

**Committee Request for Board Action:** none

44 attendees (via teleconference only) representing 32 member agencies, plus 5 ELAP Representatives

### **ELAP Update**

Jacob Oaxaca (State Water Board / ELAP) provided an ELAP update, focusing on [the Roadmap to ELAP Accreditation](#). Additional ELAP staff Christine Sotelo, Chris Ryan, and Katelyn Hilty participated in the Q&A session. The 3-year implementation schedule for meeting the new TNI standards allows agencies to take a phased approach to accreditation. Jacob's [slides are available on the BACWA website](#). Key points covered during his presentation and Q&A included:

- The renewal and amendment processes are now separate. Labs cannot add a Field of Accreditation (FOA) at the time of renewal.
- It is not necessary to sign or turn in blank page from the FOA tables in the application.
- Labs should carefully review their FOA submittal; applications cannot be edited once they have been submitted and accepted by ELAP. An amendment application would be required.
- Take advantage of ELAP staff by scheduling a transition appointment. ELAP staff contacts are [ELAPCA@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ELAPCA@waterboards.ca.gov) (general questions) or [ELAPCA\\_technical@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ELAPCA_technical@waterboards.ca.gov) (technical questions).
- Annual ethics training is required; labs can start with their agency's ethics training content, then customize it for laboratory staff by focusing on data integrity.
- At this time, it is not possible to provide large files to ELAP via weblink. They must be emailed as ZIP files or as a series of smaller emails.
- Don't place laboratory personnel contact info within the Quality Manual; keep it in a separate document so that the Quality Manual doesn't have to be updated as often.
- ELAP has contracted with A2LA for a series of about 20 training sessions beginning in late February – make sure to sign up! BACWA committee chair and vice-chair attended a beta test session in late January and had positive reports. Training session participants will receive document templates about two weeks before the training session.

### **Phase 1 PFAS Sampling**

Agencies that participated in Phase 1 of the PFAS study will be asked to set up their Geotracker accounts to receive the sample results via upload SFEI. Instructions will be coming soon from SFEI. Also, BAPPG plans to discuss PFAS at its April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, and is recruiting a volunteer to share their perspective from participating in the Phase 1 Regional PFAS study. Contact [Robert Wilson](#) if interested.

### **Laboratory Waste**

Members briefly discussed several options for disposing of laboratory waste, including using hazardous waste haulers and County-run waste disposal services.

### **TNI Training**

Committee members held a planning discussion for the next laboratory committee meeting, which will be a TNI training workshop. Ideas for content included:

- Presentations from vendors that provide Third Party Assessments or other types of support.
- Mentorship / buddies
- Breakout rooms to discuss templates or other sub-topics related to TNI implementation
- Planning for TNI interpretation workgroups (see also [TNI standards interpretation](#) website)

### **Announcements**

- The committee is recruiting for a new Vice Chair.
- The [ELAP Conference](#) is June 1-3, 2021.
- Palo Alto is still waiting for final verdict on whether POTWs need to register as medical waste generators. It is up to Santa Clara County.

**Next meeting: April 14, 2021, 9 AM – 1 PM (Date changed from Tuesday to Wednesday to accommodate a longer TNI training session)**