CLTAC Members Participating
Jonathan Bautista, Richard Bennett, Marjorie Braasch, Patricia Dadone, Dan Dominguez, Kathleen Doty, William Gardner, Dora Goto, Dan Leighton, Tula Nieva, Robert Parada, Rebecca Rosser, Jennifer Schiffgens, Lu Song, Fred Ung

Former CLTAC Members Participating
Lori Dean-Yokum

CDPH Staff Participating
Alan Ankerstar, Ludelia Datlag, Aurora Dimaya, Dena Eden, Elsa Eleco, Shoreh Ershadi, Elaine Flores, Ron Harkey, Tracy Herbert, Robert Hunter, Joselita Joaquin, Paul Kimsey, Rasoul Koupaei, Tina Kruthoff, Ted Lee, Nema Lintag, Cindy Lloyd, Yangzhu Long, Kim Nachazel, Donna McCallum, Don Miyamoto, Martha Obeso, Jan Otey, Rocky Pramanik, Sarah Rutschmann, Nai Saechao, Robert Thomas, Sharon Tom, Nga Tran, Mary Wogec

Public Members Participating
Michael Aidan, Tom Barrow, Zenda Berrada, Susan Chapman, Anna Choi, Amy Daniels, Denise Driscoll, Diana Dupuy, Nancy Fraize, Brett Holmquist, Cynthia Hurst, Julie Jones, Julie Kingery, Shiu-Land Kwong, Louis Langs, Katya Ledin, Melanie Maher, Krystal Moreno, Cecelia Mui, Karen Nickel, Valerie Ng, Michelle Paganini, Rodney Roath, Brian Reuwer, Christine Sabol, Melanie Sandrapon, Ozzy Santiago, Phyllis Walker, Debbie Wilson-Ferguson

Welcome and General Announcements
Rebecca Rosser welcomed everyone and conducted a roll call at 9:08AM. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes
Minor changes were suggested for the minutes. Jonathan Bautista moved to approve the minutes as amended and was seconded by Marjorie Braasch. The minutes were approved as amended.

Department News
Paul Kimsey, Ph.D., Deputy Director of the Office of the State Public Health Laboratory Director, reported the following:
- CDPH had cleared all but 4 recommendations from the CSA 2007 and 2015 audits
- Lab Aspire program is active—uses federal preparedness funds to train public health laboratory personnel
- Welcomed back Cindy Lloyd as LFS House Counsel replacing Tammy Pahland who was promoted

LFS Branch Update
Robert Thomas, Branch Chief for Laboratory Field Services (LFS), reported the following:
- Tammy Pahland is taking a new assignment within the state
• Cindy Lloyd has returned to LFS on a temporary basis as house counsel
• LFS strategic planning with a consultant was being prepared for CDPH review
• One regulation package was nearly ready and another moving forward for review
• Tissue Banking regulations are being developed in a separate package
• Reminder regarding final subsections of section 1050 repealed in May 2017

**LFS Administrative Report**
Ted Lee, Staff Services Manager in charge of the Administrative Unit, reported that the new CDPH website was live and LFS continues to update its pages. A new LFS logo was voted on and constituents would see it on banners at LFS recruitment booths.

**Public Health Laboratory Subcommittee Request**
Robert Thomas introduced Dr. Katya Ledin, President of the California Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHL). Dr. Ledin expressed CAPHLD’s desire to be a part of the clinical laboratory community and thanked the CLTAC for the opportunity to speak and to learn more about CLTAC activities. She asked that a subcommittee be formed to look at public health laboratory law.

**Legislation Update**
Mary Wogec, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, referenced the Leginfo website ([https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov)), where all the information presented could be found.

- AB 658–Clinical laboratory fees–would institute a fee holiday from January 1, 2018, to January 1, 2020, for the renewal of clinical laboratory licenses. Note that it does not affect personnel licenses or certificates, or clinical laboratory registration renewals. Passed the legislature, waiting for Governor’s decision. Expect decision soon.
- SB 43 –Antimicrobial-resistant infection reporting – LFS is one of many programs assigned to analyze this bill, which has become two year bill.

Bob Thomas noted that LFS could not comment on bill analyses and thanked CDPH staff who had worked many hours on the various bills.

**MLT Presentation**
Susan Chapman, registered nurse at UCSF, presented the UCSF Health Force Center’s study on medical laboratory technicians (MLT) study. The study found that despite a national demand for more clinical personnel, various regulations prevented the widespread use of MLTs, especially in California. Some felt that with proper training, MLTs could fill many of the licensed personnel roles, while others were concerned about their decision-making ability. Regardless, community colleges and employers are reluctant to expand recruitment when regulated activities are limited. The study found that an expansion of the MLT scope of practice or a pathway to clinical laboratory scientist could be beneficial.

