

Laboratory Certification Standards Review Council Meeting Minutes From 1/8/2019

Attendance

Council Members: Sharon Mertens (Chair - skype), Kevin Freber (Vice-Chair), Tom Kutz, Angela Albrecht, Jennifer Buchholz (skype), Paul Junio
Absent: Industrial Lab Representative

DNR Staff: Steve Geis, Tom Trainor, Autumn Farrell (skype), Zana Sijan

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM.

Check-In, Agenda Repair, Review/Approval of last meeting minutes

- Sharon asked if there were any agenda repair items and there were none.
- Sharon asked if there were any changes to the minutes provided from the November 6, 2018 meeting.
- No changes were required and the minutes from the November 6, 2018 meeting were approved.

Update on LabCert Program positions

- Steve indicated that the candidate who was offered the senior chemist auditor position accepted the offer today. She will start February 4th, 2019.

Program Audit Status Report (FY 2019 Year to Date)

AUDITS

- Large scale behind schedule due to Tom taking Rick's position, only 2 auditors now instead of 3.
- Five small scale lab audits are overdue, but currently we plan on completing all assignments.
- Contract auditor has scheduled all assigned audits.

REPORTS

- Two large scale reports were issued later than 60 days.
- Seven small scale reports were issued later than 60 days – all from contract auditor.
- Contract auditor is behind on reports but is dedicating Mondays to the Program now.
- Nine audits with no lab report.
- The Oconomowoc audit report is behind schedule due to Tom taking Rick's position.

CLOSURES

- Audits not closed greater than six months from audit report date. Tom's audit closures behind schedule due to taking Rick's position. Other audits not closed due to a variety of reasons.

LABS LEAVING PROGRAM

- Pace Analytical – Grand Rapids (formerly Trimatrix) – they were the only lab that performed CN by O1A - 1677.

Tom revisited the new Program Audit Status Summary format that he puts together for the council. Paul Harris indicated he would like the pie charts added to the first page summary, but the others did not feel it was needed for them. Later in Tom's tenure, if he has time he will add them back. Paul Junio requested that all date columns dates be included in the lab audit priority summaries from now on.

Lab Certification FY 2020 Budget Review

- A final draft budget was presented a 2.8% RVU increase. We were told by our budget staff that we are not required to budget for allocables. At the time we drafted this budget there were 7400 RVU's in the Program, which is down 300 RVUs from last year. Kevin F and Paul J approved the budget. Steve will send Sharon a letter for her to sign approving it.

Other business

- NR 149 was presented to the NRB on 12.12.18 and was approved.
- Craig Martins replacement on the council is Tad Schwartzhoff from Dairyland Power. His application has been submitted to DOA
- Paul Junio asked how the program is prepared to audit Badger Laboratories in Green Bay, the laboratory that is managed by Steve Heraly our contract auditor. Tom explained that the program is aware of this potential conflict of interest but in our opinion, we audit by checklists and the auditor who will be auditing Steve's laboratory will not make any concessions because he is a contract auditor for us.
- PFAS certifications in DW, aqueous, and non-aqueous matrices are forth coming in 2019. Wastewater was going to send out a letter to facilities request voluntary analysis. We reviewed the letter and made comments and wastewater has since decided to hold off on sending the letter out. Our plan is to have labs use EPA 537.1 with a list or additional method requirements that we would put together to ensure data quality for non-drinking water matrices. We will determine the list of compounds we will certify for based on program needs. Tom will check on what PT analytes are available. Paul J asked if we should require that 100% of the spiked compounds in PT pass. NR 149 current and proposed, does not provide for this authority.
- Ignitability PTs. The Hazardous waste program has reached out to us and asked us to require PT's for this test because 99% of the compliance samples performed are for enforcement purposes. 17 labs would be affected. Council agreed to move forward with this requirement. Paul J and Kevin approved going forward with this change for this next renewal cycle.
- NR812 update. Public comments are due by January 28, 2019. Paul Junio asked if there was going to be a re-release or update of the economic impact analysis. Tom said he would check with Liesa L on it.
- Paul J brought up the status of the council members tenure and elections for discussion. Tom was not ready for that discussion, so it was tabled until the next meeting.

Next meeting is April 16th, 2019, 10:00 AM

Meeting adjourned at 12 PM