

ELTAC minutes

April 30, 2010

Welcome – roll taken. Video problems in SoCal solved. Quorum present.

Minutes of the last ELTAC meeting – corrections to minutes noted: 1) Tony Pirondini's name misspelled, 2) Mark Banuelus listed as not attending but attended via the phone. Corrected minutes passed.

Announcements – ELAP hired 1 new chemist. Furloughs to end at end of June. Proposed pay cuts and other issues on plate for July.

NELAC updates – Andy Eaton reported the new TNI standards on track. George Kulasingam reported that new states soon to become AAs. Fred Choske noted that the transition, like in past, could be either 2003 or new standards. Andy Eaton asked if ELAP to adopt sampling standards. Fred Choske responded that they will probably remain optional. Andy Eaton noted that these could represent possible new revenues. George Kulasingam noted that this State operates individual sample training and authorization programs. TNI trying to set up training opportunities for labs, one scheduled for SoCal (Orange County) with a tentative NorCal location for fall. Contact Jerry Paar about this.

PT updates - Discussion on the analysis of high level PTs when the lab uses low level methods. PTs are to be analyzed like samples yet significant dilution is required. The opposite situation was discussed (low level PT when lab uses higher level method). Labs using high level methods can report ND if PT below and still be acceptable. There exist high and low level PTs for PAHs, chlorine residual and Mercury. A question on how many providers for which the answer is 5, plus those for asbestos (NIST or RTC). A question as to whether Microcheck the only provider of microbiological PTs. Microcheck makes their own while others purchase from third party. Status of the experimental analytes for which the response was that experimental analytes will disappear within next year either dropped or formalized. Andy Eaton asked if that included new analytes authorized by EPA DW. Fred Choske responded only if EPA regulating. Gary Yamamoto stated the DW unregulated monitoring program not part of State program. Andy Eaton brought up the issue of Regional Boards adopting analytes from the UCMR under permit monitoring requirements. Bill Ray noted that such requests are within the Boards' authority under the Clean Water Act, specifically section 13267 where the Boards' are authorized to examine all impacts to water quality. Gary Yamamoto noted this creates issues with ELAP for which Bill Ray replied the Boards' may have to adopt a separate system for evaluating quality. Bill Ray then issued a report on DMR-QA and the potential that future efforts will simply use the results generated by laboratories in their standard PT process for lab certification. Andy Eaton wanted to know if ELAP is looking into changing the hold time for hexavalent chromium from 24 hours to 28 days as is the case for wastewater. George Kulasingam noted that they are looking for guidance from SRL and that Gary Yamamoto must make decision. Gary Yamamoto stated that he will work with Kusum Perera at SRL on hold times for DW and that any changes will com within a hexavalent chromium MCL regulations package.

Draft regulations – Gary Yamamoto noted that the draft regulations are now finished preliminary discussion and that they are in preparation for submission to the Office of Regulations (OR). ELAP is moving on revising fee regulations. ELAP had to take in cut employees (1 person) which affected cost estimates. Although fees not actually set, but estimates are a 10% increase and would come in about 2 years. Question on records retention changes which Gary Yamamoto said they took into account comments from last January. Question on how long to get the fee regulations out which George Kulasingam responded with up to 2 years.

ELAP Budget issues – Out-of-State trips a potential problem. The Administration's reviewing all requests for OST trips and may deny ELAP trips. Salary savings due to furlough days are helping ELAP's budget.

Other – What is status of ELTAC membership requests for several potential members? ELAP will check into their location and situation.

Next meeting – 8/27

Ken Osborn announced his retirement as of the first of Aug. The Vice Chair will take over.