

**SUMMARY OF THE  
TNI LABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**DECEMBER 1, 2017**

The Committee met by teleconference on Friday, December 1, 2017, at 11:00 am EST. Chair Nicole Cairns led the meeting.

**1 – Roll call**

Fred Anderson, Advanced Analytical Solutions (PT Provider)	Present
Nicole Cairns, NYSDOH (Chair; Laboratory)	Present
Rachel Ellis, NJ DEP (AB)	Present
Patrick Garrity, KYDOW (AB)	Present
Craig Huff, ERA (PT Provider)	Present
Susan Jackson, SC DHEC (AB)	Present
Stacie Crandall, Hampton Roads San. Distr. (Lab)	Present
Tim Miller, Phenova (PT Provider)	Present
Donna Ruokenen, Microbac (Lab)	Present
Ken Jackson, Program Administrator	Absent

Associate Committee Members present: Mike Blades, ERA; Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar, FLDEP; Reggie Morgan, HRSD

**2 – Previous Minutes**

It was moved by Tim and seconded by Fred to approve the minutes of August 8, 2017 with “quick response” in the Volume 3 presentation description replaced by “supplemental”. All were in favor and the minutes were approved. It was moved by Fred and seconded by Stacie to approve the minutes of October 13, 2017. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

**3 – Analyte request Application**

Nicole reported that the Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee (PTPEC) had received an analyte request from the State of New Jersey to add a qualitative component to PCBs in Non-Potable Water/Oil/Solid Waste. This was sent to the Chemistry Field of Proficiency Testing (FoPT) subcommittee who came up with a plan to address this application using new footnotes in the tables. Rachel explained that laboratories were failing PCBs in every study, but not failing the same ones twice. Examination of the raw data could not reasonably show that a laboratory could report for any of the PCBs because they were misidentifying and mis-quantitating all over the place. Therefore, New Jersey wanted the standard to say if a laboratory could not quantitate or identify the sample it would fail all PCBs and not just the ones being tested.

Craig and Fred said, if a laboratory reported all the Aroclors, they would fail the one they did not correctly identify and the one they falsely identified, but would not automatically fail all of them. This would not help New Jersey. A proposed update to footnote #2 of the Non-Potable Water and Solid and Chemical Materials FoPT tables would not change the way PT Providers scored the Aroclors, so it would not conflict with the standard. However, Volume 3 of the standard has a clause that allows the FoPT Table to trump the standard if it ever conflicts with the standard. Rachel

confirmed this footnote would allow New Jersey to take necessary action against laboratories that failed two PCB tests regardless of the specific Aroclors they failed.

#### **4 – Albuquerque Meeting**

Nicole asked for suggestions on the agenda. A 1.5 hour session was provided in the conference agenda, but the committee might only need 30 minutes. She said little is going on until the standards are implemented and they get feedback. It was agreed to go over charter and describe what the committee is doing and its future goals. The audience would be asked for ideas. The Proficiency Testing Program Executive Committee also has a session that day, and Nicole suggested offering them some of the Expert Committee's time.

#### **5 – V2M2 AB Checklist**

This is the checklist used by Accreditation Bodies (AB) to evaluate each other. Nicole said she had been asked by the Consensus Standards Development Executive Committee to update the V2M2 part of this checklist to the 2016 standard. Subsequently, Craig had cut and pasted the relevant sections into the checklist, and now it needed to be color-coded. Color codes relevant to this section were: pink to specify documentation that is part of the AB's quality system; and green for other documentation. If left white, the requirement did not require documentation; i.e., it could just be satisfied through an observation during the site visit. The committee agreed if there was no explicit requirement for documentation it would be left white. It was moved Tim and seconded by Fred to submit the checklist, after it had been checked by Nicole. All were in favor.

#### **6 – Election of Officers for 2018**

It was moved by Donna and seconded by Tim to re-elect Nicole as chair. All were in favor. It was moved by Nicole and seconded by Craig to re-elect Donna as vice chair. All were in favor.

**7 – Committee membership.** Stacie was the only Committee Member rotating off. On discussion, it was agreed more laboratory representation was wanted. From the list of applicants provided by Iona, Nicole said she would reach out to the laboratory applicants, and then the January 5 meeting should be a closed meeting to elect new membership.

#### **7 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm EST.