



Meeting Summary, August 14th, 2013
Meeting Location – TestAmerica, Beaverton, OR

OTAC Members			
<i>Dennis Wells</i>	<i>Chair, BSK Associates</i>	2014	<i>present</i>
<i>Ken Yeomans</i>	<i>TestAmerica Labs</i>	2014	<i>present</i>
<i>Marsha Farooqui</i>	<i>Portland Water Bureau</i>	2015	<i>Not present</i>
<i>Scott Dickman</i>	<i>Alexin Analytical</i>	2015	<i>present</i>
<i>Steve Thompson</i>	<i>Clean Water Services</i>	2015	<i>present</i>
<i>Chuck Lytle</i>	<i>City of Portland</i>	2013	<i>present</i>
<i>William Michalek</i>	<i>OELA</i>	2013	<i>present</i>
<i>Darrell Auvil</i>	<i>Apex Labs, Secretary</i>	2013	<i>Not present</i>
ORELAP STAFF:			
<i>Greg Pettit</i>	<i>DEQ Lab Administrator</i>	<i>Not present</i>	
<i>Chris Redman</i>	<i>DEQ ORELAP Lead</i>	<i>Not present</i>	
<i>Michael Skeels</i>	<i>Public Health Laboratory Director</i>	<i>Not present</i>	
<i>Gary K. Ward</i>	<i>ORELAP Administrator</i>	<i>Present</i>	
<i>Rita Youell</i>	<i>Public Health Lab., Lab. Compliance</i>	<i>Not present</i>	
GUESTS:			
<i>Renee Chauvin- QA/QC Portland Water Bureau Shannon Swantek – DEQ</i>			

1. **Welcome / Additions to Agenda:** Dennis called the meeting to order just after 10am.
2. **Review of last meeting summary:** The meeting minutes from August were approved.
3. **Membership Notes:** Three committee members are coming on the end of their terms. We will need to know if they are seeking another term by next meeting.
4. **ORELAP Implementation Report:** The latest status chart of time from assessment to the report being delivered to the lab shows that reports are being delivered with few exceptions within 30 days.

ORELAP is ready to accredit for Cryptosporidium. Recent events in Baker City underscore the need for labs accredited to perform Cryptosporidium analysis.

ORELAP has developed a survey to assess current practices among the accredited laboratory community. The survey will be previewed by the Committee for comment at the next OTAC meeting.

Invoices for ORELAP fees are being sent by email directly to the lab contacts. This is not only convenient but saves time and expense as well.

ORELAP's NEFAP accreditation program is moving along.

ORELAP will be posting a position in the next month for a compliance/assessment officer. Part of the job description will be to provide assistance to the ORELAP administrator.

5.0 TNI Annual Meeting in San Antonio: Gary Ward and Shannon Swantek were both in attendance at the meeting and reported on some of the highlights.

Chemistry Committee- Gary is a member of the Chemistry committee. He reported on recent discussions related to instrument calibrations and procedure for determining method detection limits. The committee recognizes issues but fundamental changes are still years away. Look for a posting on the TNI website of committee results on detection limit discussions.

NEFAP- interest and participation in accreditation for sampling processes and programs is coming slowly. Cost is an obstacle but government programs like ORELAP are much less expensive than private, third-party accreditation fees. Another factor delaying interest is the lack of a mandate for sampling accreditation. While there is some pressure coming from the EPA it is not extensive.

QA – new low-level detection limit requirements for pesticides are driving the use of new technologies like LC/MS/MS. There is also more interest in low volume extractions.

The QA template for small laboratories to implement the 2009 standard was a topic of discussion. The committee is trying to make it a better tool for small labs but it is still very complex for little labs with just a few employees. The solution may be more education and guidance in basic Quality Assurance principles. The possibility for a variance or alternative to the full standard for small labs, the so called “NELAC Lite” approach, seems to be a dead issue. Some states like Kentucky have put together their own small lab accreditation programs. It may be worth putting some time into small lab guidance and education for labs in Oregon particularly small wastewater labs. Perhaps a webinar would be a viable approach.

6.0 Technical Question: Renee Chauvin QA Coordinator for the Portland Water Bureau Lab brought up a technical issue for interpretation. The issue was regarding Colilert for TC/EC when the sample needs to be incubated an additional 4 hours due to questionable results. The issue was discussed and the committee decided to regroup on a response next meeting.

Next meeting October 10th, 10 AM at Salem Willows