

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting  
September 3, 2015

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CDT, September 3, 2015. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. Steve announced that the TNI ambassadors to the non-NELAP states have been added to the Advocacy Committee as associate members.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of the July 2, 2015, and July 16, 2015, meetings were reviewed and presented for approval. The minutes could not be approved because of lack of a quorum.

3. Newsletter

The target date for publication of the next newsletter is October 16. Due date for articles is October 2. Stacie Metzler is the editor. The final list of articles and authors is below.

<b>TNI Newsletter Assignments</b> <b>Due October 2 to Stacie Metzler, issue editor Publication date – October 16</b>		
Recap of Chicago meeting	Jerry Parr	<a href="mailto:Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org">Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org</a>
Winter meeting in Tulsa (add explanation of new conference name to this article)	Jerry Parr	<a href="mailto:Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org">Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org</a>
Update on TNI ambassadors	Carol B. and Steve Arms	<a href="mailto:carbat@beecreek.net">carbat@beecreek.net</a> <a href="mailto:Steve.Arms@flhealth.gov">Steve.Arms@flhealth.gov</a>
Update on 2015 standard (thermometer)	Bob Wyeth	<a href="mailto:rfwyeth@yahoo.com">rfwyeth@yahoo.com</a>
Sidebar article on SLAG Linked In group	Elizabeth Turner	<a href="mailto:eturner@ntmwd.com">eturner@ntmwd.com</a>
Member profile (Mike Miller)	Stephanie Drier? Carol will check	<b>Note:</b> Stephanie will not be able to do this article. We need to find another author.
Issues with EPA Method 8	Tom Widera	<a href="mailto:twidera@eragc.com">twidera@eragc.com</a>
Recommendations of CA expert panel (May not be available until Oct. 20)	Lara and Steve	<a href="mailto:phelps.lara@epa.gov">phelps.lara@epa.gov</a> <a href="mailto:Steve.Arms@flhealth.gov">Steve.Arms@flhealth.gov</a>
Update on NGABS	Carol B.and Alfredo	<a href="mailto:carbat@beecreek.net">carbat@beecreek.net</a> <a href="mailto:ASotomayor@mmsd.com">ASotomayor@mmsd.com</a>
Update on NEFAP	Kim Watson	<a href="mailto:kwatson@stone-env.com">kwatson@stone-env.com</a>
Charlie Carter award	Lara Phelps	<a href="mailto:phelps.lara@epa.gov">phelps.lara@epa.gov</a>

Update on mobile labs subcommittee	Paul Bergeron	<a href="mailto:Paul.Bergeron@LA.GOV">Paul.Bergeron@LA.GOV</a>
Update on whole effluent toxicity committee	Lynn Bradley	<a href="mailto:LmbTbird@aol.com">LmbTbird@aol.com</a>
Board elections	Steve Arms	<a href="mailto:Steve.Arms@flhealth.gov">Steve.Arms@flhealth.gov</a>
SW 846 update	Jerry	<a href="mailto:Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org">Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org</a>
Letter to the FEM	Carol	<a href="mailto:carbat@beecreek.net">carbat@beecreek.net</a>

#### 4. TNI Ambassadors

Steve reported that the ambassadors to the non-NELAP states had been confirmed and an initial conference call was held. Next steps include verifying the state contacts and sending letters of introduction to the state contacts telling them about the program and their contact person. The ambassadors agreed to have regular conference calls to discuss ideas. The ambassadors have been added to the Advocacy Committee as associates to help them keep up to date on TNI activities.

#### 5. Letter to the FEM

All of the updated information on TNI programs has been received for the letter to EPA's FEM. Jerry, Sharon, Steve and Carol will edit for brevity and clarity. Lara indicated that she would like to have the final letter by October 9 in order to have it on the FEM's next agenda.

#### 6. Handbook

Steve noted that the next step for the handbook is to assign chapters to the expert committees for review. It was suggested that we be very clear about our expectations for the expert committee review. Steve and Carol will work on some draft language for transmitting the chapters for review.

#### 7. Young professionals' event

Steve presented the suggestion that TNI hold an event targeting young professionals at our winter meeting in Tulsa. Some thought it might send the wrong message to target only young professionals, and we might want to include first time attendees as well. Stacie had previously sent some suggestions for an event by email. There was interest in having a breakfast. Jerry indicated this approach would not incur any additional cost for TNI. This idea will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

#### 8. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be October 1 at 12 Noon CENTRAL time. Steve indicated that he will not be available for the call and that he would like to

appoint a vice chair to help out. Lara indicated that she would be happy to serve as vice chair, but she was unavailable for the next meeting. Lynn Bradley will chair the next meeting.

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	Lab	Absent
5.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Present
6.	Stacie Metzler	Lab	Absent
7.	Zonetta English	Lab	Absent
8.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Absent
9.	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Absent
10.	Gary Ward	AB	Present
11.	Michael Wichman	Lab	Present
12.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
13.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Absent
14.	Robin Cook	Lab	Present
	<b>Associate Members</b>		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Absent
	Judy Morgan	Lab	Absent
	Aurora Shields	Lab	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Judy Duncan	Other	Absent
	Kenneth Jackson	Other	Absent
	Keith Chapman	Other	Absent
	Sharon Mertens	TNI Board Chair	Present
	Teresa Coins	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	<b>Staff</b>		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present