

ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 25, 2010

MINUTES

Members Present

Matthew Rexing
Cynthia Garcia
* Lee Hecht
Elizabeth Wueschner
Randy Gottler
Elizabeth Proffitt
Linda Johnson
* Nancy Turner
Evelyn Dawson
Rick Amalfi
Jim Williams
Mary Tyer

Members Absent

Christina Krosnicki
Laura McCasland
Robert Vertefeuille
Robert Teece
Michael Dew
Anne Nichols

Guests Present

Melinda Jacobson
Vic Nielsen
Jennifer Calles
Dipti Shah
Christina Hoppes
Kim Eberenz
Trina Spangle
Lisa Parrish
*Dawn Weyer
*Terri Garcia
*Leanne Nieu Kirk
Garry Brussels
Gail Adams
David Veratti
Yu Min Shi
David Schreiner
Karen Walters

SLS Staff

Prabha Acharya
Steve Baker
Kathryn Wangsness
Frank Martinez
Ali Mayfield
Barbara Escobar
Dave Mckay
Jason Mihalic
Isaac Robert

ADEQ Staff

Julie Hoskin

* **By Phone**

** **Retired, not a member**

CALL TO ORDER

WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

Cindy Garcia called the meeting to order; she welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves.

Steve Baker welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming; there is an overall 15% cut across agency but the lab was spared. The lab is shutting down the tests that can be done by the private sector; services provided to ADEQ has been cut drastically, no more surface water testing; becoming a Reference/Primacy lab; stopped providing free services to community colleges, parks etc., doing rabies testing for counties. State Ag Lab has begun their move into the Health Lab.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from March 25, 2010 meeting was approved as written.

ADEQ UPDATE

Flags on drinking Water:

Julie Hoskin said the lab has the responsibility to make sure that the sample reports that are qualified do not affect the quality of data; ADEQ DW Program doesn't make that decision; the reason for removing the designated DW flags was not to restrict the labs to only a few flags; there are certain instances the qualified report with a flag which was not part of the original list was accepted by ADEQ because it did not affect the data quality; lately DEQ has started to receive flagged data that would affect the data and they would get automatically rejected like- hold time violation and temperature issues. Julie/Donna Calderon can be contacted with flag issues and usability of the data.

New Compounds for Wastewater Permits: Permethrin, Tributyltin, and 1, 2 Dichloropropene

Julie gave an update on these three compounds; they are added to the WW permits in addition to a few organophosphates and paraquat; there are methods for them but none of the AZ certified labs are set up do them; methods are 282.3 (mirex), 617 (tributyltin) and 608.2 (permethrin); the labs should look into setting up these methods; she will provide a complete list of new compounds to the labs.

Reporting Radium 226 & 228 for Drinking Water:

Julie: Gross Alpha is no longer an adequate method for reporting Radium 226 & 28; must test for 226 & 228.

8260 Air Subcommittee Meeting Schedule:

Sign-up sheet was circulated for the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Method TO-15 “Non Target” Compounds Data qualifier-T2:

Dave Schreiner and Yu Min Shi: vendors prepare air standards with 64 analytes in them; they are prepared @ 1 PPM due to instability problems; they are too low to be compared to the 8260 standards; there are 22 more analytes in the canister compared to the TO15 target list and the labs are compelled to put T2 data qualifier for those additional analytes; it is very difficult and also expensive to prepare custom air standard mixes in house; it would be appreciated if ADHS would approve the additional 22 compounds so that labs don't have to qualify the data.

Barbara: ADHS is aware of the situation and currently in discussion with ADEQ; ADHS is aware that ADEQ is often requesting those additional compounds and all the air labs are in the same situation; if the data is for compliance, the labs must qualify the final report; if ADEQ would send a letter approving those compounds and a licensed lab requests, Director Approval can be done easily.

Julie: ADEQ has no problem if the data is qualified; she will discuss with the program staff and if found necessary, she will request for Director Approval.

On-line License Application: Status update:

Barbara: on-line application has been delayed a thorough review of labs' parameter list and invoices are compared to the rules and DA list; more than half of the labs are completed.

DMRQA:

Julie: Small system operators are no longer required to report the tests that are not performed in-house, only the tests they perform like 15 minute tests; Marnie is the DMRQA Coordinator and also Unit Manager for AzPDES; there is a concern that small systems are not performing the tests properly.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Rules:

Steve: Licensure funds are in deep trouble, currently competing with New Born Screening for General Fund money; if the licensure obligations are not met, the program will lose more funds due to penalties; GRRC has been replaced by 11 member committee-5 senators, 5 representatives and a governor staff; a House Bill 2260 has been introduced; State cannot be more stringent than federal and the neighboring states; Economic Impact Statement will not be prepared by the agencies anymore. A hearing has been scheduled after 14 years for an out-of-state lab because ADHS denied initial license.

TNI/NEMC:

Barbara: The NELAC Institute is realigning their activities; TNI new standards are planned to be implemented in 2010; now in the process of taking nominees for the Board of Directors;

<http://www.nelac-institute.org/cms/posts/1213937206.php>

**LOD/LOQ TNI Sub-Committee:
Website for information**

Prabha: LOD/LOQ subcommittees' product was presented in the Chicago meeting in January; TNI Technical Assistance Committee liked it; it is still in the draft form, may undergo some more changes; the question now is if the details should be shared with everyone or only a few trainers; since all the information is available on the web, that question is moot now; to access the information, both the PowerPoint presentation at the Chicago meeting and the Subcommittees' meeting minutes, a hand out was given out with the website addresses; LOD/LOQ is a lot more involved than an MDL; MDL can be extended to 3 years per ADHS if it holds, unless the method specified otherwise; LOD is slightly higher than an MDL, it can be detected 100% of the time and has to be repeated every year on each instrument; LOQ- if a MRL standard is being run with each batch, which is required for drinking water testing any way, then LOQ need not be run.

Julie was keen on getting this implemented and ADHS was not sure how to DA this; it was decided to have this voted on at the next meeting, whether this should be implemented or not; this will be discussed at the next meeting after everyone had an opportunity to review the material.

Training:

Steve: the statutes have an exemption for the tests that are done at the time of sampling, like pH, temperature, chlorine; EPA now calls it 15 minute rule and so does ADHS; this exempt tests are being stretched a little bit more, by the plants, for tests like BOD, Solids and even fecal coliforms; ADHS should not allow Ultra Level Chlorine under the 15 minute rule, it is not an easy method, residual chlorine test is in the 15 minute list; tests are not being done properly on-site; so ADHS staff are holding workshops at various places in Arizona to explain the regulations, DMRQA, methods, MDLs, vendor's demo by IDEXX and HACH; ADHS letters informing these workshops are going out tomorrow and ADEQ is also sending out letters; ADEQ staff will also be trained in the future; if ultra level chlorine is in their permit WW plants probably will have to be licensed, but that will not be brought up now because it might have a huge impact; the chlorine testing would have to be licensed separately from the in-house lab if they are not on contiguous grounds, multiple license might work; if the rules can be revised, this issue can be solved; low RL is a problem; MDL can be seen around 10 or less on a distilled water; there were some discussion on meeting rooms.

Matt Rexing: Arizona Water Association WW workshops are very similar to these ADHS workshops.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2010; the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 AM.