**CLTAC Subcommittee CSA**
Fred Ung, Subcommittee Chair, reported that the Subcommittee had not met and had nothing to report.

**CLTAC Subcommittee on LFS Recruitment and Retention**
Jonathan Bautista, Subcommittee Chair, reported that they had met and discussed three
challenges faced by LFS in hiring examiners. They recommended a review of Examiner I and II qualifications, job description and tasks, and salary. They also mentioned that blood bank auditors may wish to shift to government service. The subcommittee would reconvene after LFS internal meetings.

**CLTAC Subcommittee Regulations**
Lori Dean-Yoakum, Subcommittee Chair, reported that the subcommittee had been very active and thanked all of its members. The subcommittee had submitted many recommendations and FAQs for Department review and was awaiting word on the status.

Robert Thomas reported that the original charge was a response to the many and varied inquires to LFS canvasing responses. LFS sought CLTAC input for a technical page, which was delayed by the CDPH website rollout. LFS would need to review the recommendations and then have a legal review. LFS will post the approved versions of the subcommittee’s contributions on its technical page. The secondary purpose of the charge was for recommendations to be used for updating regulations.

**CLTAC Subcommittee on CLTAC Bylaws**
Rebecca Rosser reported that the Subcommittee was chartered, and that Kathleen Doty, Lori Dean-Yoakum, and Lee Hilborne were members. The Subcommittee would need an LFS representative and hoped to provide an update next meeting.

**Discussion on CLTAC Minutes**
Robert Thomas reported that LFS no longer had the resources to produce lengthy detailed minutes, and that they CLTAC bylaws had no such requirement.

Rebecca Rosser replied that many organizations have moved to only action items minutes, but that the CLTAC needs a blend. She requested action item based minutes but with some detail, even if less than before. CLTAC members agreed, with some asking if the audio recordings could be made available. CDPH had copies, but would need to decide if there was the technical capacity to provide them.

Jonathan Bautista moved to create succinct minutes that provide action oriented items with limited detail of items discussed, seconded by Dora Goto. The motion passed.

**CLIA Survey Section Report**
Donna, with new administration for CMS, the policy is that for every new law they have to be willing to give up at least two, however, no new laws were anticipated. She reported various statistics for the number of national and California labs, their surveys, and the implementation of IQCP.

**Personnel Licensing Section Report**
Shohreh Ershadi, Section Chief of Personnel Licensing Section, reported the successful certification of the latest PHM cohort in August.

Sarah Rutschmann, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, reported concerning the launch of online personnel renewal system, PERL II.
- PERL II for renewals would launch October 16, 2017
- Renewal notices emailed to those with email on file, however, if no email on file, notices will be mailed to address on file
- Account registration will require email contact and subsequent notices will be emailed
Renewal applicants would need to log onto the new site, create an account and renew online.

- Online payments methods: Visa, MasterCard, electronic check
- Once the new system goes online, a hard cut-off would occur and no paper applications would be accepted
- Qualification letters will not be issued to certifying organizations (exam providers) by LFS
- LFS will require upload of CE certificates as proof of completion
- Webinar was held with accrediting agencies and CE providers to discuss how to best validate CE
- CDPH will have resources available to answer questions upon launch

**Tissue and Blood Banks, Biologics, and Cytology Section Report**
Ronald Harkey, Section Chief of Tissue and Blood Banks, Biologics, and Cytology Section, reported that his section is investigating to adopt AATB standards into CA regulations. Robert Hunter reported concerning the various investigations his unit was involved in, which included the hepatitis outbreak in San Diego, West Nile organ transplants, and bacterial contamination of platelets.

**Laboratory Licensing and Registration Section Report**
Martha Obeso, Section Chief of Laboratory Licensing and Registration Section, reported that the section is focused on bringing its new ELLFS application system online. The new system will allow for initial and renewal applications to be filed and paid for online. A portal for clinical laboratory licensure will also be made available.

**On-site Licensing Section Report**
Elsa Eleco, Section Chief of On-site Licensing Section, reported that the section was making progress on the CSA finding regarding routine inspections, but noted that due to administrative concerns, completion of out-of-state and out-of-country inspections will be delayed until November 2017. The section hired a new examiner, Aurora Dimaya, and is always on the lookout new for inspectors.

**Future Items**
ABMGG fellows, training in molecular and cytogenetics, has combined the two fellowships into one. Present regulations have a conflict with this program. LFS has been requested to add the topic of changes in training to the December CLTAC agenda.

The CLS trainee shortage was addressed, but the well-known issue was considered due more to a lack of training programs rather than applicants. Many organizations have attempted to address the issue.

**Next Meeting**
December 1, 2017.

Marjorie Braasch motioned to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12:33PM