

Spring 2011 Minutes Approved – Motioned by Greg Wetherbee, Jason Karlstrom seconded

Greg Wetherbee – USGS External QA Program

Raingage and collector collocation studies continue.

NTN and MDN field audit and interlab-comparison studies are staying steady or growing with more labs being added to the intercomparison. Bromide will be added as an analyte to the program. Most of the participating laboratories do not measure bromide, or do not measure it at low concentration.

One USGS Open-File Report (OFR) has been published on environmental factor effects on data quality and another OFR is in press on Fukushima Fission Products.

Analysis for bromide in archived sampled will continue.

Teaming with Taiwan to use neutron activation with cloud water study filters

Mark Rhodes – Equipment Update

Leak tests on NTN bottle continue with promising results using a new style of bottle. Tests will continue after several dishwasher cycles. Discussion of protocol for collection of additional sample for special studies. QAAG assigned task of writing draft protocol.

MDN evaporation tests continue focusing on cooling fan air flow capacity. Percent loss and mass loss were evaluated. The N-CON performed better than the ACM with less overall mass loss, though some of the N-CON samples showed the greatest change in mercury concentration. Discussions continued about potential ways to achieve a better seal between the bottle and the thistle tube .

NTN Evaporation Tests were conducted. Increases in nitrate and sulfate were observed, as well as decreases in ammonium. Evidence of biological activity with 100% loss of nitrate when ammonium is not present. Work will continue to identify a more effective means of cleaning NTN buckets and bottles.

N-CON bucket collector challenges. Different heights of buckets used in the network. Collector modified to accommodate taller bucket. The shorter buckets need to be shimmed using washers to achieve a good lid seal. Solar site power issues continue. Motor utilizes little power. Heating of the sensor consumes up to 4A of current. Testing of inverter and alternative sensor power continues.

N-CON Dual Chimney testing was wrapped up with no statistical differences compared to the single chimney sampler. Good feedback was received from the operators.

MOTION: Two part

- 1) The N-CON dual chimney collector is approved for the use in the NADP/MDN.
- 2) Data previously collected using the N-CON dual chimney collector are given “grandfathered” status within the NADP/MDN.

Presenter – Mark Rhodes brought the motion to the table and Mark Nilles seconded.

Motion Carried.

Mark Olson – NOS structure; AMNet update; AMNet Met data

Discussions about restructuring the NOS Vice Chair responsibilities. Currently the NOS Secretary is responsible for recording minutes for both NOS and Joint subcommittee sessions. Mark proposed transferring responsibility for Joint subcommittee minutes to the NOS Vice Chair.

MOTION: Effective spring 2012, the NOS vice-chair will record minutes during the Joint subcommittee.

Presented by Mark Olson, Second Marty Risch

Motion carried.

AMNet Update. Sites are holding steady at 22 with GMOS discussions continuing. Most data through June 2011 has been validated and is available. 14 site visits were performed in 2011. AMNet training was completed Monday with 15 participants. Mark will travel to Rome to perform AMNet training to GMOS operators.

AMNet Meteorological Data. Discussions continued about the problems associated with AMNet collecting and housing site meteorological data. A motion was presented to address these concerns.

MOTION: AMNet will not store or collect meteorological data as part of its operation.

Presented by Mark Olson, Second by David Schmeltz

Motion carried.

AMNet documents will be updated to reflect the motion.

AMNet will provide a link on the individual site web pages to indicate whether met data may be available from the operator.

Melissa Puchalski, AMoN Update

49 sites in 34 states, basically doubled sites since last year. Sampling in 2 week intervals, 3 site have triplicates and the CV = 14%. Cost: \$3,100/site/year. Still some issues with travel blanks. The web site

provides access to more than 5000 concentration values. AMoN trends are presented in the 2010 annual report. Several publications have been produced or are in progress.

Chris Lehman – CAL Update.

242 NTN sites, gained 16, lost 6. Issues with specific sites were presented in the CAL report. AMoN has 49 active sites, 32 are new, lost 2. AIRMoN sites remained steady at 7. The number of samples received from each network along with site support, lab operations, QA/QC and data management are outlined in the CAL report. The addition of total phosphorus was discussed, increase of \$28/sample. Purchasing a new CAL refrigerator to store samples after analysis was tabled until the spring when firm numbers will be presented. Rotating stock of archived samples continues, if interested in archived samples contact Chris.

Bob Burnete – HAL Report.

15 years and still going strong. Addition of 5 new sites with 9 losses since 2009. Types of collectors and site liaison services were outlined. Kristina Spadafora joined QAAG. 2009 lab review issues have been or are being addressed. A 12 point plan for trace metals will be completed in December 2011 for presentation at the spring meeting. The HAL will be relocating in December/January. Discussions ensued as to how best to ease the transition, notify site operators, and ensure continued flow of samples to the lab.

Motion to adjourn, Chris Rogers