

NADP Executive Committee Fall 2018 Meeting Summary

Albany, NY, Thursday November 6, 2018

Attendance: Tamara Blett, Donna Schwede, Mark Olson, David Schmeltz, Richard Tanabe, Chris Gunter, Amy Mager, Chris Worley, Jamie Schauer, Martin Shafer, Karelyn Cruz, Mark Nilles, Mike Olson, Winston Luke, Camille Danielson, Bob Larson, Nathaniel Javid, Pam Padgett, John Walker, Doug Burns, Donna Kenski, Annmarie MacDonald, Greg Wetherbee, Cari Furiness, Kristi Morris, Jason Lynch, Greg Beachley, Catherine Collins, Rick Haeuber, Richard Tanabe, Chris Rodgers, Melissa Puchalski, Ryan McCammon, Ryan Nelson, Zac Najacht, Andy Johnson

- 1. Introductions and review of voting members** Tamara Blett called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm. Tamara reminded all in attendance of the eight voting officers of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Approval of the Spring 2018 Exec Minutes** (Tamara Blett introduced the motion; Donna Schwede second) Minutes were approved and submitted for the record.
- 3. Program Office Report** - Mike Olson and Jamie Schauer
 - a. Vision and strategic directions (Jamie) – Jamie Schauer reflected on where the Program has been over the past 9 months and offered some perspective on future possibilities. After completing the transition, WSLH is focused on optimizing operations and stabilizing partnerships and stakeholder relationships. The emphasis is on ensuring routines in the PO and CAL are working well before taking on new activities. Jamie proposed using the NADP 2019 Spring meeting as a forum for strategic planning and discussions. Jamie offered his view on some of the major topics the group should discuss at the Spring meeting and other future meetings: the role of the program office in the NADP committees, the NADP enterprise, innovation and technology advances in existing NADP networks (e.g., new samplers, new analytical techniques, satellites), emerging issues and opportunities for NADP (e.g., PFAS), integration and management of special studies and research projects, and strategic partnerships.
 - b. PO/CAL transfer (Mike) - The PO and CAL are fully operational and completing required functions; minor issues are still being worked out. All anticipated funds have transferred from U of I to WSLH. All reporting to U of I is complete. U of I is required to submit a final project report to NIFA; the PO is unaware if that was completed. Several outstanding issues: transfer of sampler, gauge parts, and a sample archive.

With regard to the sample archive, members of the PO commented on the current organization of the sample archive noting a significant effort that would be required for WSLH to make it more functional. In addition, Mike reported the I-CAL's desire to retain custody of the NADP IL11 sample archive. The archive should be complete, with all samples housed with the Program at UW/WSLH. Tamara Blett proposed sending a collegial letter of request to U of I reflecting the EC position.

Donna Schwede introduced a motion to direct the Chair of the Executive Committee to draft a letter to the U of I (on behalf of the Committee) to obtain the IL11 sample archive. Ryan McCammon seconded. Donna later withdrew her motion.

Alternatively, Karelyn Cruz agreed to review the cooperative agreement for language that may elucidate the public nature of the samples and data. Karelyn agreed to discuss the IL11 sample archive transfer with U of I first and involve the Executive Committee, as necessary. In addition, Greg Wetherbee and Martin Shafer planned to review the QA documentation and SOPs to identify potentially relevant language on archive sample ownership. Tamara Blett also suggested the possibility of a letter to U of I signed by representatives of the federal funding agencies.

Madison supersite plans - UW arboretum and Eagle Heights.

Communications – miscellaneous communications topics were discussed: Communications between the PO and the Executive Committee have been going well. Regularly scheduled transition calls have been valuable, but no longer necessary. Tamara Blett clarified that from now on, calls will happen between the PO and EC, as needed.

The PO developed two communication documents: 1) announcement of the PO transition to WSLH, which was distributed globally to all program stakeholders; 2) an internal document of terms and conditions for using the NADP name and affiliation, which will be sent out to specific groups or individuals, as necessary.

Calendar production was not a problem; the calendars will be distributed to NADP stakeholders, including site operators.

PO initiatives and outreach - Of note, PO outreach to the Tribes and NEON have been well received.

4. Committee, Subcommittee, Advisory Reports

Joint (David Schmeltz): No motions.

NOS (Richard Tanabe): *One motion introduced to accept Martin Shafer's long-term archive strategy change.* This motion passed. Winston Luke is new secretary.

EROS (Pam Padgett): Two motions were introduced: First, *the Ecological Responses and Outreach Subcommittee will change their name to Education and Outreach Subcommittee (EOS).* EOS is envisioned as a committee of committees charged with coordination outreach and education among the science subcommittees and network operations.

