



Meeting Summary, October 11, 2007
Meeting Location – Willow Lake WWTP, Salem, OR

ORELAP MEMBERS		
<i>Shane Sinclair</i>	<i>City of Corvallis</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Victoria Boettcher</i>	<i>Clackamas County WES</i>	<i>Present (phone)</i>
<i>Steve Thompson</i>	<i>CleanWater Services</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>OELA</i>	
<i>Dennis Wells</i>	<i>TestAmerica Beaverton</i>	<i>Present (phone)</i>
<i>Chuck Lytle</i>	<i>City of Portland</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Michael Guebert</i>	<i>Metro</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Kevin Krefft</i>	<i>Linn Benton CC</i>	<i>Present</i>
ORELAP STAFF:		
<i>Greg Pettit</i>	<i>DEQ Lab Administrator</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Dan Hickman</i>	<i>DEQ Technical Services Mgr, ORELAP</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Chris Redman</i>	<i>ORELAP assessor</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Brian Boling</i>	<i>DEQ Organic Lab Manager</i>	<i>Present (phone)</i>
<i>Michael Skeels</i>	<i>Public Health Laboratory Director</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Irene Ronning</i>	<i>ORELAP Administrator</i>	<i>Present (phone)</i>
GUESTS:	<i>Keith Chapman, City of Salem</i>	

1. Welcome Shane Sinclair called the meeting to order at 10 am.

2. Additions to Agenda: None

3. Review of the Aug 9, 2007, Meeting Summary Notes

Minutes of the August meeting were approved with no changes.

4. ORELAP Implementation Report: Irene Ronning

As of today 31 in-state labs are accredited, with Clackamas County Water Environment Services recently added to the list. 39 out-of-state labs are accredited; one application is pending, SGS in Wilmington, NC, and a number of others are in the application process.

Irene reports that the workload has increased due to the fact that many labs are increasing the numbers of parameters for certification. This also results in on-site assessments becoming more labor intensive. Another complicating factor is the planned move of the DEQ offices, currently scheduled for January. Preparations for this have been making business somewhat difficult, and it is unknown what the effects will be on the program.

Labs that claim to be certified, but in actuality are not, will face a first violation from the Dept. of Justice of a cease and desist order. False representation penalties can be up to \$5,000 per day.

4.b. Micro PT issues: There are currently 8-9 members on The NELAC Institute MPT Subcommittee, and are looking for one more, with a focus on quantitative PT for drinking water.

Keith reports the online, fillable Microbiological report form is functioning, and word has been sent out to labs notifying them. However, EPA has since approved a new method (21st Edition) which is not listed on the form. For the time being, labs can manually enter this method under the space marked "other." There was a discussion about whether to revise the form to add the new method, but it was decided to leave the form as-is for now, but to re-open the discussion if many labs start using the new method. Also, there may be a need in the future to look at adding a space for quantitative results.

5. OTAC Membership Issues: Looking for an OELA member to replace John.

We would all like to issue a fond farewell to Keith and John, both have been valuable members and will be missed.

6. OTAC Policy Document Review: Shane would like to add the ability to attend meetings by conference call to the policy. It was agreed that the new statement should include a recommendation to show up in person, but the option to attend by phone will be available.

The idea of adding a section about refreshments at the OTAC meetings was without objection. This would be on a rotating basis, and Shane has volunteered to bring snacks for the next meeting.

7. TNI News (Dan Hickman): Dan was not present to give the update, but Brian and Irene gave an update from the Boston meeting. Brian stated that TNI is currently rewriting standards, but the PT and QA standards have not yet been approved by the committee. Future changes are unknown.

The next meeting will be January 14-17, 2008 in Newport Beach, California, and this is a non-voting meeting.

TNI member labs can now vote on standards, however these standards are not necessarily used by the State of Oregon.

8. Website Update: The website has not been recently updated.

9. Training, Workshops, etc.: TNI meeting mentioned above, in January Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association short school in March in Clackamas. The deadline to add items to the agenda is December 9th.

The AWWA short school will also be in March in Eugene. Kevin will bring more information to the next meeting, and is looking for people willing to be speakers.

10. DEQ Advisory Committee on Wastewater Accreditation: Brian reported the meeting between ACWA and DEQ on October 10th went well, with the main concern from ACWA was why accreditation was necessary. The response from DEQ was that it is good to have a third party look at the data, and the program would start out on a voluntary basis. The two groups will look to meet again, possibly in a joint meeting with OTAC. Shane suggested the PNCWA and more state labs should be represented in the talks, with Chuck suggesting an advisory committee similar to OTAC. Brian agreed that he would like to see as many groups as possible involved. This may be a good topic to bring up at short school, to get input from small labs and any other interested parties. Brian will be looking to ID stakeholders,

and may send out a survey to permit holders; starting with groups and associations, then moving on to individuals.

The idea of analyst vs. lab certification was brought up, and Irene stated that the old drinking water program focused on the analyst, but it was found that the labs did not give the required resources to the individuals and ORELAP decided it was better to put the focus on the lab.

11. EPA reporting limits: What if LOQ is greater than EPA reporting limit? Some labs' methods may not be able to get down to the MCL, according to their procedures. Their options are to either improve the method or contract it out. It may be possible to estimate or flag the data.

12. Agenda for Next Meeting:

- ORELAP Implementation Report
- TNI news
- WW and small lab accreditation update
- Shane will be providing refreshments
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The next OTAC meeting will be **10:00 AM** on December 13, at TestAmerica

Submitted by Mike Guebert