

NWQMC Steering Committee Minutes for May 3, 2019

Meeting Attendees: Julie Vastine, Candice Hopkins, Dan Sullivan, Mike McHale, Mary Skopec, Lareina Guenzel, Susan Holdsworth, Jeff Schloss, Marie DeLorenzo, Gary Rowe

1. Membership Updates (Susan)

- Susan looking into EPA ORD position and has suggestions for candidates
- Our industry representative slot is still vacant
 - ACTION ITEM: Gary will look for candidates for this position

2. National Monitoring Conference Update (NMC, Lareina, Jeff)

- We did not send thank you notes to exhibitors, sponsors, or speakers yet
 - Action item: Candice will send draft thank-you notes to the Steering Committee, and then send them onto the appropriate parties
- Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting (JASM) 2022
 - Sara Peel emailed Candice about the JASM, which is scheduled for June of 2022. We need to be aware of this while planning our next NMC
 - Susan thinks we should look into whether we want to join, and/or if we want to try to compete with this. What are the tradeoffs for joining?
 - Jeff did have people give preference for future dates of conference in the survey. Many attendees prefer having the next NMC in 2021 instead of 2022.
 - Respondents to the survey said we should also consider the following conferences when planning the next NMC: AMAAB, ASC, Citizen Science, ASLO, SFS, NARS, North Carolina WRRRI, Sediment, AGU, River Rally, SEATAC
 - The Steering Committee agreed it could be beneficial to join this group, but there was also a fear this is a large meeting and our attendees could get lost in the shuffle of thousands of attendees
 - The future CPC will keep this conference in mind moving forward
- The NWQMC received a letter about the lack of racial diversity at the 2019 NMC. Lareina said she will bring up this topic to the whole Council at the May 13th Web Meeting.

3. Collaboration and Outreach (C&O) Work Group (Candice)

- Our next webinar is scheduled for late May; it will be given by Revital Katznelson on lessons learned over her career.
- The newsletter is in draft layout with Kim; we hope to send it out next week
- The C&O group has been working on the WQP communication plan. We hope to finalize comments before the May 13th meeting.

4. Water Information Strategies (WIS) Work Group (Mary)

- Susan provided update on Elements on Monitoring and Analysis Fact sheet.
- Evaluating Progress form needs to be distributed to Council; Mary is going to follow up with Mike Higgins and help distribute materials.

5. National Network of Reference Watersheds (Mike)

- Mike has been working with Andy Bock to help with work he's doing on interagency water quality network (Lori's); he's using the land use disturbance metric from NNRW to put into context the work he's doing
- Andy expressed interest in helping Mike to publish work, not sure what collaboration will look like, depends on how much time he has available
- Dan suggested that Mike take all data from website and archive it. Mike is not sure this has a lot of value as a static database somewhere. Metrics will have longevity, although data and database may not.

6. Volunteer Monitoring Work Group (Julie)

- The Work group had a call on April 15th with 3 new members present
- They discussed interest in creating a fact sheet on the value of VM, specifically on the return on investment of programs
- Julie suggested having a webinar on WQP/VM and have someone from WQP, Water Data Collaborative, and example of VM data going into the Portal.

7. Bioassessment Data Work Group (Dan)

- The Work Group is meeting next week to update WQX metadata fields

8. ACWI Update (Dan)

- ACWI subcommittees have been advised not to take up any new work
- There are no membership updates at this time, or reports on the status of applicants