Richard Tanabe seconded this motion. Further discussion followed. Each science committee would consider assigning two delegates to the new subcommittee. The Program Office and the CAL would also have representatives participate in EOS. Andy Johnson and Pam Padgett would remain officers until the Spring 2019 meeting. At that meeting, EOS will select new officers. The new mission and charges will be incorporated into the governance document. *Motion passed unanimously.*

The second motion is for *EOS officers to work with the PO to change the meeting schedule for the Spring and Fall meetings.* EOS proposes to meet consecutively rather than simultaneously. This will

accommodate participation in EOS without conflicts in meeting times. *Mark Nilles seconded the motion. No discussion; the motion passed unanimously.*

QAAG (Greg Wetherbee): No motions.

DMAG (Bob Larson): The PO is caught up on data except MDN; plans to catch up on MDN next week. All Illinois data has been processed and published by CAL in WI. Deposition downloads were added back to the website.

CLAD (Jason Lynch): *Motion was to accept the CLAD critical load presentation; motion passed; the presentation will be sent to EOS for their review and approval.*

TDEP (Greg Beachley): No motions.

AMSC (Andy Johnson): Nothing new to report.

CityDep (Greg Wetherbee): the CityDep group had a meeting with several foundations in Pittsburgh potentially interested in collaborating. CityDep has projects in Boston, Denver, and the Bronx.

Budget (Mark Nilles): Mark reviewed the BAC voting membership rule, including federal agencies in the USDA/NIFA agreement, the USDA/NIFA representative, and others contributing 1.5% or greater to the overall network.

Mark Nilles made a motion to accept this report, which also then accepts the motions in this report.

Tamara recommended that the last motion in the report on the HAL transition be removed for further discussion. *Mark amended his motion to approval of all the motions except the move of NADP/MDN to WSLH (which will be discussed later) all the committee reports together. Donna Schwede seconded the motion. All the reports were accepted.*

5. Old Business

- a) Hg Litterfall network update (Doug Burns). Litterfall is operating as a transition network (27 sites in 2018). Doug Burns/USGS Troy is running the operations side of it. USGS Wisconsin lab is performing sample analyses. The BAC tasked Doug, Mike Olson, and Martin Shafer with developing a set of transition recommendations. WSLH is interested in and has the full capability to take on the full litterfall network in the future. WSLH has performed preliminary cost analyses and estimated they could reduce the current price substantially.

Doug's proposal was to let WSLH develop a quality assurance plan and acceptance criteria in consultation with the QAAG to determine what needs to be met to transition the litterfall analytical lab work for 2019 litterfall season. If this is successfully implemented, a motion at the Spring 2019 meeting would be introduced to transition full operations of the network to WSLH for the 2020 litterfall season.

Tamara Blett summarized Doug's motion: Motion for the WSLH develop a quality assurance plan in consultation with the QAAG with a goal of successfully transitioning laboratory operations to the WSLH for the 2019 litterfall season. Donna Schwede seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b) NADP Governance Document edits (Pam Padgett) Most of the edits to the Governance Document were changes from U of I to WSLH. Other edits include: inclusion aeroallergens mission and charges, designation of CAL director as ex officio non-voting, along with an approval date on the back.

Pam Padgett moved to approve the changes made in the Governance Document. Richard Tanabe seconded the motion. Some discussion followed:

After the document is updated, it will be printed and made available online for subsequent meetings. The Executive Committee identified additional changes that needed to be made; for example, document should clarify that WSLH does not have a CAL director. Mark Nilles made a further correction to leadership of the Budget Advisory Committee. Carrie Furness and others had other changes that will be sent today to Pam Padgett.

Tamara called for a vote on the new text as amended by discussion today. Donna Schwede seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- c) NEON Coordination (Mike Olson): Jamie Schauer reached out to Sharon Collinge (NEON) in August 2018; and Jamie, Martin Shafer, and Mike Olson met with Mike San Clements and Rommel Zulueta from NEON in September 2018. The meetings were very positive; NEON expressed a strong interest in working with NADP. NEON is optimistic about the future. Their goal is to focus on the needs of the scientific community. This interaction was very positive.

