

Executive Committee Notes
Fall Meeting
November 5, 2019
Boulder, Colorado

Members and participants present: Doug Burns, Richard Tanabe, Catherine Collins, Greg Wetherbee, Kristi Morris, Winston Luke, Andy Johnson , Mike Olson, Rick Haeuber , Jamie Schauer, Rodney Vance, Mark Olson, Camille Danielson, Ryan McCammon, Rich Grant, Martin Shafer, Chris Worley, Amy Mager, Chris Gunter, Ann Rind (EPA), Jeff Herrick (EPA), John Walker, Melissa Puchalski, Greg Beechly , Chris Rogers (Wood), Bob Larson, George Hopper, David Schmeltz, Annemarie MacDonald (phone), Nathaniel Javid , Mike McHale

Approval of Spring 2019 Minutes

Doug Burns called for the approval of the spring 2019 minutes. Kristi Morris noted several editorial changes she will send along to Doug. Richard Tanabe made a motion to approve the minutes considering the changes noted by Kristi. The motion was seconded by David Schmeltz. The minutes were approved.

Program Office Report

Mike Olson provided an update on the Program Office and gave the State of the Network presentation. We are considering local, national, and international outreach, and are looking for guidance on the meetings we should be attending. Mike Olson mentioned that the MDN is retracting. As a result, we need to stabilize the MDN retraction, which includes leveraging MELD, AMNET, Minamata, Litterfall and state department connections and developing content with EOS to strategize conference attendance with Executive Committee guidance..

Mike Olson provided an update on the NADP archive requests. Mike underscored the concerns about equity and fairness when it comes to requests for our samples. There are five to seven requests per year for archive samples. Mike Olson assured that the WSLH will keep the Executive Committee informed and presented a chart of the NADP archive request and mentioned that this is available for viewing. Mike Olson gave an update on the IL11 archive. Kevin Karbowski (WSLH Chief Financial Officer) contacted Susan Martinis, Vice Chancellor for Research at U of I. The Vice Chancellor responded with the suggestion of splitting samples. U of I has the financial resources to split these samples. Doug Burns noted that on the topic of archiving, we should add Litterfall to our archiving policy, especially in time for summer. Mike Olson agreed with this plan but noted that we will need to confirm pricing.

Mike Olson provided an update on strategic planning and reviewed the key components of the strategic plan. We are waiting for responses from the section authors. The deadlines for this have passed. The draft will be distributed for additional stakeholder input. We hope to have this finalized by the spring meeting.

Mike Olson noted that as a result of bromide data removal, we identified a need for an Executive Committee approved policies and procedures. We are in the process of developing a policy document and developing a detailed SOP on how the changes are implemented along with the required documentation.

At the spring meeting we will present a policy document that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the PO, CAL, QAAG, and the Executive Committee for adding, altering and removing data. The CAL and PO will develop how to do data reporting.

Mike Olson noted we are making progress with the University of Wisconsin Arboretum outreach site and the Eagle Heights site. Mike Olson went over the site closures. AIRMoN is closed. The government shutdown was discussed. Greg Wetherbee led the effort to create a plan to minimize impact in the future.

Mike Olson noted that the CAL is actively investigating QA/QC improvements and efficiencies. This includes standardizing AMNet data processing, expanding expertise amongst staff, improving shipping methods, exploring options to offer a return shipping label, establishing an annual operator survey, ensuring contact data is correct, obtaining feedback from the field to improve operation, and improving document site capabilities such as cellular coverage. As far as initiatives, Jamie Schauer described the approach we will take to manage NADP efforts in improving and expanding the network. The major direction and priorities need to come from the entire Executive Committee not individual stakeholders.

Committee, Sub-committee, and Advisory Reports

Richard Tanabe: Joint – nominate John Walker for Executive Committee.

For NOS we have some motions regarding sampling, and bag sampling analyte issues. The final motion was to nominate Ryan McCammon as the incoming NOS secretary.

Catherine Collins (EOS): We will be updating the government handbook along with establishing our Wikipedia page. We are working on a foundation letter and submitting an education proposal. We will get the mercury and AMON brochures out soon. We discussed the meeting structure and having the past Chair coordinate the agendas. We will develop a plan to get tweets out and increase our presence on social media. We will also be updating the webpage. We will find stakeholders to have non-NADP people attend our meetings. We had one motion for the Program Office to dedicate resources to update the NADP website to make it mobile friendly.

Camille Danielson (QAAG): the CAL quality assurance plan was approved in the summer. We look to combine the HAL and the CAL into one quality assurance plan. The HAL lab validation will hopefully be approved in the next month or two. We reviewed the MTN bag data and we are going to restart the AMON site audits in 2020. Motions: 1) AMON antistatic bags (approved by QAAG), 2) approve the CAL

proposal to move to duplicate samples at 15 percent of the sites in January 2020, 3) change the protocol for wet samples including dilution and the mils amount of wet dilute samples. Wet samples will be defined as samples greater than 27 mils. This will be implemented in January 2020.

Bob Larson (DMAG): we are up to date on all networks except MDN. We completed the maps and will be uploading them to the website. We are finishing the portion of the LIMS and integrating into MDN and redoing how precipitation is processed and handled. We are also encrypting the traffic on the website in January 2020. We are putting the TDEP flux metadata database online and are hoping to put the responses from this on the website.

