao about the relationship between the LinkedIn SLA activity and the new TNI company page, and all agreed that the SLAG should remain a benefit of TNI membership, whereas the TNI company page is public.

Additional Follow-Up from Conference

Jerry asked if anyone has viewed the recordings, but got no responses. Most were posted within 24 hours, remarkably!

4. Workplan Review

After good discussion at the conference session, Jerry determined that the plan for a volunteer pipeline (Goal 2.1) is a higher priority and there are enough new ideas to make a workable plan, so he offered to draft that for the March meeting. There are 10-15 new members per month, probably, but there is no way to distinguish new members from renewals in the member

database, at present. Jerry is also working on a mailer to all accredited labs about the benefits of TNI membership.

The plan for outreach to data users will be taken up after the volunteer plan; there were no additional volunteers for drafting this plan.

5. Newsletter Planning

Steve Arms will be the editor for the next newsletter. Publication date will likely be in early April immediately after registration for NEMC opens. Topics and potential authors are displayed in the table below.

Topic	Author	Author contact info
LAMS – its usefulness and content (methods, codes, accredited labs and more)	Mei Beth Shepherd with Dan Hickman	mbshep@sheptechserv.com
Credentialing – a status update	Jerry	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
Technical Manager/Expert	Aaren Alger	Aaren.s.alger@gmail.com
IDOC for drinking water	Jerry with EMC representative	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
Board election	Jerry	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
Member profile – Catherine Katsikis	Zoneta	zoneta.english@louisvillemsd.org
Guidance documents and Implementation Guidance	Maria Friedman	QAMfriedman@gmail.com
Summer conference/NEMC	Jerry	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
About the Forum in San Antonio	Jerry	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
New LinkedIn page	Jerry Thao	Jerry.Thao@pacelabs.com
Committee membership	Paul Junio	Paul.junio@nelac-institute.org
Monitoring Pathogens in Wastewater (to include brief description of PCR technology and potential uses beyond SARS-CoV-2)	Patsy Root	Patsy-Root@idexx.com
LAAF and accreditation for testing bottled/agricultural water (maybe)	Patsy Root	Patsy-Root@idexx.com
Update on Environmental Monitoring Coalition Activities	Jerry with EMC representative	Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org

6. New Business

There was no new business. Steve thanked everyone for their attendance, and adjourned the meeting.

7. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting is March 3, 2022, at 1:00 pm Eastern. The agenda and documents will be sent in advance of the meeting.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Steve Arms, Chair	Other	Present
2.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Present
3.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
4.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Present
5.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
6.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Absent
7.	Robin Cook	Lab	Present
8.	Sharon Mertens, Vice Chair	Lab	Absent
9.	Teresa Coins	Lab	Absent
10.	Josh Wyeth	PT provider	Absent
11.	William Lipps	Other	Present
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Absent
	Judy Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Keith Chapman	Other	Absent
	Kim Chamberlain (replacing 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 Consuegra	Lab	Absent
	Aurora Shields	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Carol Batterton	Other	Present
	Celeste Crowley	Other	Absent
	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Absent
	Mike Delaney	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Susie Arredondo	Mentor Subcommittee Chair	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Lynn Bradley	TNI PA	Present