6. New Business

- a) USGS lab inter-comparison and U of I participation (Greg Wetherbee). Tamara suggested that this topic should be postponed until the Spring meeting. Greg Wetherbee liked that idea and prefers to continue with business as usual for now (he said they are a good lab and it's useful to have them participate). Executive Committee will discuss this again in the Spring.
- b) USDA NIFA is moving outside of the D.C. area (Karelyn Cruz). NIFA employees do not yet know where the agency will be moving; however, Karelyn suspects it will likely be somewhere in the Midwest, closer to farmers. NIFA is a depleted agency. The agency is already working at 50% capacity and losing staff looking for new jobs. The organization hopes to have the move completed by Summer 2019. NIFA hopes to have the new agreement in place by May or June. Karelyn requests the feds submit funding information as soon as possible in anticipation of move and limited resources for processing.
- c) HAL relocation to WSLH (Mike Olson). Mike noted that based on direction from the budget committee, the WSLH Program Office developed a draft plan to transfer MDN analytical and data services to the WSLH. WSLH has a plan and can begin operation by September 2019. Fees would remain at the current rate and would transition as described in the budget pricing proposal.

The Executive Committee noted the transition schedule and whether the change in this time

frame was necessary, and whether there would be enough time for readiness verification planning and sufficient QA/QC. Jamie Schauer and Mike Olson responded that the WSLH is required to do the work but are able to keep current arrangements but not much beyond September 2019. All agreed that all verification and QA requirements would need to be met and the committee satisfied with performance, before the transition occurs.

Mark Nilles introduced the motion that came out of the BAC to transition HAL operations to WSLH by September 30, 2019. Seconded by Pam Padgett. The motion passed without objections via voice vote. Richard Tannabe abstained.

7. Federal Agency Reports

USDA: Karelyn Cruz asked the Executive Committee to provide input for the NIFA listens stakeholder sessions. The deadline is November 30th. Some NIFA RFAs will become available at the beginning of the year: NIFA will have some focus on nutrient cycling (which can include air quality); conference grants also available. NIFA started a new program this year on sustainable agricultural systems (SAS).

NPS: Kristi Morris noted as part of the long-term RMNP initiative, NPS is in a milestone year and evaluating where nitrogen deposition is on their “glide path” which eventually gets levels down to the critical loads. Two talks Thursday morning on NPS research: mercury in fish and mercury in dragonflies.

BLM: Ryan McCammon noted a new BLM AMoN site in Toolik, Alaska (AK96). The site is run by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. As mentioned earlier, the CO96 has stopped MDN operations; USFS will continue to run NTN there though.

EPA: David Schmeltz - no changes in EPA monitoring and assessment priorities: keeping the NADP, CASTNET, and LTM operations running, TDEP assessment and support of the science committee, critical loads, and international cooperation on mercury monitoring.

FWS: Catherine Collins reported flat funding again; new information should be available after December 7th. FWS initiated an interagency agreement with NPS. FWS still continuing to fund their four mercury litterfall sites.

NOAA: Winston Luke reported participation in all the networks is status quo with the possible exception of AIRMoN due to the increasing costs in coming years. NOAA intends to convert 3 out of the 4 AIRMoN sites to NTN. Daily precipitation sampling will be maintained at PSU, as a non-network, special study.

USFS: Pam Padgett reported that USFS is currently facing more staffing than funding issues. Since Rich Pouyat retired, the USFS has not filled his position. As a result, there hasn't been a programmatic contact for NADP in Washington D.C. Pam will be trying to find a contact in the next couple of months.

USGS: Funding for all sites, external QA, and assessment are looking good. Doug Burns is the new Mark Nilles (USGS representative) as of December 1, 2018. David Schmeltz is the new Mark Nilles (Budget Chair) as of December 1, 2018. Mark is done November 30th. Donna Schwede and the Executive Committee offered a loud applause and a deep appreciation for Mark and his numerous contributions and thoughtful input over the years.

8. Stakeholder Reports

Maine: Andy Johnson. Status quo; contracts in place with Wisconsin.

Great Lakes: Donna Kenski. Funding is mostly flat; no news of pending closures or changes in support in the GL states. LADCO did receive some money from Indiana to establish an AMNet site this year at the Indiana dunes. Some issues for getting support for some of the ancillary equipment in the transition from IL to WI were identified. Timely access to QA'd data on the web is also a need.

Environment and Climate Change Canada: Ann Marie MacDonald. ECCC has not completed the transition and are still working through contracts. They will continue to support their 5 MDN sites, 1 AMNet site, and 3 AMoN sites; will add two more AMoN sites, probably in the Spring. New sites are expected to be collocated with continuous ammonia measurements and involve participation from their satellite group. ECCC monitoring data are all being transitioned to their open government portal. Maps will be available through their federal geospatial platform. Some work being done with low costs sensors in the urban monitoring network.

SAES: (No Rep)

Tamara Blett adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.