Jeff Herrick (CLAD): the only motion they had was to have Amy Felker Quinn serve as the new chair. Linda Geiser and Jeff Herrick will be co-chairs. We were talking about critical loads for land managers at the spring meeting.

Greg Beechly (TDEP): We are going to send a newsletter out. The 2018 maps are available on the website. We are cautiously optimistic we can get something out for the web model fusion project. We are working on the stakeholder plan once we receive some stakeholder feedback.

Rick Haeuber (MELD): We had representation from a broad variety of federal agencies along with academics. There was a lot of successes from the meeting, including raising awareness about NADP. There were no motions.

Andy Johnson (AMSC): There were no motions. We are looking for a co-chair. Most of the discussion was about how we want to show what we are doing in science monitoring and aeroallergens.

Greg Wetherbee (CityDep): We had a number of people attending. Rich is working on preparing an RCM proposal administered by the NSF. Pam has two sites going on that are running in Boston. The Bronx site is not fully operating. The National Jewish site will be closing and another Denver site will be moving to Fort Collins. Most of the other Denver sites will stay funded for at least a little while.

Rodney Vance (NIFA): We have officially relocated to Kansas City, KS. This was a successful relocation although we lost about 75% of our workforce. We have a four year cooperative agreement in place.

David Schmetzl gave the budget report. As far as subscription fees, the Program Office agreed to keep the price structure the same. The Executive Committee also agreed to gradual price changes starting annually in 2021. There was discussion of significant site loss out west. As a result, there was a motion to develop a strategy to execute a one to three year work plan to slow down the decline of sites. Improvement and expansion of the networks was also discussed.

Richard entertained a motion to accept the reports. Doug Burns clarified that we will entertain a motion to accept the committee reports and what they passed. Richard made the motion, seconded by Greg Wetherbee.

Federal Agency and Stakeholder Reports

David Schmeltz (EPA): We are keeping operations running. The Duke forest will be up and running in December. We have a new director, Chris Grundler, in the Office of Atmospheric Programs.

Annmarie MacDonald (ECCC): we are still maintaining the five sites. We have some issues getting the contracts in place but they are moving forward. Rosa Wu is on the assignment, although we are experiencing backfilling. We have a new director of the Air Quality Research Division, David Henry.

Doug Burns (USGS): we do not have a full year budget but we are preparing the NADP budget as a level budget from last year. The only significant change has to do with Colorado funding.

Kristi Morris (NPS): we are accepting a flat budget. We will not have as much project funds.

Winston Luke (NOAA): We do not have any existing plans after the transition of the existing AirMON sites to NTN. We ended up picking up nine sites. We are considering a potential change to AMNET. We will keep funding the MDN site at Grand Bay.

Linda Geyser (Forest Service): we are considering resolution with a flat budget. Our agency has been active in CLAD. We only had twelve sites that were not affected by the furlough. We made a query to see how we could remedy furlough issues in the future. Most of the issues were shipping issues. Other issues included cold climate and equipment failures, people not being able to get out to their sites, and protocols.

Ryan McCammon (BLM): we have not lost or added any sites. We are funded until August 31, 2020.

Andy Johnson (Maine DNR): we are looking to get our contracts back and final approvals, although we do not see any changes for 2020..

Catherine Collins (Fish & Wildlife Service): we have not lost or added any sites. We talked about moving one of the Denver sites but that is preliminary. We are working on a database that will provide information for our refuge managers so we can make conservation decisions. We have a new branch staff lead so we can look at monitoring needs.

George Hopper (SAES): last month we approved the funding for NRS P-3. We will be working to incorporate students on this project.

Old Business

A) Mark Olson noted that the HAL is in full operation at the WSLH. We just received the final set of collocated data from Eurofins today and we had to procure the equipment from Eurofins. We made more funnels and thistle tubes. We are in good shape as far as equipment. In general, the Eurofins data was higher than ours, so we will have to look at that. We created a new LIMS system and will look at reporting data at the end of this month. We have prepared our instrumentation with the Litterfall network and have started to receive samples at the WSLH.

c) Mike McHale noted that we are moving forward with a next generation water system.

d) Jamie Schauer noted that we have the strategic plan assignments moving forward and gave a presentation on NADP investment management. Investment includes special studies to support QA/QC and analytical data. The categories of program investment is continual improvements (this is within network costs), network innovation and development (this is within network costs), and research (this is external to network costs).

New Business

Last item: Winston Luke discussed GOS4M. NADP has been invited to participate in GOS4M. This is a global observation program involving mercury aimed at developing a partnership with other institutions for conducting research. The initial focus is to provide speciation data with mercury. The vision is to expand the focus to include mercury in all compartments of the ecosystem. If NADP chooses to be a member of GOS4M, it is not legally binding and they can withdraw at any time. If it is accepted, NADP would agree to provide access to the mercury monitoring data. We need to investigate what level of effort will be required to compile the data and format. We will have to address these issues in the start-up.

David Schmeltz entertained a motion that we will participate in GOS4M but we have some questions that need to be resolved. Ryan McCammon seconded the motion. The voting members voted in favor and this motion passed.

Doug Burns entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ryan McCammon seconded. The meeting adjourned.