

Minutes
ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 9, 2008

Richmond Campus and Metropolitan Water District (LA)
10 am to 3 pm

1. Welcome and Introduction Gary/Ken
ELTAC Members present in Richmond: Ken Osborn, Scott Hoatson, Tony Pirondini, Dave Sandusky, Allen Verstuyft ,
ELTAC Members present via video conference: Andy Eaton, Betsy Shepherd
ELTAC members present via phone: Terry Powers, Marc Banuelos,
DPH members present in Richmond: Rufus Howell Gary Yamamoto, George Kulasingam, Jane Jensen, Fred Choske, Catherine Ewing
DPH members via phone: Richard Spinner, Steve Book,

Guests:

in Richmond: Bill Ray SWRCB;

via video conference:

via phone: Pamela Schemmer (TestAmerica West Sacramento)

Not present: Miriam Cardenas, Robert Bolton, Steve Meyer, Gerry Guibert, Socorro Baldonado, Brent Bowman

2. Minutes of the last ELTAC Meeting Gary/Ken
Minutes passed with minor changes.
3. Announcements, Current Vacancies Gary/Rufus/ELAP
Dr. Mark Horton has been named the permanent Director of CADPH. He was the former Health Officer for Orange County.

There are currently 3 vacancies that the department is trying to fill. The process involves reviewing applications and State exam results. Expectations are that the positions will be filled within the next 1-2 months. Other vacancies have been filled by retirees.

4. NELAC updates Andy/Scott/George
Draft Standards have been approved by TNI and available on the TNI website. Anyone can get a free copy with the ISO language included by reference only or for purchase the standards can be obtained with the ISO language incorporated. Next is the standards are presented to the AB's for a vote on adoption. If passed, the new standards will go into effect in late 2010. There is a PT proposal with TNI to evaluate the benefits of 1 PT vs 2 PTs per year with the potential outcome being to reduce the number of PTs required for laboratories.

TNI is forming an expert committee to establish requirements for PT samples in Air matrix.

CA DPH is in the renewal process as an Accreditation Body and is working on responses to pre-evaluation findings. There will be an 5 person evaluation team (EPA, and outside State) performing an on-site assessment of the CA program in July.

Note: There is a model QA template from TNI available for members (\$50) and non-members (\$150). **Editors comment: an individual membership to TNI is \$50 / year.**

5. PT updates Fred
DMRQA studies open in May instead of June.
6. Draft regulations Gary/DPH/ELAP
 - More discussion on verbiage to the draft standards took place.

- Draft regulations are being reviewed and discussed section by section and there are still many unresolved items. Please send any comments on the regulations to George Kulasingam and cc: Gary Yamamoto, Jane Jenson, Steven Book, and Ken Osborn

7. ELAP Budget Issues

DPH

Carrying vacancies, budget is available to hire retired annuitants until vacancies can be filled. Having difficulty finding qualified staff. Open Job listings are posted for vacancies on the State Department of Personnel Website. Open exam notice is also available on CDPH site.

8. Method Specific Check lists

David/Richard

Checklists have not been "approved" by the department and were not on the website. ELTAC would like to put them back on the website as guidance documents for laboratories to use in preparation for lab audits. Scott Hoatson suggested some verbiage (adopted from the EPA QA website) that could be used as a disclaimer.

Suggested Language:

"Note: The method audit checklists (or simply say "information" to make it more generic) accessible via this site are posted for informational purposes only. They have not been reviewed or endorsed by ELAP management and thus do not represent an official statement of ELAP's views or policy. Posting these materials does not indicate ELAP adoption or endorsement of the information contained therein."

9. Next meeting

Approximately August. Ken will send out suggested dates.