

**Remote Attendance (16)**

Council Members: Paul Junio (Chair), Jennifer Buchholz, Tad Schwartzhoff, Erin Mani for Brenda Anderson, Craig Obry, Carol Mielke  
DNR Staff: Steve Geis, Tom Trainor, Zana Sijan, Brandy Baker-Muhich, Patty Doerflinger, Autumn Farrell  
Others: Sharon Mertens (Milw MSD), Alfredo Sotomayor (Milw MSD), Steve Hefter (Northern Lake Service), RT Krueger (Northern Lake Service)

**Agenda repair and approval of last meeting minutes**

- There were no agenda repairs.
- Last meeting minutes were approved.
  - Paul indicated that shipping issues continue, and they are not just related to WET testing. Carol mentioned that they have had good luck with Invictus Transportation Company, LLC Deuces Xpedite Trucking out of Milwaukee. They are expensive but so far have been reliable. With a heads up they can deliver on Saturday.
  - Paul asked if the last three years of Council minutes could be posted on the website when we get a chance.

**Outstanding issues from last meeting**

- “Forced immediate” GovDelivery messages can be sent regardless of subscriber preference.
- There was no time at this years WWOA Annual Conference for Lab Cert to present our LOY award. Lab Cert will see if it can be done next year.
- Tom provided Council members and PFAS laboratories with a DHS contact where PFAS questions can be asked.
- Bromoform breakdown is not discussed in EPA 524.2, 524.3, or 524.4. Even though it is not discussed in these methods Sharon asked if Lab Cert could recommend that laboratories utilize it.

**Program metrics report**

**Large-scale lab metrics: July 2020 – June 2021 (FY 2021 complete)**

- Completed: Audited = 100%, Reports issued = 89%, Closed = 73%.
- Reports issued within 60 days = 76%.

**Large-scale lab metrics: July 2021 – Aug 2021 (FY 2022 partial)**

- Completed: Audited = 57%, Reports issued = 86%, Closed = 57%, Applications = 1
- Reports issued within 60 days = 67%.
- Audits not closed over 1 year from report date = 0.
- Audits not closed over 6 months from report date = 4.
- 111 Active labs.
- 3-year cycle audits overdue at time of meeting = 14 labs.
- 1 new lab applied to program since last meeting.
- 3 labs dropped from program since last meeting.

**Small-scale labs: July 2020 – June 2021 (FY 2021 complete)**

- Completed: Audited = 88%, Reports issued = 83%, Closed = 79%.
- Reports issued within 30 days = 89%.

**Small-scale labs: July 2021 – Aug 2021 (FY 2022 partial)**

- Completed: Audited = 69%, Reports issued = 92%, Closed = 46%.
- Reports issued within 30 days = 100%.
- Audits not closed over 1 year from report date = 1.
- 220 Active labs
- 3-year cycle audits overdue at time of meeting = 47 labs.
- No new labs applied to program since last meeting.
- 5 labs dropped from program since last meeting.

## Other business items

- **Private DW electronic data transfer:** Zana is working with Clean Water Testing to test the process. Paul mentioned that the private water upload process is missing the ability to delete data shortly after entering data when an error is made – unlike public water uploads that have this capability. Zana will ask the private water program to include as an enhancement.
- **WI PFAS updates:** Paul asked to clarify that EPA 1633 is a draft method. Tom agreed and the program has no plans to utilize it in its current form. Feedback from labs is that the method will hopefully change.
- **2021-2022 accreditation year renewal:** Paul mentioned that he misses the nice colored certificates but understands the advantage of emailing renewal documents. Renewal was a success, especially considering the application rewrite.
- **Annual Variance Review:** There is one active variance that still applies. The variance removes the requirement to perform a PT sample for aluminum in the non-aqueous matrix by ICP for Milw MSD. The available aqueous PT for aluminum is outside of the laboratory's working range. As a result, the variance still applies.
- **Annual PT Provider Review:** There are 8 approved PT providers. No changes.
- **Annual Required PT's Review:** Tom provided Council members with a spreadsheet that indicates which analytes and technologies/methods require PT samples.
- **Program updates:**
  - **Concentrating samples to lower the LOD**  
Lab Cert errantly indicated in a Q & A session, after one of our NR 149 training meetings, that concentrating a sample may be an acceptable way to lower the LOD. After this training meeting Lab Cert reached out to EPA to obtain their opinion on this issue. The EPA said a laboratory may not concentrate a sample to lower the LOD if the concentration step is outside of their normal method procedure. As a result, Lab Cert will make it clear to all labs that concentrating samples to lower the LOD is not an acceptable practice.
  - **MCL exceedances in DW**  
New code states that laboratories must notify affected water supplies within 48 hours of completing sample results when an MCL is exceeded. Lab Cert is discovering that a few laboratories use their normal reporting process, one that can take weeks to report results, for drinking water samples analyzed with MCL exceedances. Alfredo reminded us that for drinking water, MCL exceedances is an emergency and that a normal reporting process is not appropriate. The spirit of the rule is to inform the public in a timely manner in the interest of public safety. Paul indicated that for those few labs that do not have an appropriate process in place that Lab Cert needs to educate them on expediting their process.
  - **Requirement to have sampler attest to placing samples on ice immediately after collection**  
This requirement only applies when samples are received at a temperature greater than 6 °C and the samples were received on ice by the laboratory on the same day they were collected, and the laboratory wants to accept the samples without having to qualify the data. Paul asked that we clarify this with all labs.
  - **Council Term Completion**  
Paul asked that Council Members agree to leave their positions when terms are up so that the next person can take over.
  - **EPA R5 Audit of Lab Cert Program 2021**  
There were no citations issued to the Lab Cert Program. There were a handful of recommendations. Paul thought the recommendation to review all Program SOPs annually was overkill when NR 149 is not updated.
  - **TNI Conference**  
Paul indicated that there were lots of PFAS talks. He also indicated that they want to reach out to non-TNI states again for feedback. Next TNI conference is January 17<sup>th</sup> in San Antonio. The summer meeting will be in Virginia.

## Council member issues

- None

## Checkout and next remote meeting date

- Next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2021 at 9 AM remotely via Zoom.