

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
September 6, 2018

1. Call to order

In Steve Arms' absence, Lara Phelps called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CDT, September 6, 2018. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from August 10, 2018, were reviewed. Zonetta moved that the minutes be approved and Trinity seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Newsletter

Members reviewed the articles that had been suggested at the summer meeting and identified additional articles and authors as noted below. The article due date was set at October 1 with publication around November 1.

Article & Description	Authors	Email for Authors
Early implementation of the 2016 standard, what can be done now and what can't. Remind readers to check with state AB on exact implementation date.	Judy, Silky, and Ilona	judy.morgan@pacelabs.com elcatllc@centurylink.net ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org
Florida's 3 rd party assessors	Vanessa Soto	Vanessa.SotoContreras@flhealth.gov
Assessing labs when state regulations are poorly written	Mitzi Miller	Mitzi.miller@nv5.com
Five elements of a good standard - sidebar	Jerry	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
Overview article about the new ISO 17025, what's the same, what is new, options for TNI	Paul Junio and Shannon Swantek	paulj@nslab.com sswantek@envstd.com
Implementation schedule 2016 standard, FL rule and KS. Include link to TNI website to identify state contacts.	Cathy Westerman Lynn Bradley with Stephanie Drier for review	Cathy.Westerman@DGS.VIRGINIA.GOV lynn.bradley@nelac-institute.org stephanie.drier@state.mn.us
Re-cap of NOLA meeting	Jerry Parr	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org
Preview of Milwaukee	Sharon Mertens	SMertens@mmsd.com
Member spotlight - Nirmela Arsem from East Bay MUD in Oakland Contact info: Nirmela.arsem@ebmud.com 510-187-1435	Robin Cook	CookR@codb.us
Call for NEMC abstracts	Lara	phelps.lara@epa.gov
Ice Fishing (Contact Sharon	Sharon et al	SMertens@mmsd.com

Mertens for potential authors and pics)		
Recipe	Lara	phelps.lara@epa.gov
Musings from the chair	Alfredo	ASotomayor@mmsd.com

4. Conference planning winter 2020

Jerry shared to the proposal he had received from the Sacramento Hyatt Regency for the winter 2020 meeting. The week they had proposed was the week of MLK Day. Many government employees have difficulty travelling on a federal holiday, so Jerry proposed a modification of our usual schedule to accommodate this. Members were not comfortable with the proposed modifications and the complications it would create. The committee suggested that we look at alternate cities and adjoining states.

5. Highlights of the New Orleans meeting that Advocacy may need to address

Jerry discussed the slides that Christine Sotelo used in her presentation which asked for help and support from TNI. Jerry noted that TNI does not have the resources to do all of things that California has suggested. He is looking for a way to help the program get the support they need from the Water Resources Board and he is considering a letter. Members agreed that a letter to the board was a good idea. Suggestions for points to make in the letter included:

- Tell the Board that TNI is excited about the progress that ELAP has made and give congratulations
- Point out that the state may put their labs at a competitive disadvantage by not offering NELAP accreditation.
- A two tiered system may allow more opportunity to implement NELAP.
- California ELAP should reach out to regulatory agency partners for support to implement NELAP.
- Reiterate to the Board that TNI has a comprehensive list of tools that will help labs implement the program.

Jerry will work on a draft letter.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be Thursday, October 4, 2018, at 12 Noon Central time. Since the entire agenda was not covered at this meeting, the remaining item will be addresses at the next meeting.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Present
2.	Steve Arms	Other	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4	Martina McGarvey	AB	Present

5.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Present
6.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
7.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Present
8.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
9.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Present
10.	Robin Cook	Lab	Absent
11.	Sharon Mertens	Lab	Absent
12.	Teresa Coins	Lab	Absent
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	Absent
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lily Sanchez	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Silky Labie	Other	Absent
	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Absent
	Stephanie Drier	AB	Present
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present